



Transcript for the July 28, 2011 WEBCHAT

1. U.S. Consular Officer: Are you immigrating to the United States? Daunted by the I-864 or I-134 forms? Feeling confused by the Affidavit of Support requirements? Then ask a Consular Officer and let us help you prepare! Please join our webchat on Thursday, July 28th at 3:00pm to learn more about Immigrant Visas and the I-864. You are welcome to post questions here in advance of the webchat. Only questions related to the immigrant visa process and the affidavit of support will be answered. Please also note that this portal is not monitored for live questions outside of the scheduled chat.

2. Dorothy: What about the fiancé(e) of a U.S. citizen who is applying for a fiancé(e) visa? An I-864 is not required when applying for a fiancé(e) visa. An I-864 will be required at the time the fiancé(e) visa holder applies to adjust his or her status from nonimmigrant to conditional resident with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services(USCIS).. Am I required to fill out the Affidavit of Support?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: At the time you apply for the fiancée visa, you will not require an I-864, you should be prepared to present an I-134 Affidavit of Support. Once you have entered the United States, married, and applied to adjust your status, then you should be prepared to submit an I-864 to the USCIS office where you will apply for the adjustment of status

3. Sarah: My husband will continue to receive income by his current employers in the UK upon moving to the US, can we include his income on the I-864?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: You may count your husband's income, even if he is the sponsored immigrant, provided that your husband will continue to work for the same employer and that he can present a letter from the company's Human Resources department regarding the transfer and showing his income.

4. Jon: I have had an estate agent come round to value my house for use as an asset. The valuation is contained in an email from that estate agent. Is this sufficient evidence of the value of the house for the consular officer?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: Provided that the valuation of the house was made by a registered and accredited Estate Agent, you may present that valuation as evidence of your assets. The final decision on any documentation submitted at the time of your application will be reviewed by a consular officer

5. Robert: I do not intend to sell my home in the UK, can I still use the value of the house as an asset on the I-864?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: No, assets which are to be counted on the I-864 form must be able to be converted to cash, or liquidated, within 12 months

6. Thomas Schmidt: Hi, my girlfriend is moving back to the US (American Citizen) and I'd like to move back with her. I'm a British citizen. What options of visas are there available?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: If you want to reside permanently in the United States, you will

need an immigrant visa. Information about immigrant visas is available from our website:
<http://london.usembassy.gov/immigrant-visas.html>.

7. Thomas Schmidt: Thanks - I have taken quite a lengthy look at the different visa's available and am not sure which one best suits my situation

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: Immigrant visas are available in family or employment based categories. For example, a U.S. citizen can petition for their spouse or fiancé to come and reside in the United States

8. Thomas Schmidt: Is it possible i can arrange to meet with a US consular official to discuss the options and the process depending on which visa?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: We regret that the Embassy does not have the facility to discuss prospective applications in person. You should visit the website for information about the options available to you.

9. Diane: I want my British husband to move with me back to America. I'm unemployed and have never worked, so won't meet the income requirement. Can one of my relatives sponsor him instead?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: As the petitioner, you are also the primary sponsor and must complete an I-864 for your husband, even if you know you cannot meet the income requirement to sponsor him. If you are unable to meet the requirements, your husband will require a joint sponsor, who must be a U.S. citizen or a Lawful Permanent Resident and must be currently resident in the United States.

10. Jina: hi is there a specific time frame in which i am allowed to exit UK and enter USA? my visa will expire on May 2012.. Will that affect any decision on my visa approval?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: If you are applying for an Immigrant visa, you have up to 6 months to enter the United States using that visa

11. Jonathan: I am looking to move to the US for work. Is it possible to leave my home country under the Visa Waiver Program, look for an employer to sponsor me under the J-1 visa, and complete the application in the US?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: No, you cannot adjust status if you enter the United States under the Visa Waiver Program. You would be required to apply for a J-1 visa before departing for the U.S.

12. Jonathan: How may I get an employer to sponsor me otherwise? And is there a specific level of experience I need?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: We regret that we are unable to advise, you may wish to discuss the matter with a potential employer before applying for a visa.

13. Jina: im applying for non-immigrant tourist visa.

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: This webchat is about immigrant visas and the I-864, if you have a question about nonimmigrant visas, you may call our operator on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min)

14. andrew: hello, i am a registered nurse here in the UK, with a diploma qualification. could

you please tell me which visa i would need to either work full time for a few years and if i wanted to study for a masters in the USA would it be possible to work part time as a nurse whilst studying.

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: Information about employment based visas is available from our website: <http://london.usembassy.gov/nonimmigrant-visas.html>

15. Jemima: What's the difference between an I-864 and an I-864W, i've looked on the USCIS website and i'm confused, which one do i fill in?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: The I-864 is an Affidavit of Support, which you complete to demonstrate that the person you are sponsoring will not become a public charge in the United States. The I-864W is the form you use when you believe that you may be exempt from submitting the I-864.

16. Sam: I am a divorced father of three going to move to the US to live with my fiancée. My kids live with their mother. Does my fiancée have to earn enough to support my children in order for me to qualify for a visa, even though they will not be living with us?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: Unless you have a court order relieving you of any obligation to support your children, you should count them as part of your household size. Your fiancée should be prepared to demonstrate she has sufficient income to support the children as well as yourself.

17. Jemima: ok, so i'm sponsoring my husband and i have some income from my part time job, can i just list that on the form?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: When completing the I-864 to sponsor your husband, you should only count income earned from a U.S. source. You cannot count income earned in the UK. If you are unable to meet the income requirements, you may take in to account your assets, such as property, savings or bonds

18. Jemima: how do i know what the income requirements are?

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: The income requirements are available from the USCIS website, as a PDF: <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-864p.pdf>

* U.S. Consular Officer 2: OK, thanks for joining us everyone, we hope you have had all your questions answered! We will be running another webchat every soon, so don't forget to check back on our website for the next exciting topic!