

Moderator: (2011-3-15 13:42) 本次聊天的主题是"去美国留学吗? 需要申请学生签证吗? 尽早申请, 正确申请。", 请提问与此主题相关的问题. We will answer questions related to this given topic only - "Going to Study in the US? Need your US Student Visa? Apply Early - Apply Right".

Moderator: (13:42) 请尽量用英文提问, 我们将以英语回答您的问题. Please submit your questions in English if possible. All questions will be answered in English.

Moderator: (13:43) 请直接提交问题,我们会选择有代表性的问题在 22 日下午 7:00 集中回答。 Please submit your questions. We will answer questions that most people concern on Mar 22 at 7:00pm.

chenggonhxuanze: (2011-3-22 18:56) 我准备今年年底去

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (18:56) Yes. You will need a visa to travel to Guam for any purpose. If you live in Guangzhou please schedule an appointment at the US Consulate in Guangzhou.

Janet 2: (19:04) 尊敬的签证官您好, 在填写 ds-160 表格时, 选择赴美目的这一项有以下三个选项: Business/Conference Visitor (B1); Tourist/Personal Travel Visitor (B2); Business/Personal Travel Visitor(B1/B2); 请问这三个有什么区别吗? 应该怎么选择呢? O(∩_∩)O 谢谢

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:04) When you fill out the DS-160 as a student you will want to select the F1 student visa category. Do not select the B1/B2 tourist category.

shalin : (19:05) Hi, just a quick question, what happened to the official website for the visa application form, and I could not even open it! Thanks

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:05) Hi, the form DS-160 Application for a US Visa, can be found at this website http://travel.state.gov/visa/forms/forms_1342.html.

huang: (19:06) 我有 F1 签证, 要回国续签, 但是我在美国有轻罪的犯罪记录, 可以续签通过吗?

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:06) Returning students can always apply from China for visas to return to the United States. However, any legal matters pending in the United States should be resolved in the United States. And you should be prepared in your visa interview to discuss these matters with the visa officer.

J-GZ: (19:08) 请问居住在武汉的人, 签证是否在北京的领事馆办理申请

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:08) If you live in Wuhan, you can apply for a visa in Beijing or in any of the consulates that have a shorter interview wait time than Beijing. So, currently you can also apply in Guangzhou.

babycandy: (19:08) Hi, Allen,, I got a quick quesiton. After I get a B2 visiting visa do I have to enter the USA within 3 monthes?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:08) Most B2 visas issued in China have a validity of 12 months. This means that you can apply for entry to the US with your visa at any time, up to 12 months after the date it was issued

hihi: (19:10) hey, i'd like to know more about US culture, is there any US culture relative event organized at Guangzhou? how can i join? do i need to registe as a member on website before joining any open event?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:10) Hi, thank you for your interest. Please check our website for a schedule about our upcoming events. <http://guangzhou.usembassy-china.org.cn/index.html>

陈石: (19:12) 获悉一位美国公民使用假结婚方式帮助他人潜入美国，任何让你们知道情况

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:12) You can email us at guangzhoutips@state.gov

joe: (19:13) my friend has applied the visa online by filling in the Ds160 form and she has got a confirmation page, Is there a tracking system to find when the interview will come to her?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:13) Your next steps will be to go to CITIC bank and pay the fee for scheduling the interview. After that you will get a calling card from CITIC bank, which you will use to call our interview hotline and schedule an interview. The number is 4008-872-333. Normal phone charges may apply.

VIVI: (19:14) 本月 6 号接到广州领事馆核对电话通知。估计还要多长时间到广州签证？谢谢

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:14) Unfortunately, I cannot comment on pending visa applications. Please refer to the information that the consular officer provided you during your interview.

sarahzhang: (19:17) hello~~~I'm currenty registered a business visa appointment in Guang Zhou. We registered as a group of 3 people, but 1 of my colleagues is the resident of YuNan province. however, our company are located in Guang Xi. I'm kinda comfused by this case, are we still possible to go to the US embassy located in Guang Zhou for the visa appointment??.....thanks so much for youyr help.

