



**Transcript for the October 25, 2012
Immigrant and Nonimmigrant Visa WEBCHAT**

Q. Hi, I applied to renew my B-1/B-2 visa in April 2012 and I am still waiting to hear if my application for a waiver has been approved. Is there any way to track my pending application or find out what date is currently being processed? Thank you for your time.

A. If it's been more than 90 days since your application, we suggest that you contact our Operator Service on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min) for assistance. We regret that we are unable to provide answers to case specific questions during this webchat.

Q. I couldn't save my confirmation number of my USA DV 2014 application . I failed to get it back. I wish to send it to me.

A. When a Diversity Visa program (DV-2014) lottery entry is submitted, a page with a unique confirmation number is generated. That confirmation number is required to find out the outcome of the DV-2014 application. Unfortunately, it is not possible to retrieve that number later under any circumstances. That is why we advise prospective entrants to register via the only official DV-2014 website, www.dvlottery.state.gov , to personally submit the registration if at all possible (or at least be physically present when it is submitted), and to print the confirmation page and keep it safe until at least June 30, 2014.

If you have registered for DV-2014 but do not know your confirmation number, you should not attempt to re-register. The law allows for only one entry per person during each registration period. More information can be found on our blog at <http://www.usembassy.org.uk/visaservices/?p=2952>.

Q. I'm living in UK on Post study work permit after completing my BA (Hons). I want to visit US in Jan/Feb to see my Uncle, Aunt and first Cousins, so can they sponsor me for the visit? They all are Green Card holders. If not than how much of bank statement do I need to show and how prior to that date do I need to apply.

A. B-2 (tourist) visa applicants do not need to be 'sponsored' or provide a letter of support from friends or family in the U.S. In fact, it is not possible for a third party to make guarantees on an applicant's behalf because it is each applicant's responsibility to demonstrate that they qualify for a visa. Applicants typically establish their eligibility for a visa by demonstrating that they have sufficiently strong social, economic and familial ties to their place of residence to compel them to depart the United States after their visit. There is no set form that such evidence may take, and no set amount of money that an applicant must show evidence of. Note that applying for a B-2 visa is not primarily a document-based process. Often, the information provided via the application Form DS-160, and in response to targeted questions during the interview, is sufficient for the consular officer to make a decision.

Q. There are already people applying for DV 2014, but i am DV 2012 and haven't received information about my visa yet?

A. Unfortunately, the Diversity Visa Program for 2012 has finished. If processing in your case was not completed by September 30th 2012, no further action can be taken in your case. If you wish to try again, registration for DV-2014 is now open. If successful, you will be required to make a new application, including a new interview and new fee.



Q. I am really confused as to which visa to apply for. I'm a British lady hoping to volunteer for a non-profit ranch. I am paying for everything myself, return ticket food etc but they are giving me a room to sleep in free of charge. Would I need the B1, H2B OR J1?

The more I try to read and understand the more I don't seem to understand. I just need someone to tell me which form.

A. Please contact the Embassy's Operator on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min, plus network extras) to provide more details about your volunteer placement so that we can help you determine the appropriate visa classification for your purpose of travel.

Q. Do I need to plan the flight and hotel, then get all reservation or booking reference before I am going to apply the visa on the application day? Or just the bank statement is also accepted? Do I have to make an appointment to the U.S. Embassy for this application, if so, could I be noticed the exact time? Could I get a list of the documents required for applying for this kind of visa? Thank you!

A. We advise all applicants not to purchase tickets or make final travel plans unless they are in possession of their passport containing a valid U.S visa appropriate for their purpose of travel. Information about applying for a B-2 (tourist) visa, including supporting documents, can be found on our website at <http://london.usembassy.gov/nonimmigrant-visas.html> Applicants between the ages of 14 and 79 (inclusive) are required to attend a visa interview with a consular officer. Interview appointments are scheduled by calling the Operator Assisted Information Service on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min, plus network extras)

Q. I have had an immigrant visa refused, can I still travel as a tourist?

A. You are not prohibited from travelling to the U.S. as a tourist. Information about tourist visas is available from the Embassy website: <http://london.usembassy.gov/b2.html>. If applying for a nonimmigrant visa, you should be prepared to demonstrate that you have a residence abroad which you have no intention of abandoning.

