



**Transcript for the September 26th, 2013 Webchat
Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visas**

Q. Hello my wife is a US citizen living in US and I am a student of united kingdom. We get married in UK last April 2013. My wife already submitted I-130 file and she got a receipts. in online Current Case shown Status for Form I-130 last 3 months in initial reviews. Are you able to give us a rough idea of how long these visas take, I appreciate you can't say exactly! Any advice would be hugely welcome thank you very much.

A. If you have a question about the status of an I-130 petition, you should contact the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for assistance. Contact information for USCIS is available from their website, www.uscis.gov.

Q. Hi. ill just get straight to the point. i have a criminal record and am thinking of taking my child to disney land. criminal charges in 2006 for GBH,ABH, common assault. all in one go and some drunk and disorderlys ??? would i be allowed a visa or declined? will i ever be able to get into the usa for a holiday ??

A. We can't speculate on the eligibility of any applicant for a visa. If you wish to apply and allow a consular officer to adjudicate your case, you are not prohibited from doing so at any time. If you choose to apply, you will be required to present a UK police certificate (known as an ACRO). If you are found to be ineligible for a visa, the consular officer may recommend a waiver of ineligibility, which can take approximately 6 months to process. We recommend that you apply well in advance of your planned travel date.

Q. My wife is a an Amarican so I want to know how can I apply for visa to go there ?

A. Information about applying for an immigrant visa as the spouse of a U.S. citizen is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas.html>. Your wife would be required to file a petition for you with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Q. hi i filled ds 160 and have the confirmation now need an appointment i dont know how to

A. Information on applying for a nonimmigrant visa is available from our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/apply.html>. Once you have completed the DS-160 form, follow the instructions to the appointment booking service.

Q. Hi,please I want to make an enquiry.I am currently on a post study visa in UK which is due to expire early December this year.I am pregnant now due early January.My husband is currently here with me in the UK asa dependant and his visa expires same time.Can I apply for a VISA to the US with the sole purpose of going to give birth to my baby there, intend to arrange with the hospital and pay for my delivery bills or have the funds in the account. We will also present our return tickets back to our home country as we will be going straight back to Nigeria after our baby is born. Is it possible that I and my husband can be granted this visa? Kindly advise



A. If you wish to travel to the United States, you will require a visa before you travel. At the time you apply for the visa, you should be prepared to present evidence that you have sufficient insurance or funds to cover your intended medical treatment. The final decision on each applicant's eligibility can only be made by a consular officer at the time you apply.

Q. I received a 'Notice of Approval of Relative Immigrant Visa Petition' on July 23, 2013. In this notice of approval it states that I should expect to hear from the US Consulate within eight weeks regarding the next steps in the visa process (medical, interview, etc.) Its been over eight weeks and I am beginning to worry that I don't even have so much as a case number. Is the case number something I was supposed to receive with my notice of approval or does that come later? And if not within eight weeks, how long should I expect to wait to hear from the US Consulate concerning my case number?

A. We regret that we're unable to answer case specific enquiries during this webchat. If you are concerned that your application may have been overlooked, you can contact the Embassy directly using our contact form - http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/contact_page.html.

Q. Hi. I have been selected for an interview for the DV-2014. I understand that my application is still required to be approved at the interview but I have a question on the timing of the visa. Would you be able to advise how long I have to physically relocate to the US once my visa has been issued? From the information I can locate on the internet, if the visa is issued I then have 6 months from the date of issue to enter the US and activate the visa. Is this correct? Also, do I then have 12 months from the activation date to permanently relocate to the US? My understanding is that you can be out of the US for up to 12 months as long as you intend to return to live in the US. I would be grateful if you could advise if this is correct. Many thanks, Ben

A. Once approved, the immigrant visa is valid for up to 6 months. You must activate the visa before it expires. Once you have travelled to the United States, you may depart to wind up your affairs overseas. You should contact USCIS for information about departing the United States once your immigrant visa has been activated.