方美珠: (19:17) 留学签证收到蓝单调查 一般多久会通知？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:17) Please provide to the consulate the documents or information that is requested on the blue sheet. If you have done so, or if the sheet does not request any additional documents, then we will typically know whether we can issue you a visa 3 weeks after your interview.

刘艳 2: (19:18) 我的户籍在武汉，但我在长期广州工作，可不可以去广州领事馆办签证

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:18) Yes, you can apply in the Guangzhou consulate because currently the wait time for an appointment is shorter in Guangzhou than it is in Beijing.

宋杰: (19:20) 请问等签证大概要等多久

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:20) If an applicant is approved, student visas are typically issued within 1-3 weeks after a visa interview.

Dennis wang: (19:21) 你好,我现在,在美国读书已经一年半了,如果我父亲想过来陪我一会,我需要哪一种签证申请呢? 谢谢

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:21) Parents who go to visit students in the United States should apply for a B1/B2 tourist visa. They are encouraged to bring a copy of their child's student visa with them to the interview.

余旸: (19:24) 你好,我想五月底签证,需要提前多久预约啊

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:24) Currently, for an appointment in Guangzhou, applicants are getting appointments 11 days after they call to schedule an appointment. However, we anticipate these wait times to increase dramatically in the next month or two. So I encourage you to make your appointment soon.

jing : (19:25) 我接到电话说会收到通知。。。请问会多久时间收到。。

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:25) What type of visa did you apply for? Why were you asked to wait?

helen: (19:25) I'm a U.S. citizen. My mom needs to apply for non-immigration visa to visit us in the U.S. I'm not clear if I still need to provide her with I-134 form and my bank statement. Could someone answer my question here?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:25) The I-134 Affidavit of Support is not needed when applying for standard visitor visas such as the B-1/B-2 visa. Proof of your funds is not necessary. Generally, the visitor must qualify for a visa on their own, without regard to the financial status of friends or family they want to visit.

Marvin: (19:34) 请问如果现在打电话预约,顺利的话,我可否在4月25日前拿到签证

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:34) Every case is different, but if you need your visa by April 25, then I recommend applying at your earliest convenience.

赵梦婕: (19:36) 您好,我想请问下,我要去美国探亲,我的常住户口是在新疆,但是我在海口已经住了好多年了,以前去美国探亲都是去北京签证的,听说可以在海口办个暂住证就能够去广州签证了,是这样吗?

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:36) You do not need a temporary residency in Hai Kou to apply in Guangzhou. You may apply in Guangzhou as long as our visa interview wait time is shorter than it is in Beijing. Currently, the wait time in Guangzhou is 11 days. The wait time in Beijing is 40+ days.

Bella: (19:41) Good evening, I'd like to ask if I'm an applicant for an F1 Visa to study in US, what forms should I have to fill and what materials should I bring before going to the consulate visa office?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:41) Hi Bella! Before you schedule your interview you must have the following forms and items: A valid passport, one passport sized photograph, the original CITIC bank receipt for the Application fee, the completed form DS-160 Application for a US Visa, and the completed SEVIS form with proof of payment. At the time of your interview, you should bring any documents that can reasonably prove your ties to China, your form I-20 (SEVIS form), proof of finances enabling to pay for the first two semesters of study in the US, and a research or study plan depending upon your level of education. Also, if you are a returning student you should bring a copy of your most recent transcript. Good luck!

andy991006: (19:47) 您好！2000年11月，我姐姐帮我申请了亲属移民。2009年8月，我以J1身份在美做访问学者，经费又美方教授提供，2010年1月我妻子和孩子以J2身份进入美国。目前我的研究项目还没结束，通过移民局网站查询，我的亲属移民排期快到了，我该如何办理我的移民案件？非常谢谢！

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:47) Exchange visitors on a J1 visa who are subject to the two-year residency requirement are not able to receive an immigrant visa to the United States until they have returned to their home country of residence for at least two years. Please check your documentation to determine whether you are subject to the two-year residency requirement. You can find this information either on the form that was signed by the consular officer during your interview or on your J1 US visa.

jerry: (19:47) I am an admitted MBA student, 28 years old, single, having 5 years of professional experiences. I think there are lot of people just like me, working 4-5 years, haven't settled down, found new directions, want to change career trajectory, and post-MBA career perspective in US seems brighter than in China (for certain sectors, the US is leading the world, precisely the reason to choose grad school in US), so it seems difficult to show the Visa Officer the proof of ties to China. Any tips for MBA student? What's your take on the situation I just described? Thank you!

