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April 5, 2012

**PRESS RELEASE  
U.S. VISA FEES TO CHANGE ON APRIL 13, 2012**

Effective April 13, 2012, the application fee for most U.S. visa categories will change.

**NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS**

For Tourist, Business, Transit, Crew Member, Student, Exchange Visitor, and Journalist visas (B1/B2, C, D, F, I, J, and M), the fee will be increased from \$140 to \$160. For petition-based visas (H, L, O, P, Q, and R), the fee will be increased from \$150 to \$190. The fee for nonimmigrant K visas (fiancé visas) will decrease from \$350 to \$240, and E visa fees will decrease from \$390 to \$270 on the same date.

Individuals who apply for non-immigrant visas on or after April 13, 2012, will need to pay the new visa fees. In Senegal, visa processing fees are accepted at certain Ecobank locations. A list of these Ecobank locations is listed on the U.S. Embassy Dakar website at

[http://dakar.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant\\_visas/fees.html](http://dakar.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant_visas/fees.html).

Applicants will be charged the fee in effect on the day of payment. For fees that are increasing, receipts for payments made prior to the fee changes will be accepted for 90 days after the fee takes effect, or through July 12, 2012. In categories where fees are declining, no refunds will be available for those who paid prior to the effective date; however, these receipts are valid for the usual one year from the date of issuance.

**IMMIGRANT VISAS**

We expect the cost of processing immigrant visas to remain stable, while the volume will increase, leading to lower costs in the short term. As a result, immigrant visa processing fees have decreased.

<i>Type of Visa</i>	<i>Previous Fee</i>	<i>New Fee</i>
Immediate Relative and Family Preference Applications	\$330	\$230
Employment-Based Applications	\$720	\$405
Other Immigrant Visa Applications	\$305	\$220
Diversity Visa Program Fee	\$440	\$330
Determining Returning Resident Status	\$380	\$275

For visa categories in which fees are decreasing, no refunds will be available to persons who paid prior to the effective date of the new fees.

## **BACKGROUND**

These fee changes allow the U.S. Department of State to recover the costs of security and other enhancements to its non-immigrant and immigrant visa application processes. New security-related measures have caused the cost of providing NIVs and IVs to rise significantly. The fees for U.S. consular services are based on the actual costs of providing services to individuals. These costs have risen since the visa application fee was last increased, in 2010. Additional information on both U.S. nonimmigrant and immigrant visas is available on the U.S. Embassy Dakar website at <http://dakar.usembassy.gov> or by purchasing a calling card and contacting the U.S. Visa Information Service in Senegal at +221-33-869-6300.

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