

AMERICAN CITIZENS SERVICES NEWSLETTER

The U.S. Embassy is transmitting the following monthly newsletter via its warden system as a public service to U.S. citizens in Mongolia. Please feel free to disseminate this message to U.S. citizens in your organizations or to other Americans you know.



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It's Not Too Late to Register for American Citizens Day on October 1 at the Embassy !

Embassy Ulaanbaatar's Consular Section is pleased to announce that on **October 1**, we will be hosting an "American Citizens Day" open house at the U.S. Embassy. And it's not too late to register! The open house will run from **4:00pm to 7:00pm** and is open to all American Citizens living here in Mongolia. Activities will in-



clude brief remarks by Ambassador Campbell, a tour of the newly renovated section, a kids' corner, an overview of the American Citizens Services (ACS) the section provides, as well as a short briefing on nonimmigrant and immigrant visas. Along with additional ACS-related information and applications, passport renewal applications will be available. Come hungry, as light refreshments will be served.

We look forward to welcoming all American Citizens to the Embassy. If you can attend, **please RSVP to UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov**. Please provide your full name and U.S. Passport Number in your correspondence. We will see you on October 1!

PLAN AHEAD! - Make Sure to Check Your Passport Validity and Count Your Empty Pages Before Traveling

The Consular Section often receives "emergency" phone calls from American Citizens, asking for passport-related services, whether to add extra pages or to renew one's passport immediately. We encourage all American Citizens to plan ahead, especially before a big trip abroad, and to check the validity of their U.S. passport. Keep in mind that the Mongolian Immigration Authority mandates that foreigners' passports have at least one year of remaining validity in order to renew a Mongolian residency permit. To schedule an online appointment for an ACS-related service, visit <https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=ULN&appcode=1>.



Diversity Visa Lottery Announcement

The Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Ulaanbaatar is pleased to announce that registration for the Diversity Visa (DV) 2015 program will begin on **October 1, 2013, and run through November 2, 2013**. American Citizens are encouraged to share this information with their Mongolian contacts who may be interested in the DV lottery.

Key Details:

- The DV-2015 program registration period will run from **noon, EDT on October 1, 2013, through noon, EDT November 2, 2013**.
- The DV-2015 program will be conducted entirely electronically, including electronic entry. Paper entries are not accepted. The State Department website established for the submission of E-DV entries is www.dvlottery.state.gov.
- Registered entries that comply with form submission instructions will result in the display of a confirmation screen page containing the applicant's name and confirmation number, which should then be printed. The confirmation screen page will provide information the entrant must use to electronically check the status of his/her own entry through the Entrant Status Check available at www.dvlottery.state.gov. Only those entrants who have their confirmation information will be able to check their Entrant Status and, if selected, receive application instructions and notification of their IV interview appointment. A link on the Entry Status Check page will allow entrants to retrieve their confirmation number by entering their e-mail address, last name, and year of birth.
- Entrants may prepare and submit their own entries or have someone submit the entry for them. Regardless of whether an entry is submitted by the individual directly or assistance is provided by an attorney, friend, relative, etc., only one entry may be submitted in the name of each individual, and the person entering DV-2015 remains responsible for ensuring that the information is correct and complete. All entrants, including those not selected, will be able to check the status of their entry through the Entrant Status Check available at www.dvlottery.state.gov.
- **The law allows only one entry by or for each person during each registration period.** The Department of State uses sophisticated technology to detect multiple entries. **Entrants who submit more than one entry will be disqualified.** Please refer to the DV-2015 Instructions at http://travel.state.gov/pdf/DV_2015_Instructions.pdf for complete program rules and answers to Frequently Asked Questions from entrants. These instructions should be read carefully as failure to comply with all the instructions could result in the disqualification of an entry.

The Consular Section encourages DV program entrants to apply early. The Consular Section also reminds entrants that the Department of State utilizes web-based tools to notify entrants of their selection and immigrant visa (IV) interview appointment as part of ongoing efforts to combat fraud perpetrated against DV entrants. **The Department will not send selectee notification or appointment letters to successful entrants by regular mail or by e-mail, and you should be cautious of email scams.** Starting May 1, 2014, entrants may enter their DV-2015 entry confirmation number into the Entrant Status Check, available at www.dvlottery.state.gov, to find out whether their entry was selected or not. Subsequently, selected individuals who respond to the notification instructions provided on the E-DV selectee confirmation page on Entrant Status Check will also receive notification of their scheduled IV appointment through Entrant Status Check. DV-2015 data will be available through Entrant Status Check until June 30, 2015. All entrants should keep their confirmation number until June 30, 2015, whether they are initially selected or not.

Potential entrants may send questions to the Consular Section's Immigrant Visa Unit at UlaanbaatarIV@state.gov.

Ask the Consul

If a Mongolia is issued a B1/B2 tourist visa, what activities are not permitted?

This is a great question! As a temporary visitor for business or pleasure, B1/B2 tourist travelers can tour U.S. attractions, visit family members and friends, or engage in certain permissible business activities. Examples of permissible business activities include engaging in commercial transactions, which do not involve gainful employment in the U.S., negotiating contracts, consulting with business associates, or participating in scientific, educational, professional, or business conventions, conferences, or seminars.

However, under U.S. immigration law, anyone entering the U.S. on a B1/B2 visa is strictly prohibited from performing skilled or unskilled labor in the U.S. and earning a wage from that labor. Long-term, full-time study is not permitted on a B1/B2 visa. To pursue academic or vocational studies in U.S., a traveler must hold an F, J, or M student visa. Importantly, children may not attend public school in the U.S. on a B1/B2 visa.

Performing such prohibited activities may result in subsequent visa application refusals, visa revocation, and, in some cases, a permanent ineligibility for a U.S. visa. It is important to remember that B1/B2 tourist visas are exactly that - visas designed for tourism. Prolonged periods of stay in the United States, such as repeated six month stays, raise questions as to what the visa applicant is actually doing in the United States, especially if he or she is leaving a job or family here in Mongolia.

STEP REGISTRATION DRIVE!

U.S. citizens residing or traveling in Mongolia are reminded to enroll with the U.S. Embassy by entering your travel itinerary and contact information into the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <https://step.state.gov/step/>. Don't forget to enter your email address, local address and phone number, if known, as well as your expected departure date from Mongolia. Entering your expected departure date will guarantee that you do not continue to receive ACS-related emails once no longer in Mongolia.



Travel Warnings and Alerts

[Worldwide Caution](#) (9/25/13)
[Guinea](#) (9/25/13)
[Turkey](#) (9/6/13)
[Lebanon](#) (9/6/13)
[Pakistan](#) (9/6/13)

For additional information about these travel warnings and alerts, please visit this website:
<http://www.travel.state.gov/>.

Embassy Contact Information

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