



Automatic Revalidation Checklist

Travel to Canada, Mexico, and the adjacent islands during Your Extension Year

With some exceptions, you may not exit and re-enter the United States during your extension year after the expiration of your J-1 visa. The exception is a process known as automatic visa revalidation, which entitles many non-immigrants to travel to Canada, Mexico, and the adjacent islands for up to 30 days.

You will need the following:

- ✓ Please see page 2 for a copy of the **automatic revalidation fact sheet**, which you should bring with you if you travel to Canada, Mexico, or the adjacent islands during your extension term.
- ✓ If you require a **tourist visa** to enter Canada, Mexico, or the adjacent islands to the U.S., you are responsible for researching this and applying for that visa.
- ✓ A printout of your **I-94 card**. Do not surrender your I-94 card to the airline when traveling to Canada, Mexico, or adjacent islands. This card will help you to re-enter the United States.
- ✓ Your **current DS-2019 form**, signed with a travel validation signature
- ✓ Your **passport**, with **expired visa** inside.

Reminders:

- The decision to allow an au pair back into the U.S. is at the discretion of the immigration officer at the port of entry. Au pair in America cannot guarantee reentry into the United States.
- Extension au pairs may travel freely to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (U.S. territories with no immigration and customs).
- Au Pairs are responsible for checking all travel and entry restrictions for their travel destinations and re-entry back into the US. Au Pair in America is not responsible for issues related to re-entry into the US.

Important Notes:

- **NOTE: Au pairs who extended for any of the special extensions due to COVID-19 should NOT travel outside of the US.**
- **NIE Visas: Travel restrictions no longer apply to an au pair who has an NIE visa, therefore it would be treated as a normal J1 visa**

Helpful links:

Automatic revalidation for certain temporary visitors

https://help.cbp.gov/s/article/Article-1218?language=en_US

Definition of adjacent islands*

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2002-title8-vol1/pdf/CFR-2002-title8-vol1-sec286-2.pdf>



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

AUTOMATIC REVALIDATION FACT SHEET

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Pursuant to 22 CFR 4 1.1 12 and 8 CFR 214.1 automatic revalidation applies to expired nonimmigrant visas of aliens who have been out of the U.S. for thirty days or less in contiguous territory (Canada and Mexico).

In the case of F-1 and J-1 students, automatic revalidation applies to contiguous territory and adjacent islands other than Cuba. An M-1 student can only apply for automatic revalidation readmission after an absence of less than 30 days solely from contiguous territory.

Nonimmigrants who are eligible to re-enter the U.S. pursuant to the authority of automatic revalidation are not able to benefit from the automatic revalidation process if the nonimmigrant's passport reflects evidence that while in contiguous territory or on an adjacent island the nonimmigrant applied for a new visa and is pending a decision or has been denied a new visa application.

Nationals of Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Sudan, North Korea, and Cuba are not eligible for automatic revalidation of an expired visa. Thus, for example, if a citizen of Iran travels to contiguous territory for a day and has an expired visa, but a valid extension approval notice of status; he will need to obtain a visa to return to the U.S.

Automatic revalidation does not apply to the Visa Waiver Program. Readmission to the U.S. after departure to contiguous territory or adjacent islands for Visa Waiver Program applicants is covered under 8 CFR 217. 3(b).