



**Transcript for the November 29, 2012  
Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visa WEBCHAT**

**We regret that, due to technical difficulties, we were unable to answer questions live at the time of the webchat. Questions were posted in advance and at the time of the chat and we have answered these questions below.**

Q. I am a US citizen and will be applying for my fiancé to join me in the States on form I-129F. My question is this. His tourist visa to the UK expired years ago so he has been living in the UK out of status. Will he still be able to apply for his visa in London; or would that disqualify him from a US visa?

A. If your fiancé is physically present in the UK, he is not prohibited apply at the Embassy in London. The Embassy cannot guarantee that a visa will be issued to any applicant by a specific date and we strongly advise all applicants that they should not make final travel plans until the visa has been issued and they have received their passport and visa package.

Q. Hi, i'd like to know if i can get a tourist visa. I overstayed my tourist visa in 2001. I returned to my home country four years after at the end of 2004. I went to the US embassy in my home country twice. First to ask for a visa to attend a wedding, i was refused one. Then to transit through the States to go to Norway, i was refused one. The consulate officer told me that because i had overstayed my visa, i was ban to enter the US for ten years. Its been eight years now. and I'm not longer living in the same country. Two years ago I married a British citizen and I was given a two year spousal visa to live in the UK. I'm currently living in the UK. I'd like to visit the States. Is it possible for me to get a tourist visa again? I'd like to know if i can try to go to the US embassy in London and give it a try or should i wait until the 10 years punishment have passed.

A. You are not prohibited from applying for a visa at the Embassy in London. At the time of your application, the consular officer will take in to account your current circumstances, the length of time since any immigration violations and any further offences since that time. We can't speculate on the likely outcome of any applications, the final decision on each applicant's eligibility can only be made by a consular officer at the time you apply.

Q. Hi there, I am applying for J-1 visa, what kind of forms do I need ?

A. Information about the J-1 visa, including all the forms you will require, is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/exchange.html>.

Q. Hello, I want to go to the US for 2 weeks on 26<sup>th</sup> of December for holidays but i cant seem to find the documents required. I am Senegalese but currently live in the UK ,i hold a family member of EEA visa(because i am married to a french),can you please tell me all the documents that i need to provide and also if it is not too late to apply. Thank you for your time.

A. If you wish to travel to the United States for a holiday, you will require the appropriate B-2 (tourist) visa. Information about the B-2 visa, including all the documents you would need, is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/b2.html>.



Q. Hi there. I am cabin crew for a British Airline and reside in Ireland. I have a visa appointment in mid Dec and I wanted to check if it was possible for the Embassy in London to send the passport back to Ireland for me to pick up there. Thanks for your time.

A. Unfortunately, the Embassy cannot send passports abroad. You should be prepared to remain in the UK while processing in your application is completed. Standard processing time is approximately 3-5 working days.

Q. Good evening, I have got 2 year multi entry business visa for USA (current). I would like to visit California with my husband for 2 weeks holidays. Do I need to apply for an additional tourist visa or just buy tickets and explain the purpose of our visit on arrival to USA?

A. If you were issued a B1/B2 visa, you may use that visa to travel to the United States for a holiday. If your visa is only a B1 visa, you will require a separate B-2 visa in order to travel to the U.S. for tourism. . Information about the B-2 visa is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/b2.html>.

Q. I'm holding a UK travel document not british citizen. i want to visit US for short period. am i eligible in VWP or do i still need to apply tourist visa. thanks for your time.

A. Information about the countries whose citizens are eligible for the Visa Waiver Program is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/vwp.html>. If you are not a citizen of one of the eligible countries, you will be required to apply for the appropriate visa before attempting to travel to the United States.

Q. I am a british citizen and my parents are US CITIZEN living in the US. They have filed an I-130 for me and my family under F3 category..We all live in london and hold british passport but when my parents applied back in jun 2007 for our immigration we were holding indian nationality. My ques. is can my petition be tranferred to london embassy as according to indian priority dates it will take long time. If yes does, it speed up the process? Thank you for your time.

A. You should contact the Embassy which is processing your application to advise them that you have changed your nationality. If your application was being processed by the Embassy in India and you are now resident in the United Kingdom, your file may be transferred to the Embassy in London. You should note that the Embassy in London is currently processing applications in the F-3 category with a priority date of the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2002.

