

Visa Eligibility

A visa is a supplemental identification/travel document that a citizen of a foreign country generally must have to seek entrance into the United States.

- A visa does not guarantee entry to the U.S. The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officer at the port-of-entry determines the length of authorized stay each travel time.
- The visa expiration date is shown on the visa along with the visa issuance date and does not reflect the length of authorized stay in the U.S. The time between visa issuance and expiration dates is called visa validity. The visa validity is the length of time the holder is permitted to travel to a port-of-entry in the U.S.

The table below includes eligibility and employment authorization documentation requirements for visa designations allowing entry into the U.S.:

Visa Category	Visa Type	Description	Eligibility	Employment Authorization Documentation (EAD) Required?
Official Government Travel	A-1	Ambassador, Public Minister, Career Diplomat or Counselor Officer, or Immediate Family	Ineligible	N/A
	A-2	Other Foreign Government Official or Employee or Immediate Family	Ineligible	N/A
	A-3	Attendant, Servant or Personal Employee of A1 or A2, or Immediate Family	Ineligible	N/A
	Eligible Dependent of A-1, A-2 or A-3	Eligible Dependent of A-1, A-2 or A-3	Ineligible	N/A
Visitor Visa	B-1	Temporary Visitor for Business	Ineligible	N/A
	B-2	Temporary Visitor for Pleasure	Ineligible	N/A

	B-1/B-2	Temporary Visitor for Business & Pleasure	Ineligible	N/A
	BCC	Border crossing card: Mexico	Ineligible	N/A
Transit Visa	C-1	Transit to the United States	Ineligible	N/A
	C-2	Transit to the United Nations	Ineligible	N/A
	C-3	Transit to the United States (Foreign Government Officials)	Ineligible	N/A
	C-4	Transit – Department of Homeland Security	Ineligible	N/A
		Asylum applicant (with pending asylum application) who filed for asylum on or after January 4, 1995	Eligible	EAD will show the category as C08
Crewmember Visa	C-1/D	Combined Transit and Crewmember Visa	Ineligible	N/A
	D-1	Crewmember (Sea or Air)	Ineligible	N/A
	D-2	Crewmember (Fishing vessel)	Ineligible	N/A
DACA		Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals	Ineligible	EAD will show the category as C33
Trade Treaty Work Visa	E-1	Treaty trader - Employee, Spouse or Child	Eligible	No
	E-2	Treaty investor - Employee, Spouse or Child	Eligible	No
	E-3	Specialty Occupation - Australia	Eligible	No

	Eligible Dependent of E-1, E-2, or E-3	Eligible Dependent of E-1, E-2 or E-3	Eligible	Yes
Student Visa	F-1	Academic student	Ineligible	N/A
	F-2	Spouse or child of an F-1	Ineligible	N/A
	F-3	Canadian or Mexican national commuter student in an academic or language training program	Ineligible	N/A
	GB	Business visitor – Guam	Eligible	No
Employees of International Organizations and NATO	G-1	Mission member – designated international organization	Eligible*	No
	G-2	Representative of a recognized or member foreign government	Eligible*	No
	G-3	Representative of non-recognized or non-member government	Eligible*	No
	G-4	Appointment – designated internal organization	Eligible*	No
	G-5	Employee of G	Eligible	No
	Eligible Dependent of G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4 or G5	Eligible Dependent of G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4 or G5	Eligible	Yes
Temporary Work Visa	H-1	Worker of distinguished merit and ability	Eligible	No
	H-1A	Registered Nurse	Eligible	No