Q. hi can you tell me if you can enter the US with a criminal record? My partner my children and myself would like to travel there but my partner has criminal convictions for non serious offences.

A. Anyone that has been arrested, convicted or cautioned, regardless of when or why, should apply for a visa if they wish to visit the United States. Please note that the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act does not apply to U.S. visa law.

Final determination on each individual's eligibility for a visa can only be made by a consular officer following a visa interview. As no assurances can be given in advance, we advise all applicants not to purchase tickets or make final travel plans unless they have received their passport containing a valid U.S. visa appropriate for their purpose of travel.

Q. Hello! I have a waiver application pending too. Can you say how long it's taking in general for them to be processed? Thanks.

A. At this point processing times are around 6 months. This time period is an average and for guidance only.



Q. I was confirmed the online Nonimmigrant Visa Application, What is the next step for me to applying for the visa? How can I book the time for an interview? Thanks.

A. You should contact the Embassy's Operator Assisted Information Service on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min, plus network extras) to schedule an appointment for a visa interview.

Q. I have to need some information about USA B2 visit visa from UK. Sir I have 2 year's United Kingdom family visitor visa. I want to apply US B2 visit visa from UK because I am now in UK. Can you please tell me about your experience?

A. Anyone physically present in the United Kingdom may apply for a visa at the U.S. Embassy in London. As with all applicants, you will be required to establish that you overcome Section 214(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), which stipulates that applicants are presumed to be intending immigrants until they can establish otherwise. For instance, you should be prepared to demonstrate that your ties to your place of residence are sufficiently strong to compel you to depart the United States after a visit. Please see our blog at <http://www.usembassy.org.uk/visaservices/?p=772> for more information.

Q. Good morning, Can one check the Diversity Visa Program entry status regularly until the end date or does it has to be just once? Moreover, I have registered for the US NCLEX. That is I will be going to the United States to write it, I reside in the UK legally, Please, I want to know under which visa category should I apply for the visa? Many thanks.

A. Diversity Visa Program (DV-2014) results are due to be available via the Entry Check at www.dvlottery.state.gov from May 1, 2013, onwards. You will not need to check the results of that draw more than once. However, you should keep your confirmation number until at least June 30, 2014.

To help you establish the appropriate visa classification for your travel related to your US NCLEX examination, please contact the Embassy's Operator Assisted Information Service on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min, plus network extras).

Q. Today, we received an immigrant visa interview date via post! For four weeks from now. We are unprepared for this, and wondering if there is a way we can contact someone to reschedule his interview date?

A. If your husband has been given an interview date that is no convenient for you, you should contact the Immigrant Visa Unit to request they reschedule your husband's appointment.

Q. Should I complete the visa application form before or after I book my tourist visa interview?

A. You can complete the application Form DS-160 either before or after you call the Operator Service to schedule the visa interview. Form DS-160 is available via our website at <http://london.usembassy.gov/ds160.html> Remember that you will be required to print the confirmation page that is generated when you have submitted Form DS-160 and bring it with you to your visa interview.



Q. Can you confirm for me that we are correct in assuming that, if my husband has his immigrant visa interview in November and is approved within several days, that he will have to travel to the US within 6 months of his approval date?

A. If approved, your husband's immigrant visa will be valid for up to 6 months. He must travel to the United States within the validity period of the visa.

Q. Last time I applied for a visa my application form wasn't accepted and I had to go to an internet café to fix it. How can I avoid that this time?

A. Please review our website at <http://london.usembassy.gov/ds160.html> for important points to note when completing Form DS-160. For example, you should specify the visa classification you are applying for when asked about your 'purpose of travel.' If you have checked our website at <http://london.usembassy.gov/nonimmigrant-visas.html> but you are still unsure what visa to apply for, you should call the Operator Service on 09042 450 100 (£1.23/min, plus network extras) to discuss your purpose of travel. Also, if you are asked if you have ever attended an educational institution at secondary level or above, you should declare any schools, colleges or universities you attended since the age of 11.