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:47) Thank you for your interest in American MBA programs. Generally, a student at any level must only prove two things: that they have the intent to enter the US as students and remain as such during their stay, and also that they have adequate funds to pay for their education (at least the first two semesters or 9 months). I think bringing a focused study plan and being able to discuss the school and the programs you are interested in can greatly help a prospective student obtain their visa.

Phoebe: (19:49) 您好，我叫 Phoebe，我的护照有效期是 2010 年 9 月 21，去年 8 月份去过美国拉斯维加斯参加展会，今年 7 月 14 到 15 号再次去美国参加展会，请问我的护照能否参加完展会再更换护照，还有我今年能否免签呢？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:49) You will need to enter the US with a valid passport. If your visa has not expired, you can use the visa to enter the US. So in such a circumstance you will present two passports to the border agent (your old passport with your US visa and your new valid passport). You

can never enter the US without a passport that has 6 months validity beyond your intended duration of stay.

jerry: (19:51) Hi there, I can see the current typical wait time for F-1 in Guangzhou is 2 days, which is great, based on past experience do you see this figure increase in the following four months? To what extent? Ballpark figure is OK. Thank you!

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (19:51) Hi Jerry. Although I cannot give you a ballpark figure, all of us here expect the demand for student visas to increase significantly in the upcoming months. The 2 day waiting period will soon be gone, my friend. We here at the consulate are greatly encouraging all F-1 prospective students to apply for their visas 3 months in advance of the start of their programs. The next 4 months will see a dramatic increase in the number of Chinese students applying to study in the US. Thank you very much and good luck!

吴炜: (19:53) 目前申请 F 的学生签证，还需要填写 DS-156 表格，并带往使馆，提交给签证官吗？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:53) No. You only need to complete the DS-160.

吴炜: (19:54) 我对此事有疑问，是因为我看到学生签证的网页上，写着需要“请将照片用胶水粘贴在打印出来的 DS-156 电子签证申请表确认页上。”

于强: (19:55) 我已经预约为 2010 年 5 月 5 日 13:30 分面签。但是，预约电话中告知我：在 5 月 5 日的前两天到领事馆网站上确认准确签证时间。在网站上找不到何处确认？请告知！！

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:55) There is no need to confirm your appointment.

金明: (19:58) 你好，签证官。我儿子准备今年 9 月去美国留学，开学时我准备送他去美国，然后我自己到美国旅游。我可以办理旅游签证吗？另外，留学签证时需要提供出生公证、无犯罪公证、亲属关系公证等公证书吗？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (19:58) Yes. You should apply for a B1/B2 visa. Your son should apply for an F1 visa. He will need an I-20 form from the school that he intends to study at.

陈凡: (20:00) 我们有些。。。秘密不好再这说阿

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:00) guangzhoutips@state.gov

王燕林: (20:02) 您好！请问十多年前有因公出访美国，但具体资料均无从查找，在线申请时已遇到麻烦，无法继续下去，怎么办？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:02) Please complete the form to the best of your knowledge and explain your situation during your interview to the consular officer.

tangpurun: (20:03) 我们要去总领事馆签证，请问具体地址？谢谢！

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:03) 5th Floor Tian Yu Garden (II phase), 136-142 Lin He Zhong Road, Tian He District, Guangzhou

vivian : (20:04) 怎么成为美国商会的会员？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:04) Please contact the American Chamber of Commerce in South China. We have no official relationship with them. <http://www.amcham-guangdong.org/amcham/static/membership/benefits.jsp>

Hellen: (20:05) 您好？为什么从昨天开始我一直打不开 D-160 表格进行填写？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:05) Please keep trying. Thank you for your patience.

