



So You'd
Like to Visit
the U.S.

Getting A Visa Isn't As
Difficult As You May Think!

It's Easier Than You Think

Welcome to the
Consular Section at
the U.S. Embassy in
Moscow!

You are about to begin
the process of
applying for a non-
immigrant visa to visit
the United States.



It's Easier Than You Think



Many people think that getting a visa to visit the United States is difficult, if not impossible.

It's not!

For over a year now, almost everyone who has applied for a tourist visa has received one (over 95% of our applicants!).

It's Easier Than You Think

- Submit to **Pony Express** (a courier service with over 100 offices throughout Russia).

- your **complete application**;

- the visa processing fee of USD 140 or USD 150
(depending on a visa category an applicant is applying for).

- Each applicant will be informed of the date and time to come to the Embassy for:

- **biometric finger scanning** (all applicants age 14-79);
 - **a personal interview.**

- * Visa applicants who have already provided ten fingerprints **may not** need to return to be finger scanned and interviewed for a subsequent visa.



It's Easier Than You Think

On the day of your appointment all you need to bring is:



Passport



U.S. Department of State
USE WITH FORM DS-156

ONE ORIGINAL REQUIRED
EXPIRES 07/31/04
ESTIMATED SERVICE FEE**

The following questions must be answered by all applicants for visas to enter the United States as the spouse or fiancé of a U.S. citizen in order that a determination may be made as to visa eligibility.

This form, together with Form DS-156 Nonimmigrant Visa Application, completed in duplicate, constitutes the complete application for a "K" (Fiancé(a) Nonimmigrant Visa) established under Section 212(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

1. FAMILY NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ MIDDLE NAME: _____

2. DATE OF BIRTH (mm-dd-yyyy): _____ 3. PLACE OF BIRTH (City, Province, Country): _____

4. MARITAL STATUS
If you are now married or were previously married, answer the following:

a. Name of spouse: _____

b. Date (mm dd yyyy) and place of marriage: _____

c. How and when was marriage terminated: _____

d. If previously married, how will you marry your U.S. citizen fiancé(s)? Explain.* _____

* NOTE: If previously married to anyone, you are not eligible for a fiancé(a) visa.

1. LIST NAME, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH OF ALL UNMARRIED CHILDREN UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE	WILL ACCOMPANY YOU	WILL FOLLOW YOU		
			YES	NO
NAME: _____ BIRTH DATE (mm dd yyyy): _____ BIRTH PLACE: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Visa application form

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- You can also bring any supporting documents you'd like.
 - For example: an invitation from your U.S. sponsor or friend; a note from your employer proving your employment and salary; a note from your university regarding your student status, etc.



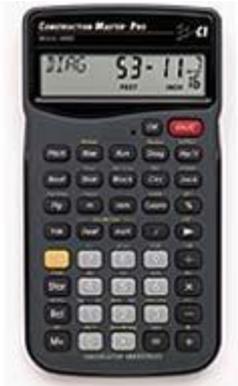
- Keep your additional documents and be ready to show them if needed.

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- For your safety and that of others, you will need to pass through a security screening area.
- The guards will need to look through your bag and then you will be asked to pass through a metal detector very much like those at the airport.



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Laptops



- Cellular phones, beepers, calculators, GPS equipment, radios, PDAs and any other electronic devices are not allowed in the building.

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Step 1

- At the first window the information you included in your **application** will be checked to ensure it is in our computer system and is accurate.
- Also, your **photo** will be added to your electronic file.



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Step 2

- You will then go to a window where your **10 fingers will be digitally scanned** and added to the information included in your application.

- Four left fingers;
- Four right fingers;
- Two thumbs together.



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While you are waiting for your interview to come up, take the time to make all your documents ready and place them in your hand to pass to the consular officer.

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Step 3

- When you go to the **interviewing** window, hand in:
 - Your application form;
 - Your international passport.
- Please do not arrive at the window with these documents in your purse, bag, folder or envelope.



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If you have come with your family you may all interview together, but remember that the consular officer will consider each application individually.



It's Easier Than You Think

- When asked, pass your additional documents to the consular officer in the space under the interview window.
- Don't worry if the consular officer doesn't ask for all the documents you brought.

