

I read in the newspaper, and plenty people been talking about, how pregnant women can't get through for visas to go to the states. I don't even want to go to the states, I just want to transit through New York to London, so I do need a visa, but my wife is pregnant. Will she get through?

Emrol in Chaguanas

There has been a lot speculation about this topic, and most of it is inaccurate. Being pregnant does not, according to U.S. Immigration Law, make you ineligible for a visa. That is, you cannot be denied a U.S. non-immigrant visa simply because you are pregnant. If you are pregnant but do not intend to give birth in the United States, however, you must be able to convince the officer at your visa interview that this is in fact your intention. Otherwise, you must fulfill the requirements below.

If a woman does intend to seek medical care for her pregnancy in the United States she will need to fulfill certain requirements. These requirements are the same for all applicants who want to travel to the United States for medical purposes.

There is nothing wrong or illegal about seeking U.S. medical care. But the United States government requires that you fulfill a few more requirements before we can issue a visa for that purpose. All who wish to travel to the United States must apply for, and qualify for, a U.S. Non-Immigrant visa. There is no such thing as an emergency medical visa.

So, if you need to travel to the United States to see a doctor you must, first, follow the steps that every applicant has to follow. You need to pay at TT Post, fill out the application forms online, make an appointment, and attend an interview at the Embassy, etc.

Second, you must be able to show the officer at your interview how much your medical procedure will cost and that you can afford to pay for it. According to U.S. Immigration Law, all who wish to obtain medical care in the United States must prove that the U.S. government will not end up having to pay their medical bills.

So, if a pregnant woman, or a cancer patient, or sick child, need to travel to the United States for medical care, they need to first prove their ties to Trinidad and Tobago and that they are not an intending immigrant to the U.S. and then we will need to know the medical reason for their travel to the United States, that they actually have an appointment, the cost and proof that they can pay for it.