刘晗江: (20:05) Hi, I am a F1 student. Air Canada forgot to take my I-94 Departure Record when I left U.S. on May 22, 2010. Now I am in China, the I-94 is still on my passport. Is there any problem when I reenter to U.S.?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:05) Please see the following website for information regarding the I-94 Arrival/Departure Record www.uscis.gov

jessica: (20:07) 请问常住在北方的人可以申请去广州面试吗？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:07) Yes. They can apply in Guangzhou as long as the appointment wait time in Guangzhou is shorter than the wait time in their consular district. Look here to view appointment wait times:
http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4788.html?post=Guangzhou&x=74&y=15

suhan: (20:08) how could I postpone my interview?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:08) Please call Visa Information Call Center at 4008-872-333 to reschedule your interview. Normal phone charges may apply.

wei ping zeng: (20:08) 请问持美国绿卡回中国后 去香港需要什么证件啊 到香港还可以再回中国吗

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:08) Because you do not hold a US passport, your travel between China and Hong Kong is based on the rules China has established for Chinese passport holders.

sunny: (20:09) 我预约到的面谈时间，是上午 8 点，我恐怕我听错了，请问广州领事馆这边 8 点开始上班么，盼复，多谢。

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:09) Yes. We are open at 8:00. Do not worry if you are a little late. We hold appointments in the morning until approximately 11:00.

彭丽美: (20:18) 我女儿已获得 F1 签证，有效期是 2010 年 5 月 26 日至 2015 年 5 月 24 日，开学日期是 8 月 28 日，请问她可以 6 月 30 日进入美国吗？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:18) Student visas are not issued more than 120 days before a student begins studying. And a student cannot enter the United States more than 30 days before beginning to study. In Guangzhou, we issue 1 year validity student visas.

kawa1: (20:18) My F1 visa expired in May but I returned China in June, will that be considered as "unlawfully present, overstayed the amount of time granted by an immigration official "? Thank you so much!

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:18) It sounds like you are fine. The expiration date on your visa has nothing to do with how long you are allowed to stay inside the US. It only deals with how long you have to apply for entry to the US. When you were admitted into the US on your visa, you were admitted for the "duration of status." This is often written in a short form as D/S. As long as you remained within the rules of your visa class while you were in the US, it is unlikely you gained any "unlawful presence"

moomin: (20:22) 你好，请问我父母在河南的，在这住了一段时间了，能在广州办签证吗，需要什么手续

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:22) Anyone can apply in Guangzhou if the wait time for an appointment is longer in their consular district. Look here for appointment wait times:
http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4788.html?post=Guangzhou&x=74&y=15

LIUJUNQUAN: (20:24) 请问在加拿大都中学的中国留学生如何申请去美国旅游签证？可以吗？谢谢。

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:24) Yes. You can apply for a tourist visa either in Canada or in China.

明明: (20:25) 你好，在去年 8 月申请了一个美国探亲签证，但由于种种原因，没有去成，我想问一下，如果不支，这对我以后的签证会有影响吗

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:25) No. Just explain your situation to the consular officer when you apply for a visa in the future.

Wei: (20:26) 你好！我父母是 6 月 7 日签过的，他们已经订了 11 日的机票过来美国，但到今天他们还没有拿到护照。一般来说，签过后几天内可以拿到护照呢？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:26) Please submit your question here: <http://guangzhou.usembassy-china.org.cn/niv-inquiry-form.html>

check: (20:27) 我想问下我在 9 号办理 C1/D 签证的时候，签证官给了一张蓝色单子说是进一步处理提交的文件，到时会与我联系，已经 6 天了还没消息我一直在等而且这里的消费也很高，请问大概要多久才会得到通知，谢谢！

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:27) Please wait another 2-3 weeks. If you still have not heard from us, please submit your question here: <http://guangzhou.usembassy-china.org.cn/niv-inquiry-form.html>

小红: (20:28) 第一次拒签,在签有希望吗

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:28) You are always welcome to apply for a visa again. But you will be more successful if you can explain to the visa officer how your circumstances have changed since your last visa interview.

teacherhe: (20:29) 请问若能获得签证，按规定是多长期限内到美国？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:29) You can enter anytime the visa is valid. Generally, our visas are valid for one year. Students, however, must wait until 30 days before they begin studying to enter the United States.

