

## Au Pair in America Extension Program

### FAQs

**Can we extend with our current au pair if she is already 27 years old?** Yes, we have confirmed with the Department of State that au pair who has turned 27 during her program year will be eligible for an extension.

**If our au pair is not infant qualified and we are planning to have or adopt a baby under age 2, can she still extend with us?** No, if your au pair is not infant qualified and you will have a child under the age of 2 in your home, she may not extend with you.

**Can my au pair switch programs for her extension year (i.e. can an Au Pair become an EduCare)?** No, au pairs must stay within the same program for their extension year.

**Can my au pair extend for 12 months now and then decide to shorten her contract at a later time?** The au pair must commit to her contract. However, if you and your au pair agree to end the extension program early and she gives you and Au Pair in America a minimum of 30 days notice, she will not forfeit her flight home.

**Does my au pair need a state driver's license?** If your au pair is going to be driving in her extension year, we strongly recommend that she obtain a state driver's license in her first year. Please check your au pair's license for the expiration date to ensure that it will be valid during your au pair's extension term. Check with your local office of motor vehicles to determine what is required to obtain a state driver's license. For more information please visit our website and look under the driving heading at <http://www.aupairinamerica.com/resources/aupairs.asp>.

**Can my au pair travel outside of the U.S. in her extension term?** Please refer to the *Important Travel Information* Sheet and visit our website: [http://aupairinamerica.com/resources/travel\\_and\\_flights/travel\\_visa.asp](http://aupairinamerica.com/resources/travel_and_flights/travel_visa.asp).

**What is the difference between the visa in my au pair's passport and her DS-2019?** An au pair's J-1 visa is a full-page stamp in her passport that reads, "VISA United States of America" across the top and contains her photograph. The DS-2019 form is the white paper that says across the top, "*Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (J-Nonimmigrant)*". This is the form she took to the embassy/consulate when she applied for a visa to come to the U.S. The au pair will receive an updated DS-2019 upon approval of her extension, reflecting her extended status in the U.S.

**If my au pair extends her stay, will she receive a month for travel at the end of her first 12 months?** No, the au pair will receive a 30-day grace period at the end of her extension term to be used for travel.

**Will my au pair receive a travel month if she leaves her program early?** It depends on the circumstances. If your au pair leaves the program early, she may be entitled to a grace period before returning home.

**Will my au pair have to pay taxes in her extension term?** Au pair stipends are taxable as income according to the IRS. For more information, visit the IRS website: <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/International-Taxpayers/Au-Pairs>. In addition, there is a link to tax information in the host family portal in the resources section: [https://www.aupairinamerica.com/resources/host\\_family\\_tips/taxqa.asp](https://www.aupairinamerica.com/resources/host_family_tips/taxqa.asp)

**Is the program fee reduced if my au pair stays with our family for an extension term?** Au Pair in America has taken the fixed costs into account when setting the program fee discount for families keeping their current au pair. The discount is approximately 22% off the 2018 Au Pair in America published program fee. Program fees are established in order to maintain the infrastructure needed to administer a safe, high quality program and to work within the standards and regulations set by the Department of State.

**What is the deadline and timeline to process a request an extension?** Due to strict Department of State deadlines for processing extensions, Au Pair in America requires extension requests be submitted to us by the deadline to allow adequate time to process and gain approval for an extension. A confirmation email will be sent to you to verify that the extension is in process. An approval packet will be mailed to you and your au pair approximately 4-6 weeks after receiving this confirmation receipt.

**Could my au pair be denied an extension request?** Au Pair in America will submit to Department of State an application for extension if an au pair is in good standing with the program and their request for extension is submitted on time. Au pairs must fulfill their educational requirement and attend cluster meetings. If your au pair is in good standing with the program and has not applied for a different type of visa (i.e. student visa), we do not anticipate any extension denials. However, the final decision for approval is made by the U.S. Department of State.