University of Wyoming participates in the State of Wyoming insurance offerings through Employees’ Group Insurance (EGI). As of January 1, 2021, EGI no longer offers a $500 deductible health plan required by the U.S. State Department for those on a J-1 visa. For the employees and dependents to be eligible to receive a financial benefit to assist in paying for health insurance obtained elsewhere the following must be met:

A new employee must apply for the J-1 visa benefit within 31 days of eligibility by submitting the following documents to the Human Resources Benefits Office:

1. Proof of International J-1 visa.
2. Proof of insurance coverage and the premium amount paid to an insurance company for employee/dependent coverage by the 31 day eligibility period.
3. The J-1 visa benefit would be available the first of the month after your official start date.

Existing employees may change coverage benefits during the annual open enrollment period, or when proof is provided that the employee has obtained eligibility for other coverage. The employee must provide annual proof of insurance to the Human Resources Benefits Office, of the current premium being paid. This proof must be provided during open enrollment and must be received by the open enrollment deadline.

The monthly amount of the employee benefit is the difference between the current employer contribution for Employee, Employee and Child, Employee plus Spouse or Family coverage, or the actual cost of the individual insurance, whichever is less.

The employee is responsible for locating and securing individual coverage and coverage for qualifying dependents. The benefit does not guarantee coverage by a private insurance carrier. Employer provided coverage such as COBRA, retiree insurance, or student insurance, does not qualify for the J-1 visa benefit.

A list of available insurance companies can be obtained from the International Students and Scholars Office.

The University reserves the right to require proof that the J-1 visa benefits meet the eligibility criteria, and to modify its policy at any time.