Change of Status from F-1 to J-2 Dependent

This procedure takes approximately 3-4 months. The process cannot be expedited; however, you may stay in the U.S. to await the results. In a few weeks after you mail your application to change status, you can expect to receive a “Notice of Action” document (acknowledgment of receipt). With the receipt number, you can track your “case status” at: www.uscis.gov.

The following documentation is needed:

1. Original SEVIS Dependent DS-2019
2. Original I-94 card
3. Copy of the biographical information page of your passport
4. Copy of your visa page and entry stamp
5. Copies of all I-20 forms issued to you while in F-1 status
6. Copy of your spouse's current SEVIS DS-2019
7. Front and back copies of your spouse’s I-94 card
8. Letter from spouse’s J-1 Sponsor stating the beginning date of the program and confirming spouse’s status.
9. Proof of marriage relationship to the J-1 (marriage certificate)
10. Form I-539 found under “Forms” at www.uscis.gov
11. Filing fee as noted on the I-539 instructions
12. Evidence of financial funding

Make copies of all papers submitted prior to mailing by certified mail. Be sure to keep the receipt.