罗臻: (20:30) 我 10 号办的签证，过了。我们一个团去美国，其他的团员都收到了签证。只有我没有收到。而且我是湖南的，不能邮寄到，所以还要先寄到学校珠海，在由同学转寄过来。中间要耗费很多时间，我订了 23 号去香港，如果今明两天还出不来就会耽搁，想问怎么办，我的签证进度，还有可以改成自取吗

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:30) Please submit your question here: <http://guangzhou.usembassy-china.org.cn/niv-inquiry-form.html>

chen haiquan : (20:31) hi, consular, my name is Haiquan Chen. my passport will expire on Nov.28 2011, Can I use it to apply for the F1 visa this December? (my study in USA is 18 months.)

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:31) Hi Haiquan, it seems you will need a new passport. If your passport will expire in less than 6 months from your planned arrival in the United States, please get a new passport before you interview

lin: (20:31) 请问现在预约广州，最快可以预约到什么时候？找不到等待时间的网页连接

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:31) Our current wait time is 11 days from when you call to schedule an appointment. You can view wait times here:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4788.html?post=Guangzhou&x=74&y=15

zhjp: (20:33) 下午好 Allen，我的 F1 签证已经 approved，但是已经一个多星期了，还没有拿到，我想知道它是否已经寄出，我担心邮件丢失得情况，毕竟都是很重要的文件。不知道您可否查询相关信息，我的 referenceNo 是 0043988

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:33) Please submit your question here: <http://guangzhou.usembassy-china.org.cn/niv-inquiry-form.html>

Kai Wang: (20:33) My parents live in Wuhan. They want to visit me in Jan 2011. Can they apply for B2 visa in US Consulate in Guangzhou?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:33) If Guangzhou has a shorter wait time for interviews than in Wuhan, than your parents can apply for their visas in Guangzhou. Please call the Visa Information hotline at 4008-872-333 to check on wait times and the availability of interviews. Good luck!

SINOZHOU: (20:34) 拒签过，再次申请签证，等待时间会延长？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:34) You can reapply at any time, But you are encourage to wait until your circumstances have changed.

tian xiaoyun: (20:35) 您好！请问我护照的有效期还有 2 年，但预计在美国读书 3 年，在 DS-160 表上预计在美国停留时间应该填多少年？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:35) You can enter on your current passport. You can apply for a new passport while you are in the United States at the Chinese Embassy. On the form, you can indicate your actual plans. The visa will only be valid for 1 year anyway.

SINOZHOU: (20:36) 尊敬的签证官，DS-160 上所填写的家庭电话，如果因为家里没有人在家很久没有使用，这样情况要怎么填写？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:36) Please fill in all of the information requested, including the home phone number--even if you do not think someone will be there to answer the phone.

SINOZHOU: (20:37) 尊敬的签证官，现在很多通过留学途径，非法在美国打工，而且都顺利通过 F1 签证

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:37) I understand your concern.

SINOZHOU: (20:38) 签证官对于压死成绩不太高的学生，签证时是不是一视同仁

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:38) The score on the language test is only pertinent to the school in deciding whether to accept a student. Officers are not concerned with language test scores.

SINOZHOU: (20:38) j 尊敬的簽證官，上次填寫 DS-160 時，有些地方打字粗心，會不會影響下次簽證？

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:38) When you come to the interview, please clarify the problems in the DS-160 with the officer.

过客: (20:39) My first question is: My dad been over to the US few years before, and he got green card already. However, he decided to go back to China for retirement, Is been 5 years after he back to China. Now he is trying to come over with my mom to visit me. (My mom has never been). And I am a US citizen. Does my dad need to go through a different process of applying the visa?

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:39) No, but your father should either be prepared to abandon his green card status before he applies for a visa. The form is I-407 and can be found at www.uscis.gov

Visa Officer Tom Weber: (20:40) or your father can apply to renew his green card status at a US port-of-entry. More details about this process can be found here: www.uscis.gov.

Visa Officer Tara Harrison: (20:40) Thank you all for participating in this webchat. We have enjoyed the opportunity to talk with you about applying for a student visa to study in the United States. We wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors.