

East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania

J-1 Visa International Innovation Program

The East Stroudsburg University (ESU) J-1 Visa International Innovation Program (IIP) is part of the ESU Business Accelerator, which is unlike any other accelerator/incubator in the United States. In addition to world-class research facilities and access to leading theorist and researchers in many sectors of economic and scientific development, the IIP provides an unparalleled soft landing turnkey solution for foreign entrepreneurs through a special use of the J-1 Visitor Visa Program.

Who can apply?

International Entrepreneurs – The IIP is a perfect venue for experienced professionals to launch new ideas, business concepts and technologies in the United States. This section of the IIP is limited to foreign nationals with at least five years of experience who plan to start a new venture in the United States. The goal should be the creation of an enterprise in the United States.

International Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) – The IIP is also a great avenue for foreign business looking to expand operations to the United States market. This section of the IIP is limited to enterprises that have been real, active, and operating abroad for at least three years who wish to transfer key personnel to the United States. The goal of the enterprise should be to develop a for-profit US-based subsidiary/spin off.

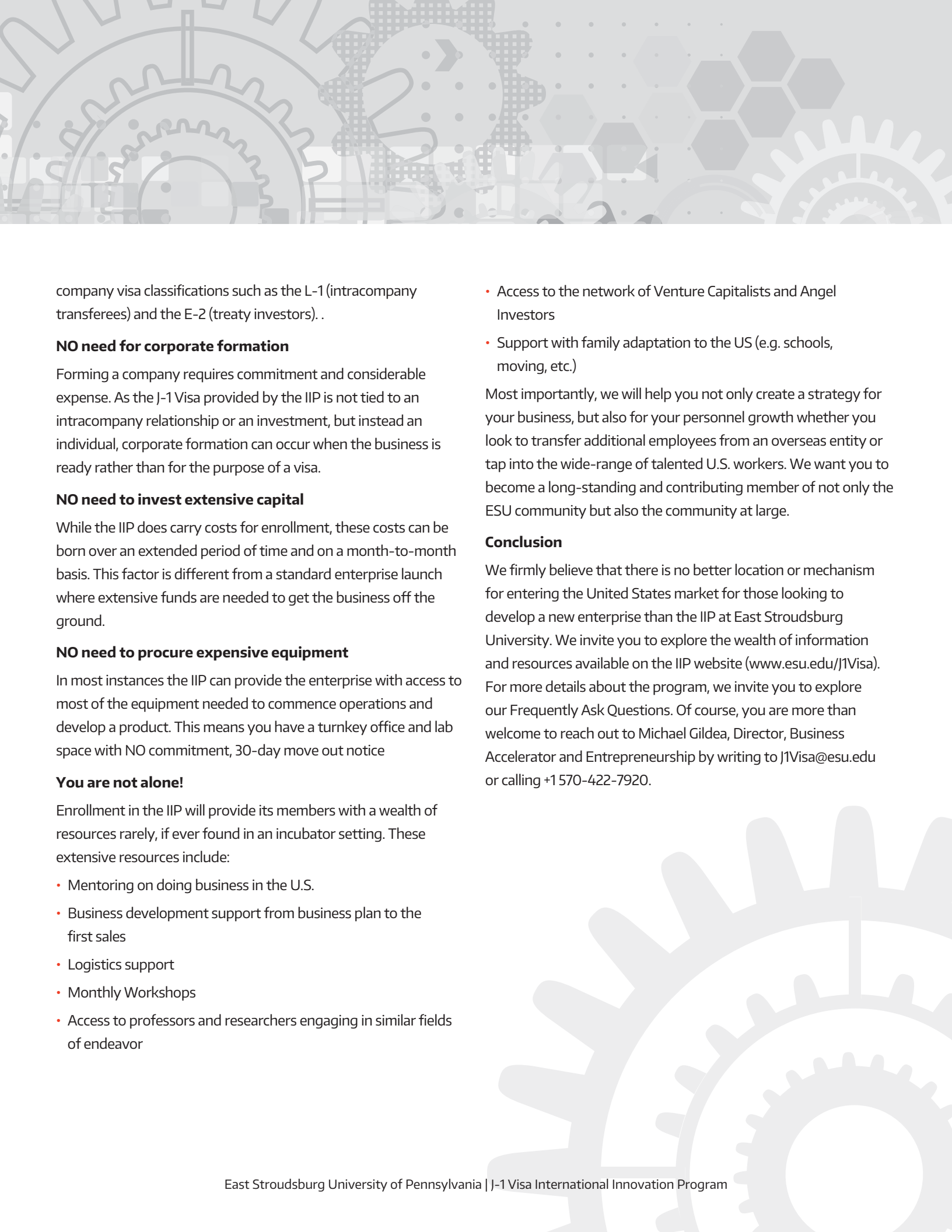
International Inventors – The IIP's third program is for foreign inventors who have developed or are in the process of developing a new technology or product. The investor must have developed a prototype or theory that could be ready for testing and market entry within 3 years of arrival in the United States. The goal of the international inventor should be obtaining a U.S. Patent (or other intellectual property protection) and the creation of a corresponding enterprise in the United States.

How can you use the J-1 Visa IIP Program to your advantage?

The IIP places a foreign national in as close proximity as possible to U.S. workers wanting to develop an enterprise in the United States. In fact, the IIP may even provide greater advantages due the fact that IIP participants are given full access to the wealth of knowledge, experience and resources available at East Stroudsburg University. The following are just a few of the key advantages provided through IIP enrollment.

Foreign nationals are allowed to enter the United States for up to 5 years to develop their business.

Foreign national members of the IIP are provided J-1 status that can be valid for up to five years! This five-year window of visa classification gives a new company or concept time to mature without the pressures associated with other traditional new



company visa classifications such as the L-1 (intracompany transferees) and the E-2 (treaty investors).

NO need for corporate formation

Forming a company requires commitment and considerable expense. As the J-1 Visa provided by the IIP is not tied to an intracompany relationship or an investment, but instead an individual, corporate formation can occur when the business is ready rather than for the purpose of a visa.

NO need to invest extensive capital

While the IIP does carry costs for enrollment, these costs can be born over an extended period of time and on a month-to-month basis. This factor is different from a standard enterprise launch where extensive funds are needed to get the business off the ground.

NO need to procure expensive equipment

In most instances the IIP can provide the enterprise with access to most of the equipment needed to commence operations and develop a product. This means you have a turnkey office and lab space with NO commitment, 30-day move out notice

You are not alone!

Enrollment in the IIP will provide its members with a wealth of resources rarely, if ever found in an incubator setting. These extensive resources include:

- Mentoring on doing business in the U.S.
- Business development support from business plan to the first sales
- Logistics support
- Monthly Workshops
- Access to professors and researchers engaging in similar fields of endeavor

- Access to the network of Venture Capitalists and Angel Investors

- Support with family adaptation to the US (e.g. schools, moving, etc.)

Most importantly, we will help you not only create a strategy for your business, but also for your personnel growth whether you look to transfer additional employees from an overseas entity or tap into the wide-range of talented U.S. workers. We want you to become a long-standing and contributing member of not only the ESU community but also the community at large.

Conclusion

We firmly believe that there is no better location or mechanism for entering the United States market for those looking to develop a new enterprise than the IIP at East Stroudsburg University. We invite you to explore the wealth of information and resources available on the IIP website (www.esu.edu/J1Visa). For more details about the program, we invite you to explore our Frequently Ask Questions. Of course, you are more than welcome to reach out to Michael Gildea, Director, Business Accelerator and Entrepreneurship by writing to J1Visa@esu.edu or calling +1 570-422-7920.