



QUAKER VOLUNTARY SERVICE

QVS has welcomed international Fellows to serve in our communities for five years. Our Fellows have been able to participate using the F1 student visa OPT extension and B1/B2 visitor visas.

Quaker Voluntary Service is in solidarity with undocumented folks who are interested in QVS but we are unable to support undocumented folks as Fellows at this time.

We are aware that obtaining a visa is designed to be complicated and inaccessible. We do not have access to an immigration lawyer and much of the application process for a visa has to be done on your own.

If you are applying as an international Fellow the Recruitment Coordinator will set up a meeting with you upon receiving your application to make sure you have the resources that you need. If you have questions about your eligibility reach out at recruitment@quakervoluntaryservice.org or if you are a student in the US, the college's international office might be a good resource.

If you are currently a student on the F1 visa you are eligible to apply for OPT. We suggest using [this resource from Earlham College](#) where you can find a checklist and links to documents. You can apply for your visa 3 months before you graduate and until 2 months after. We aim to send out offer letters by the beginning of May. If you know that you want to do QVS you should apply for the OPT by April 15th (before getting your offer letter) at the latest. The QVS program goes from late August until the end of July. If you know that you would not be able to stay for the full year because you are not eligible for OPT, or because your OPT expires before the end of the QVS year, unfortunately you will not be able to do QVS through OPT

If you are applying for a B1/B2 Visa from outside of the United States you will need to have proof of acceptance into QVS prior to applying for your Visa. QVS offer letters go out by early May and international Fellows applying for a B1/B2 need to make an appointment with the embassy by June 1st at the latest. Fellows need to receive their Visa by July 1st in order to participate in QVS. If you have not received your visa by July 1st, we will be unable to hold your spot in the program. After applying for the B1/B2 visa you should expect to hear from the embassy within a month. Your visa must be valid for the duration of the QVS year, late August through the end of July. [This video may be helpful](#) as you are applying for your B1/B2 visa. Different US embassies may have specific requirements so please check out their websites.

If you are hoping to do QVS on a visa that is not listed above please let us know at recruitment@quakervoluntaryservice.org. Throughout the application process you are invited to be in communication with us about updates with your status and we will be clear about the likelihood of you being able to have a service year with QVS.