



U.S. Mission, Kazakhstan



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Message for U.S. Citizens:

**Elimination of Visa Page Inserts and the Issuance of
52-Page Passport Books to All Applicants Applying
Overseas**

August 5, 2015

Effective January 1, 2016, the Department will eliminate the consular service of supplemental 24-page Visa Page Inserts (VPIs) for passports. Requests for VPIs on Form DS-4085 will only be accepted for current (legacy) passports until December 31, 2015.

The determination to eliminate VPIs was made after considering document utility, cost effectiveness, customer service, internal controls, security, international practice, and operational factors. While the Department understands frequent travelers may be inconvenienced by this change, we are phasing out VPIs because they pose vulnerabilities to the physical security of the passport and to the issuance process. When applying for a new passport, some customers may need to update residence permits or foreign entry/exit visas to comply with foreign country immigration practices. In some instances, issuing an emergency passport (EPDP) or second passport may be considered.

To mitigate the impact of this coming change, applicants at overseas posts routinely receive 52-page passports starting October 1, 2014. As of that date, posts no longer accept requests for the 28-page standard OPDP. The correct book type must be indicated on the Form DS-11, DS-82, or DS-5504 for overseas applicant book personalization.

If you have additional questions, please call the U.S. Embassy Astana Consular Section at (7172)-70-21-00, the U.S. Consulate General Almaty Consular Section at (727)-250-49-01, or send an inquiry to usakz@state.gov.

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