Q. I am US citizen. I am waiting for my husband, his visa interview held on Sep 2011 ,in US embassy London at the time of interview he told that his case need some additional processing ,since then there is no response from USA embassy in London. He is in admin processing near 15 months now. What you suggest me as a US citizen what shall I do more to follow up? Our case admin processing is too long now. What's the maximum time frame for this?

A. Unfortunately, we are unable to advise on individual applications. If your husband is concerned at the time his application is taking to process, he should contact the Operator on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min, plus network extras) for assistance and information.



Q. Hi, I am a Chinese student with a 1-year visa in UK, can I apply for a USA tourist visa in UK, or should I go back to China to apply?

A. If you are currently in the UK, you are not prohibited from applying for a visa at the Embassy in London. However, at the time you apply, you will be required to demonstrate that you have strong social, economic and financial ties outside the United Kingdom. If you will apply in a country which is not your usual country of residence, you may find it difficult to demonstrate the necessary ties.

Q. hi my visa in my old british passport does not expire until 2014 shall i send my new passport and old one to the American embassy to have it transferred as i wish to travel next march to visit my sister? thank you for your help

A. The Embassy cannot transfer visas between passports. You may continue to travel with your valid visa (inside your old passport) and your new, valid, passport, provided that the visa was not damaged or clipped when your old passport was cancelled. The final decision to admit or deny all travelers to the United States rests with Immigration officials at the port of entry.

Q. Hello ,i have a R visa B1/B2 that expires on 3rd May 2013. I am traveling to USA on 22nd march till 14th april 2013. Is there sufficient time between me leaving on the 14th April and the expiry of the visa on 3rd May? Please confirm this is ok .

A. The expiry date of the visa refers to the time you may travel to the United States and request entry. Your visa must be valid on the date you enter the United States, the length of time you will be admitted for is determined by Immigration officials at the time you enter.

Q. My question is: I'm in the process of applying for a spouse visa to move to California. The I-130 application went off in September (submitted by my American wife) but due to personal circumstance (baby on the way) I'd like to be out there by March/ April... Do I have to undergo the interview process & medical in the UK? I shouldn't have a problem with anything as we've been married 4 years and I'm fit as a fiddle (UK Military).

A. If your wife's petition for you has not yet been approved; she should contact the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office where the petition was filed for more information about processing times. Your wife can request expeditious processing on medical grounds, the decision on your eligibility for expeditious processing can only be made by USCIS. Contact information for all USCIS offices is available from their website, [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

Q. Hi, I currently have H-1B visa but need to renew it on my passport. If I have all the necessary document how long does the visa process takes in London. I have checked the website which it says that this usually takes 4 days in London but as I will need to make a travelling plan and take time off from work is there anyway to know the duration of time the process will taken? Thank you for your answer.

A. Standard processing time for a nonimmigrant visa is 3-5 working days. We regret that we are unable to guarantee that a visa will be issued by a specific date. We advise all applicants that they should not make final, irreversible, travel plans until their application has been fully



processed and their visa issued. Please note that the Embassy in London will be closed for several days over the Holiday period, so this may slow down processing time.

Q. I would like to know which type of visa do I need as I have indefinite stay visa which means I'm a permanent resident in UK

A. The type of visa you will need to visit the United States will depend on your purpose of travel. If you wish to travel as a tourist, a B-2 visa is appropriate. If you need to travel for business, a B-1 visa. If you wish to work in the United States, an employment based visa will be required. Information about all the types of nonimmigrant visas available can be found on the Embassy website: <http://london.usembassy.gov/nonimmigrant-visas.html>.

Q. What are the chances the US Embassy (London) will be open on December 24th or 27th, 28th? I'm back for only a short time and was only able to get an appointment on the 2nd - but have a flight back to the US on the 6th. That's not enough time for turnaround and no one at the embassy will confirm whether it'll be open.

A. The Embassy will be open; however appointments are not currently available for the 24<sup>th</sup> December. Appointments are available on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> December for those with a requirement to travel over the Holidays. Standard processing time is 3-5 working days.