

Diversity Visa (DV) Fact Sheet 2018

1. How many DVs exist?

There are 50,000 Diversity Visas available worldwide. No country can have more than 7% of the available visas.

2. What are the requirements to be eligible for the DV?

You must be born in an eligible country (Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somalia are all eligible).

Each DV application must meet the education/work experience requirement by having either:

- a. a high school education at least a high school education or its equivalent, defined as successful completion of a 12-year course of formal elementary and secondary education;

OR

- b. two years of work experience within the past five years in an occupation that requires at least two years of training or experience to perform. The Department of State will use the U.S. Department of Labor's [O*Net Online](#) database to determine qualifying work experience.

3. I'm already registered for an immigrant visa in another category. Can I still apply for the DV program?

Yes.

4. Can I only enter once during the registration period?

Yes, the law allows only one entry by or for each person during each registration period. The Department of State uses sophisticated technology to detect multiple entries. **Individuals with more than one entry will be disqualified.**

5. May my spouse and I each submit a separate entry?

Yes, each spouse may each submit one entry if each meets the eligibility requirements. If either spouse is selected, the other is entitled to apply as a derivative dependent.

6. What family members must I include in my DV entry?

Spouse: If you are legally married, you must list your spouse regardless of whether he/she lives with you or intends to immigrate to the United States. You must list your spouse even if you currently are separated from him/her, unless you are legally separated (i.e., there is a written agreement recognized by a court or a court order). If you are legally separated, you do not have to list your spouse, though you will not be penalized if you do so. If you are divorced or your spouse is deceased, you do not have to list your former spouse.

The only exception to this requirement is if your spouse is already a U.S. citizen or U.S. Lawful Permanent Resident. A spouse who is already a U.S. citizen or a Lawful Permanent Resident will not require or be issued a DV. Therefore, if you select "married and my spouse IS a U.S. citizen or U.S. LPR" on your entry, you will not be able to include further information on your spouse.

Children: You must list ALL your living children who are unmarried and under 21 years of age at the time of your initial DV entry, whether they are your natural children, your step-

children (even if you are now divorced from that child's parent), your spouse's children, or children you have formally adopted in accordance with the applicable laws. List all children under 21 years of age at the time of your electronic entry, even if they no longer reside with you or you do not intend for them to immigrate under the DV program. You are not required to list children who are already U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents, though you will not be penalized if you do include them.

7. Can I download and save the E-DV entry form into a word processing program and finish it later?

No, you will not be able to save the form into another program for completion and submission later. The E-DV Entry Form is a web-form only. You must fill in the information and submit it while online.

8. I hit the "Submit" button, but did not receive a confirmation number. If I submit another entry, will I be disqualified?

If you did not receive a confirmation number, your entry was not recorded. You must submit another entry. It will not be counted as a duplicate. Once you receive a confirmation number, do not resubmit your information.

9. How will I be notified if I win a Diversity Visa?

Checking your status online is the only way you will be notified if you are selected. You will not be notified by phone, letter, or email.