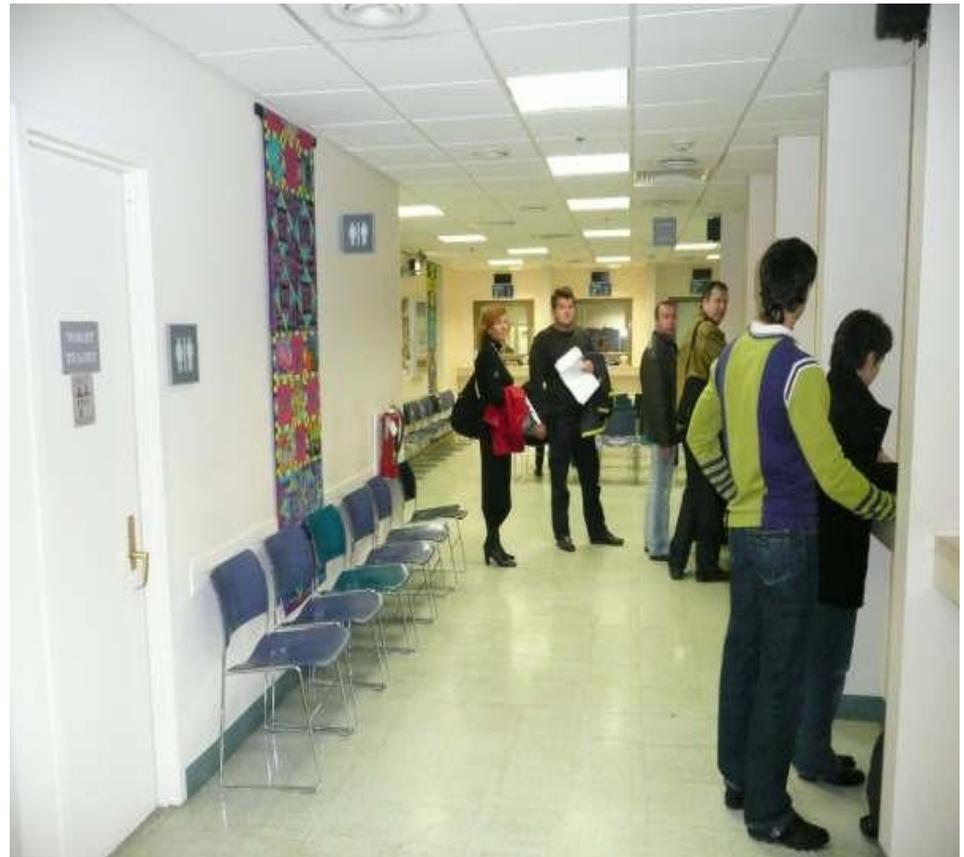


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Consular officers are well-trained to recognize false and fraudulent documents.

Don't buy these from anyone who suggests that you will not be approved otherwise.

Presenting false documents in the support of your visa application could result in the loss of your opportunity to visit the United States for the rest of your life.



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- The consular officer's decision to issue or deny a visa is based on legal standards set forth in the U.S. *Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)* of 1952, as amended.
- Under the INA, a foreign national may qualify for a U.S. visa if the consular officer determines that the national has sufficient ties to compel him/her to return to a residence abroad.



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- If your tourist visa is approved, typically you will receive a **multiple entry** visa valid for **one year**.
- However, you may ask for a **multiple entry** visa valid for **two years**.



*You can get a two-year visa if you pay an additional **USD 100** (or the equivalent in RUB) in cash at the time of your interview.

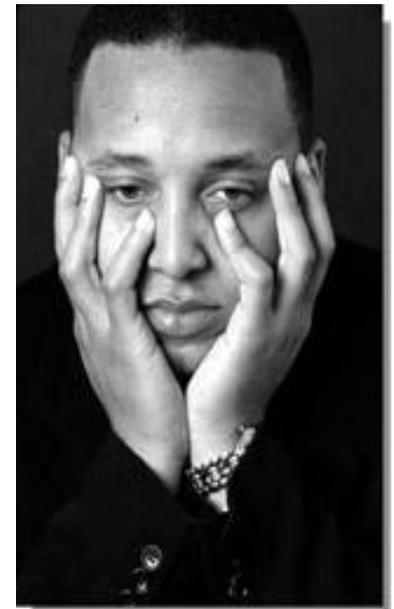
It's Easier Than You Think

- Pony Express delivers the passport to you at the address you provided when you submitted your application. This generally takes **2-3 days**.



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- If your application is denied, you will immediately be given a letter explaining the reasons for the refusal. The consular officer will return your passport and any document you submitted for the interview.
- You are welcome to apply as often as you want. However, it may be prudent to wait until you have additional evidence of strong social, familial, or economic ties which demonstrate a compelling need to return to Russia.



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Thank you for coming with us on this visit to the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.



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It is the purpose of the Embassy to make the process as fast, easy and clear as possible and, as such, help to begin your visit to our friendly country.

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