Q. Hello, I am going to apply for an immigrant visa for my husband. I have lived in the UK for 20 years so meet the residency requirement to apply directly at the US embassy in London. I would like to apply for my husband and then move back to the US to take a job before his visa is fully processed and (hopefully) approved. As I want to leave the UK after submitting the application, my question is do I need to maintain residency status in the UK for the entire time we are waiting for my husband's immigrant visa to be processed (and hopefully) approved?

A. You should contact the USCIS office in the UK for assistance in this matter. Contact information is available from our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/dhs/uscis/index.html>

Q. I had an interview on 18 th of april with immigrant visa. They gave me a addministrative procces and it has been now more then 5 months , i emailed your office after 3 month and i still didnot get a respons. I would like to know if there is any update for my case.



A. We regret that we're unable to answer case specific enquiries during this webchat. If you have any questions about your application, you can contact the Embassy directly using our contact form - http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/contact_page.html.

Q. A top notch Washington DC immigration attorney has advised that 'it is not probable' under any circumstances that a 1987 issue green card would be considered favorably by you under the Returning Resident procedure. I would appreciate your confirmation that your office would reject out of hand such an application based solely on the 'age' of the green card.

A. We are unable to speculate on the likely outcome of any application. We must advise that the Returning Resident visa can only be considered where the applicant's stay outside the United States has been protracted and they can demonstrate that the extended stay was due to circumstances beyond their control. More information about Returning Resident visas is available from our website - http://london.usembassy.gov/returning_resident_apply.html. Please note that the application fee of \$275 is non-refundable, regardless of the outcome of the application.

Q. Hello and thank you for this opportunity. I should have my immigrant visa interview (IR-1) coming up soon. On the I864 affidavit of support should the petitioner declare his foreign earned income or is only income earned in the US applicable? The tax returns state this income but should it be included on the I864 as salary? His employer is based in the US but he is paid from a foreign office into a foreign bank account. If this income is not to be declared on the I864 does he still need to include tax returns, despite we will be applying based on assets only in this case. Thank you.

A. The petitioner should only count income earned from a U.S. source when completing the I-864. You must include your U.S. tax returns, even if you have not earned income in the United States.

Q. Hi Consular, I am Indian citizen studying in UK. I had applied for B2 tourist visa in July for travel on 23rd september, 2013. My application had gone under administrative review. Recently, my case status has changed to Send passport and new travel itinerary. From the time of application, my circumstances have slightly changed. I am married now. My wife is Indian citizen, currently living in India. She does hold a UK student dependent visa. We have recently planned a vacation together to USA in December and return back to UK. Is it ok for me to send this new itinerary along with my passport, while she applies for USA visa from India ?

A. If you have been requested to submit a new itinerary, you should do so as soon as possible. If your wife is residing in India, she should contact the Embassy in Mumbai for information about booking an appointment to apply.

Q. please can you answer my question my wife has a pakistani passport us visa is valid until 2017 but her passport that visa is on is expired is it still ok to travel as we went last year for a family holiday going again this year as was so good i have booked but am worried in case of any issues visa has multiple entries thank you

A. Provided that your wife's visa was not damaged when her passport was cancelled, that her new passport is the same nationality as her previous one, and that she intends to travel to the



United States for the same purpose as that for which the visa was originally issued, she may continue to use that valid visa to travel. She should travel with her old expired passport, containing the valid visa, and the new passport. The final decision to admit or deny all travelers to the United States rests with Immigration officials at the port of entry.

Q. Greetings! I'm a Dept of Commerce employee who has been posted at University of Oxford to get my PhD for the last two years. I have to go back to my duty station in Silver Spring, MD permanently next week. I have married a Brit since I have been here. We sent off our I-130 on 14 September 2013 to the London Embassy. We have not had it acknowledged yet. Further, we realized followed the DHS instructions not the US Embassy London instructions and so I didn't include a copy of my entry permit and I sent a check instead of the credit card form. Is there a way I could provide this information now before I leave? Or will the application be rejected? Thank you for your help!

A. You should contact the USCIS office in the UK where you filed the petition. Contact information is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/dhs/uscis/index.html>

Q. my partner has been issued a 1 year tourist visa does this mean that once his visa expires he will need to arrange an appointment and come back to the embassy for interview if we wish to visit america again? once his visa expires? he had to get a visa due to a past conviction just i cant see any advice on the embassy forums .thanks

A. Once your partner's visa has expired, he will be required to apply for a new visa if he wishes to travel again to the United States. As he has a conviction, he will always be required to apply in person for a visa.

