

How to Obtain Your U.S. Visa

Step 1: Plan ahead.

Current visa services and operations vary by country. Check your local <u>U.S. Embassy and Consulate's</u> <u>website</u> for information regarding operating status and which visa services are currently being offered. You can also <u>check the estimated wait time</u> for U.S. visa appointments in your country.

If you're a citizen of one of the 38 countries participating in the **Visa Waiver Program**, you may travel to the United States for tourism or business for 90 days or less without obtaining a U.S. visa. However, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions currently in place, you may still need a National Interest Exemption (NIE) to be allowed to enter the United States. **For instructions on applying for an individual NIE, visit the website of the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.** If the embassy or consulate supports the granting of an individual NIE in a particular case, they will forward their recommendation to the Department of State for consideration.

Step 2: Register and request your letter of invitation.

You must register for CAMX to receive the Letter of Invitation. Once you register, click on the "print visa letter" button or log in to your existing registration record and click on "Visa Information" in the My Account drop down menu. Print the Letter of Invitation in color and submit it to the U.S. Embassy/Consulate with your visa application. If you have any questions, please contact info@thecamx.org

Please note that this letter is supplementary information that explains an applicant's intended travel purpose. U.S. Embassy officers look at the totality of an applicant's personal and professional situation—the letter itself will not guarantee your application's approval.

Step 3: Determine which type of visa you need.

Your travel plans play a part in the type of visa you need (just business, or travel/tourism and business, etc.). You can use this online tool from the U.S. Department of State to determine which visa category is most appropriate.

International media visa requirements—Please note that members of the international media must have a non-immigrant media (I) visa to attend. Additionally, citizens from a country participating in the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) who want to enter the United States temporarily as representatives of the foreign media, engaging in their profession as media or journalists, must first obtain a media visa to come to the United States. They cannot travel without a visa on the Visa Waiver Program, nor can they travel on a visitor (B) visa. For further information on the media (I) visa please click here.

Step 4: Complete the U.S. Visa Application form.

See the <u>U.S. Department of State's website</u> for the complete list of documents you may need for your application, then complete the <u>U.S. State Department Online Non-immigration Visa Application</u>. Once you complete the online application, a confirmation will be emailed outlining further instructions for an appointment.

Step 5: Schedule your visa appointment.

Select your country of origin and create an online user account, if necessary. Then enter the confirmation number from your visa application and follow the instructions for application submission and required fees to schedule your visa interview.

Step 6: Prepare for your visa interview.

Bring all of your materials related to CAMX to your interview, including your Letter of Invitation, hotel and flight reservation confirmations, your meeting schedule (if applicable) and any other documentation supporting your participation in the event. You should also be prepared to demonstrate strong ties to your country. Consular officers review your application and consider proof of business ownership or employment, social and family relationships and other evidence as proof that you will return to your country. If you have traveled to the U.S. or other foreign countries, you may also want to bring documentation showing that you returned on time.