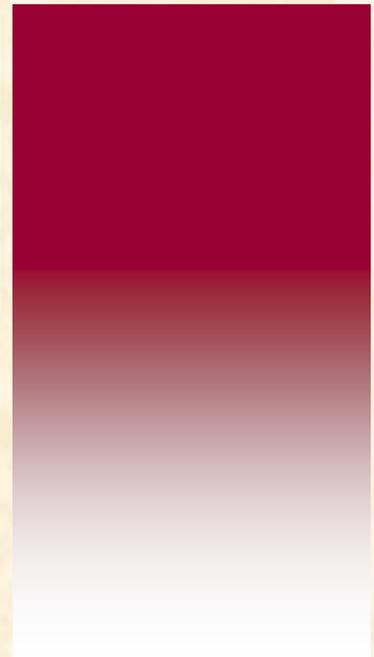
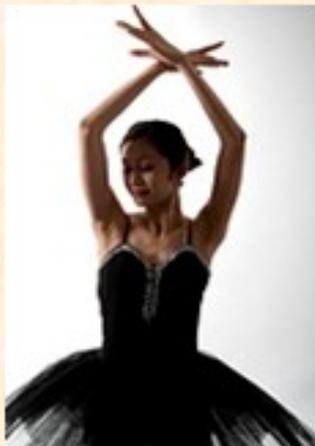


Are You A *Professional* Artist? Then Let's Change the B with a P



IN FOCUS: P vs. B Visa

Artists or Entertainers Coming to Be Part of A Culturally Unique Program



Tel: (+40) 21 270-6000

Fax: (+40) 21 200-3381

E-mail: Visasbucharest@state.gov

Website: <http://romania.usembassy.gov/>

Consular Section, U.S. Embassy Bucharest, Romania

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Q.: Why should I apply for a P-3 and not for a B-1 visa?

A.: The P-3 classification applies to you if you are coming temporarily in the United States to perform, teach or coach as artist or entertainer, individually or part of a group, under a program that is culturally unique.

Q.: How do I know that I am eligible for a P-3 visa and not a B-1?

A.: If you are coming to the United States either individually or as a group, for the purpose of developing, interpreting, representing, coaching, or teaching a unique or traditional ethnic, folk, cultural, musical, theatrical, or artistic performance or presentation, you should apply for a P-3 visa. The program may be of a commercial or non-commercial nature. **Remember!** It is the value of your work and art that makes you a professional artist, not the money you make out of it.

Q.: What is the application process?

A.: Your U.S. employer or sponsoring organization must submit Form I-129, Petition for a Non-Immigrant Worker. For [more information about the Form I-129](#), please visit the website of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services at www.uscis.gov.

Q.: What supporting documents does the USCIS need ?

A.: The Form I-129 must include the following documents:

- Written consultation from an appropriate labor organization
- A copy of the contract between the petitioner and the beneficiaries, or the summary of the terms of an oral agreement between the parties
- An explanation of the event and itinerary
- Affidavits, testimonials or letters from recognized experts attesting the authenticity of your or your group's skills in performing, presenting, coaching or teaching the art forms OR documentation that your or your group's performance is evidenced by reviews in newspapers, journals or other published materials

Q.: What about the family of P-3 visa holders?

A.: Your spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21 may apply for P-4 status. Your dependents may not engage in employment.

Q.: What should I know about essential support personnel?

A.: Essential support personnel who are an integral part of the performance of a P-3 artist or entertainer and who perform support services that cannot be readily performed by a U.S. worker, should apply for P-3 classification.

Consular Section, U.S. Embassy Bucharest, Romania

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If in doubt, please answer the following questions, and send this back within two business days via email to: visasbucharest@state.gov

1. What is the name of the artist or folk group/band/choir?
2. How long has the folk group/band/choir/dance troupe been in existence?
3. Who is the local agent/sponsor or benefactor for the group?
4. Where abroad have they performed? When?
5. What prizes or honors have they won?
6. What recordings (CD, DVD, records, films) have they made?
7. How many members are in the group/band/choir?
8. How many rehearsals do they have per week/day/or month?
9. Besides performing or being part of the group do they have other jobs? If YES, please enumerate them.
10. When and where in the United States will the group perform?
11. Who is the sponsor and what is the purpose of the event?
12. How are the artists being compensated?
13. Is the audience paying for the tickets?
14. Have they ever been to the United States before, individually or as a group? If YES, on what type of visa?

Once we have this information, we can better advise you on the next steps you should take to ensure that you are complying with the U.S. immigration law. We will correspond with you via email within two business days from the receipt of your inquiry.

TIPS!

- Do plan everything well in advance of your proposed event.
- Apply well in advance for a work petition with USCIS. This is a time consuming process.
- Once you have received your approved petition, apply early for a P-3 visa, following the instructions available on the Embassy website <http://romania.usembassy.gov> at Application Process link: http://romania.usembassy.gov/visas/visa_application_process.html
- No matter how much we'd love to see you performing in the United States, DO IT PROPERLY! Because, as you can see, Justice is blind and has long arms...



Consular Section, U.S. Embassy Bucharest, Romania