Q. I would like to know the exact process from beginning to end for consular processing of immigrant visas for immediate relatives. In other words, what forms and evidence needs to be sent when? Very grateful for any help.

A. The first step is filing a petition for your relative. Information about filing a petition for an immediate relative is available from our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/dhs/uscis/i130filing.htm>. Applicants should expect the process to take approximately 10-12 months.

Q. About the Diversity Lottery can British Citizens apply for it? (I am an American but boyfriend is British)

A. Information about the DV Program is available from our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas/diversity-visa-program.html>. A list of eligible countries is available from the Department of State - http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1318.html

Q. Hi there, my wife recently filed an I-130 for me which has been approved by USCIS. Since receiving the approval letter (I-171), I've moved house. What's the best way to notify the Consulate of my change of address?



A. You can contact the Embassy directly to provide your new address - http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/contact_page.html. Remember to include your full name and case number, if you have it.

Q. I would like to spend time travelling through the USA at my leisure - what is the longest time I may be able to spend there

A. If you wish to visit the United States for more than 90 days, you will require a B-2 (tourist) visa. Information about the B-2 visa, including how to apply, is available from our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/apply.html>. There is no set period of time that you must remain outside the United States before re-applying for entry. However, if Immigration officials believe that you are misusing the visa, or attempting to reside in the United States without the appropriate immigrant visa, you will be refused entry.

Q. Hi there, I am looking for clarification that I can take a holiday in the US in October on a New Zealand passport (currently living in the UK) that is going to expire in December (after applying for ESTA) ? NZ appears to be on the list of countries that this restriction is waived for

A. A list of countries for which the 6 month passport requirement is waived is available from the Department of State - <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/104770.pdf>. The final decision to admit or deny all travelers to the U.S., and the length of time they are admitted for rests with Immigration officials at the port of entry.

Q. Hi, I am applying for an IR immigrant visa. I have submitted my DS-230 and DS-2001 over a month ago and my medical records should have been at the embassy now close to a month. How long does it normally take for an interview to be scheduled? Alternatively, is there a contact to ensure that the DS-230 and DS-2001 have been received?

A. It takes approximately 4 weeks for forms to be received and registered on an individual applicant's file. If you submitted your forms more than 4 weeks ago, you may wish to contact the Embassy for assistance, http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/contact_page.html

Q. Hi, i have been invited to attend a conference in the US between 24 - 27th of October and i wish to apply for a visa from london. however i hold a Nigerian Passport but is on a student visa in the UK and the visa expires on the 11th of November 2013. would there be any oppositions to my application and what are the chances for securing a visa within a month to enable me attend this conference

A. Third country nationals may apply for a visa at the Embassy in London, provided that they are physically present in the UK. When applying, you will need to demonstrate strong ties outside the United States. Please note that consular officers in London cannot adjudicate tie to a third country

Q. Has the phone number for the London consulate been closed? Who can we contact if something on the website does not make sense? Do you have any special services for customers with disabilities (e.g. dyslexia)?



A. The premium rate number has closed. If you wish to apply for a visa, the application fee can only be paid online or through the IVR. If you require assistance in completing forms, a third party can assist you. The applicant remains responsible for all information submitted on their behalf. If you have a query about the information on our website, you can contact the Embassy directly - http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/contact_page.html

Q. Hi, I am an Indian citizen living in the UK. My family and I have a vacation booked for December in Florida. My daughter, who is a minor, has a passport that expires in April 2014. I understand that it will take us 4-5weeks to get her passport renewed from the Indian embassy. Is there any way that we can apply for our tourist visas first on her current passport?

A. Your daughter is not prohibited from applying for a visa using her current passport. The final determination on your daughter's eligibility can only be made by a consular officer at the time she applies.

Q. : The contact info you have provided so far is for non-immigrant visas. Do you have contact info for immigrant visas - specifically status of case after the I-130 has been approved by UCIS?

