INVITING FAMILY MEMBERS TO THE U.S.

Family members (other than your spouse and children) wishing to visit the U.S. must apply for a tourist visa at the U.S. consulate in their home country. The US State Department/Bureau of Consular Affairs has a website (www.travel.state.gov) with additional information about applying for a tourist visa. In addition, many individual consulates will have more specific information about inviting family members on their websites. You can find links to US Consulates around the world on the above site or at www.embassyworld.com.

Ensure that your family members have the following evidence, which will be helpful during the visa application process:

- **Invitation letter from you:** As the person in the U.S. inviting your family member to the U.S, you need to write a letter to the U.S. Consulate inviting them to visit you in the U.S. Your invitation letter should include the following: your name, your passport ID#, your reason for living in the US, the names of your family members who wish to visit you, their passport ID#, the purpose and approximate dates of their visit, and whether you will provide room and board or any other financial assistance for the visit.

- **Your evidence of funding:** If you provide room and board or any other specific expenses of the trip (such as airfare), you should supply evidence of your funding such as a bank statement or employment letter. There is no minimum dollar amount that you must reflect; but you should indicate an amount that is reasonable for the level of support you are providing.

- **Evidence of your status in the US:** provide your family members with a copy of your I-20 (do NOT send the original), F1 visa, passport ID page, I-94 record. The I-94 record is online at: [https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/) Make sure all of the information on your I-20 (i.e. your major, program end date, travel signature, etc.) are current. If the information is not current, see ISS to update your information on the I-20.

- **Evidence of your student status/graduation date at UW Bothell:** You can request a FREE official letter from UW Bothell that confirms that you are a student at UW Bothell and can document that you have applied for graduation. This letter is available from the Registrars Office in Husky Hall.