From: Lee, Joseph josephlee@bnl.gov

- Subject: VAZQUEZ GONZALES, Jose: PO Dept. Res. Assoc. J1 certificate employee has been extended through 10/27/2016 Date: 1 May 2015, 9:02
 - To: Vazquez Gonzalez, Jose jvazquez@bnl.gov
 - Cc: Allen, Leesa leesa@bnl.gov, Slosar, Anze anze@bnl.gov, Office of International Services (OIS) ois@bnl.gov, Dowling, Donna M dowling@bnl.gov

Hello Jose:

I have extended your J1 certificate (DS-2019) to a new end date of 10/27/2016 (one year extension). This extension is based on an approved personnel action change from HR that extends your current position at BNL to 07/31/2016.

As part of your J1/J2 extension, you are required to obtain an extension of your MEDEX insurance coverage. The cost of MEDEX coverage for 12 months extension of MEDEX is **§52.80** @ a new rate of \$4.40/month for single coverage. I need to you to bring me your **personal check or money order made to "MEDEX" in the exact amount of \$52.80** and sign the MEDEX registration form in my office, at which time I will be able to provide you with the original copy of your J1 certificates.

Please note that the extension of your J1 certificate does not extend the validity of the J1 visa stamp in your passport. You are not required to renew your visa stamps in order for your continued stay in the United States. However, **should you travel outside the U.S. during this new period of valid J-1 status; you must have a valid J-1 visa in your passports in order to return to the U.S.** You can apply to renew your J1 visa at an American consulate before re-entering the U.S. Entry visas can only be issued outside the United States. Before making final foreign travel plans, please make sure that your passport is valid until 6 months after the end date of your extended J1 certificate. Otherwise, apply for a passport extension or a new passport. Please contact OIS at <u>ois@bnl.gov</u> for more information. This information is same for your family member on J-2 status.

An exchange visitor (J1) visa is appropriate for a Research Associate appointment. If a FN employee on a J1 visa is approved for their title change to a professional or scientific staff, their visa will need to be changed to an H1B. The H1B process can take up to 3 months, and for those J1 visa holders who are currently subject to the two-year home residence requirement (rule 212e) and need a J1 waiver, the process will be longer (8-12 months). Therefore, it is very important that if you are a research associate employee on a J1 visa and are being considered for a title change that your Department inform the International Services immediately and, allow the time necessary to resolve any visa issues. Please call International Services with any questions.

Please be sure to contact the International Services team at BNL <u>ois@bnl.gov</u> prior to any foreign travel.

Thanks,

Joseph Lee, J.D. Brookhaven National Laboratory 20 Brookhaven Ave Bldg 400B Upton, NY 11973 631-344-2939

Reminders:

Foreign Travel: Please contact International Services (<u>ois@bnl.gov</u>) at least two (2) weeks before making final foreign travel plans to request your travel package and obtain guidance on visa and passport issues, and travel delays.

Electronic I-94: Upon return from foreign travel, please send <u>ois@bnl.gov</u> a copy of the electronic I-94 from the CBP website: <u>https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html</u>

Change of U.S. address: All non-U.S. citizens, except for holders of A or G visas, must report a change of address to USCIS within 10 days of moving by completing a USCIS Form AR-11, Change of Address. For more information: click on <u>USCIS/Change of Address</u>

Interested in becoming a U.S. Permanent Resident or applying for U.S. citizenship? Visit the Office of International Services' (OIS) webpage: <u>Permanent Residency</u>; <u>U.S.</u> <u>Citizenship</u>