A. Yes, the immigrant visa contact form is reached via the same page - http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/contact_page.html. When asking about immigrant visas, be sure to include your case number and full name.

Q. Is there a secondary step if you receive no answer from the online enquiry form?

A. Due to the volume of correspondence we receive, we can't answer questions where the information already available on the website. If you asked a question you think is not on the website and have not received a response, you can send another form.

Q. My husband has his CR-1 visa interview at the embassy in 2 weeks time. In the cover letter we sent to the embassy (with his final paperwork) we asked if I could attend his interview. But now I will no longer be able to make it (because I 'm actually flying back to the US that day). Should be let the embassy know that I will no longer be attending his interview with him?

A. No, there's no need to let us know

Q. hi.. i submitted forms and other appropriate information for a k visa for myself and my daughter ...about a month ago, i also know medical report was sent to embassy around same time i still have not been sent schedule for interview for my daughter a nd myself. i also sent a k visa enquiry through website five days ago...still no feed back...im worried that no acknowledgement means i may have made some error i the k visa application process...

A. We're receiving a very high rate of correspondence at the moment, but please be assured that you will receive an answer soon. It takes approximately 4 weeks for forms to be received and registered on an individual file, so don't worry if you have not yet received an interview date.



Q. What constitutes humanitarian need to travel and what are the normal processing times for a K1 visa under additional processing after interview? Would you consider an unusually longer than normal wait under admin processing to qualify for expedite or do the applicant have to wait for the unknown period or just withdraw their application if other options are available?

A. Applicants are advised that administrative processing cannot be waived or expedited. If an applicant no longer wishes to proceed with their application, they should contact the Immigrant Visa Unit to advise them.

Q. My son and grand sons are American Citizens and I am UK passport holder. I would like to spend more than 90 days with them on my frequent visits. Please indicate multiple visa acquisition procedure.

A. If you wish to visit the United States for more than 90 days, you will require a B-2 (tourist) visa. Information about the B-2 visa, including how to apply, is available from our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/niv/apply.html>.

Q. Hi I'm a 52 year single man who has served 27 years for the Queen in the Royal Air Force, I retired from the RAF in 2006. While in service I had the pleasure to travel on Air Force business to the USA in particular San Antonio Texas, I made some great friends there and still travel there each year to visit them. I would like to move to the USA to live and work there, I'm a qualified Aircraft, I have a small Military pension income. I do not need any financial assist, I would just like the opportunity to Move to the USA. what visa would I apply on. My friends one a retired Federal government aviation worker and the other a still working aircraft engineer for the US Navy (Civilian) would be willing to sponsor me would that be acceptable. Finally would it be possible to make an appointment at the Embassy to discuss the best method of application.

A. No provision exists under U.S. visa law to qualify for immigration on the basis of retirement to the United States. Immigration is primarily family or employment based. Information about the different types of visa available can be found on our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas.html>.

Q. Hello, I am interested in becoming a U.S citizen via a green card, but I'm not sure which form to fill out, I am going to inherit a lot of money soon, I don't want to start a business in America but I do want to go into real estate and buy a lot of properties. which form would I need to fill out? and how long would it take for me to be allowed entry into America with the green card? Thank you for your help

A. Immigration is primarily family or employment based. Information about the different types of visa available can be found on our website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas.html>. If you are unable to qualify under any of these categories, you may be eligible to register for the Diversity Visa Lottery. Information about the DV Lottery for 2015 is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas/diversity-visa-program.html>.

Q. How do I apply for the Green Card Lottery?



A. Information about registering for the Green Card lottery is available from the Embassy website - <http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas/diversity-visa-program.html>

Q. - I'm a DV2014 winner, when will I be contacted for my interview?

A. We begin processing DV2014 winners as of October 1st 2013. You can expect to receive notification of the next steps in your application shortly.

Q. I missed my interview for a DV2013 visa, can i apply for the visa in the next year's batch?

A. DV2013 applications can only be processed before September 30th 2013. If you have not yet attended an interview, there will not be enough time to process your application before that deadline. If you still wish to immigrate, you will be required to re- register for the Lottery and, if selected, apply for a visa.