

Extension Information for Host Families

The Dept of State allows a one-time-only visa extension for your Au Pair. She may choose a 6-, 9-, or 12- month extension and she may choose to remain with your family at that time OR to match with a different family.

In the eighth month of your current contract term, you and your Au Pair will receive info in the mail with an extension application an all the pertinent details.

A "Travel Month" is permitted after the 12-month (or 18-, 21- or 24-month) work period is completed. This is separate from Extending and can only last up to 31 days, during which she may not perform childcare duties. Usually, this time is used for the Au Pair to travel around the interior of the US and see touristy things she hasn't gotten the opportunity to explore yet. Ideally, your next Au Pair will arrive just prior to your current Au Pair's embarking on her travel month.

Reasons to Extend:

- Extending with your existing Au Pair means you do not need to help her through the Social security, banking and drivers' license processes again (she already has them!)
- If you are happy with the childcare your Au Pair is providing, extending with her means fewer transitions for your children.
- You save up to \$450 off the program fees because there is no Match Fee for the extension term with your existing Au Pair. You pay only the visa filing fee for the D.O.S.

Additional Information may be obtained by reaching out to <u>Evelyn Blum</u>, Compliance and Extension Program Manager.