The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and to the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service and has the honor to clarify the current Department of State policy regarding visa requirements for interns.

The United States Mission wishes to inform the Permanent Missions and the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service that all paid and/or unpaid interns entering the United States for the express purpose of participating in an internship should, in most cases, secure G-2 visa status prior to or during the registration process. If a candidate for internship enters the United States in a different visa status, e.g., B-1, then at the time of registration the Permanent Mission should request a change of visa status through the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service and submit forms I-566 (two originals) and forms I-539 and DS-1648 (one original each) to the United States Mission to the United Nations, Attention: Host Country Affairs, Ms. Christine Bousada.
If a candidate is already in the United States and has an F-1 (student) or a J-1 (exchange visitor) visa status, then the candidate may be able to participate in an internship program while retaining his/her visa status, provided that the individual’s respective program permits that type of training as indicated on his/her form I-20 (F-1) or form DS-2019 (J-1). Alternatively, if the program does not allow for an internship at the Permanent Mission, then at the time of registration, the Permanent Mission must request a change of status through the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service and submit the required forms to the United States Mission to the United Nations.

Additionally, if an internship candidate, already in the United States, holds a derivative visa status, e.g., E-2, F-2, H-4, L-2, J-2, etc., prior to registration with the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service, then the Permanent Mission should contact Eric Wolf, Accreditation Officer, at the United States Mission to the United Nations to discuss the change of status requirements for this type of candidate.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and to the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service the assurances of its highest consideration.