

U.S. Interests Section Havana (USINT)
Consular Section
 Immigrant Visa Unit
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V Visa

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The Legal Immigration Family Equity Act (LIFE), signed into law in December 2000, created the **V visa** for certain beneficiaries of an F2A immigrant visa petition (spouse and minor children of a Legal Permanent Resident).

Who May Be Eligible for a V Visa?

Any individual who can answer “yes” to these three questions:

1. Are you the beneficiary of an F2A immigrant visa petition (i.e., spouse or minor child of a LPR)?
2. Was the petition filed with DHS before 23 December 2000?
3. Has three years passed from the date the petition was filed?

A minor child of the above individual may also qualify for V-visa issuance.

Unlike Immigrant Visa applicants, V-visa applicants in Havana may NOT seek Parole status for a relative.

What the V Visa Does

The V visa provides a way for the beneficiaries of certain F2A petitions to enter the U.S. and live with their petitioning spouse or parent while waiting for an immigrant visa number to become available. It is not a permanent status. Once an immigrant visa number is available for your use, as a V visa recipient you would apply for adjustment of status in the United States, or seek issuance of an immigrant visa at a consular office abroad.

Individuals who migrate to the U.S. on a V visa should check with DHS before they make any subsequent trips outside the U.S. Ask DHS what documents are needed by an individual in V status in order to reenter the U.S.

How to Apply in Havana

The National Visa Center (NVC) usually notifies all F2A petitioners who have petitions at NVC which appear to meet the V visa criteria. If you have received the V-visa letter from NVC, or if you have not received a letter but think you meet the above criteria, contact the Consular Section Information Unit at USINT and we will send you a V-Packet of application materials.

When you call the Information Unit be ready to provide precise information:

- Name and Date and Place of Birth of Petitioner
- Name and Date and Place of Birth of Principal Beneficiary
- Name and Date and Place of Birth of all Derivative Beneficiaries, and their relationship to the Petitioner and Principal Beneficiary
- Date the F2A petition was filed
- Where the petition was filed (if available)
- DHS Petition Number (if available)
- NVC File Number (if available)
 [NVC file numbers begin with HAV]
- Contact info for the Principal Beneficiary
- Contact info for the Petitioner

Application procedures for the V-visa are very similar to those for a regular immigrant visa. You will need to complete forms; submit birth, marriage, and divorce certificates, police records; and evidence of financial support; take a medical exam; and be interviewed by a visa officer. Details will be provided in the V-Packet.

For More Information

Additional information on the V visa, including validity period, status after admission to the USA, and subsequent steps for the completion of one's application for LPR status can be found on the Consular Affairs and DHS websites:

<http://www.travel.state.gov>

<http://www.uscis.gov>