	H-1B	Specialty Occupation	Eligible	No
	H-1B1	Specialty Occupation - Chilean or Singapore	Eligible	No
	H-1B2	Specialty Occupation – U.S Department of Defense	Eligible	No
	H-1B3	Fashion model of distinguished merit and ability	Eligible	No
	H-1C	Registered nurse – U.S. Department of Labor	Eligible	No
	H-2	Worker performing services unavailable in the United States	Ineligible	N/A
	H-2A	Temporary or seasonal agricultural worker	Ineligible	N/A
	H-2B	Non-agricultural worker	Ineligible	N/A
	H-3	Trainee other than medical or academic	Ineligible	N/A
	H-4	Spouse or Child of H	Ineligible	N/A
Media Work Visa	I	Foreign media outlet (press, radio, film or other)	Eligible	No
Immigrant Visa for Spouse of a U.S. Citizen	IR1	Spouse of a U.S. Citizen	Eligible	No
	CR1		Ineligible	N/A
Exchange Visitor Visa	J-1	Student - Exchange Visitor	Ineligible	N/A
	J-2	Spouse or child of J-1	Ineligible	N/A

Non-immigrant Visa for Fiance(e)	K-1	Fiancé(e) of United States Citizen	Eligible Only if US Citizen is also on loan	Yes
	K-2	Child of Fiancé(e) of U.S. Citizen	Ineligible	N/A
Non-immigrant Visa for Spouse	K-3	Spouse of U.S. Citizen awaiting availability of immigrant visa	Eligible Only if US Citizen is also on loan	Yes
	K-4	Child of K3	Ineligible	N/A
Temporary Employment Visa	L-1	Intracompany transferee	Eligible	No
	L-1A	Intracompany transfer – managerial or executive	Eligible	No
	L-1B	Intracompany transfer – specialized knowledge	Eligible	No
	L-2	Spouse or Child of L	Spouse – eligible if visa holder has separate employment authorization Child - ineligible	Yes N/A
Student Visa	M-1	Vocational student	Ineligible	N/A
	M-2	Spouse or child of M1	Ineligible	N/A
	M-3	Vocational student - Canada or Mexico	Ineligible	N/A

Employees of International Organizations and NATO	NATO-1	Official Staff - NATO	Eligible	No
	NATO-2	Advisor - NATO	Eligible	No
	NATO-3	Clerical staff - NATO	Eligible	No
	NATO-4	Member - NATO	Eligible	No
	NATO-5	Expert - NATO	Eligible	No
	NATO-6	Civilian – NATO – “Status of Forces”	Eligible	No
	NATO-7	Employee of NATO 1-6	Eligible	No
	NATO 1-7	Spouse or child of NATO 1-7	Spouse – eligible if visa holder has separate employment authorization Child - ineligible	Yes N/A
Temporary Employment Visa	O-1	Extraordinary ability in analysis, business, education, entertainment	Eligible	No
	O-2	Assistant to O1	Eligible	No
	O-3	Spouse or child of O-1 or O2	Spouse – eligible if visa holder has separate employment authorization Child - ineligible	Yes N/A
	P-1A	Internationally recognized athlete	Eligible	Proof of International recognition

	P-1B	Internationally recognized entertainer (artist)	Eligible	Proof of International recognition
	P-2	Performer (artist) - Reciprocal Exchange Program	Eligible	Proof of International recognition
	P-3	Entertainer (artist) - Culturally Unique Program	Eligible	Proof of International recognition
	P-4	Spouse or Child of P1, P2, or P3	Spouse – eligible if visa holder has separate employment authorization Child - ineligible	Yes
	Q-1	International Cultural Exchange Program	Ineligible	N/A
Temporary Religious Worker Visa	R-1	Religious Occupation	Eligible	No
	R-2	Spouse or child of R-1	Spouse – eligible if visa holder has separate employment authorization Child - ineligible	Yes
Witnesses and Informants Visa	S-1/S-2 (also coded as S-5 and S-6)	Informant	Ineligible	N/A

	S-7	Spouse or child of S5 or S6	Ineligible	N/A
Victims of Trafficking	T-1	Victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons	Ineligible	N/A
	T-2	Spouse of T-1	Ineligible	N/A
	T-3	Child of T-1	Ineligible	N/A
	T-4	Parent of T-1	Ineligible	N/A
	T5	Unmarried Sibling under age 18 of T1	Ineligible	N/A
	T6	Adult or Minor Child of a Derivative Beneficiary of a T1	Ineligible	N/A
NAFTA Professional Workers Visa	TN	NAFTA Professional	Eligible	No
	TD	Spouse or Child of NAFTA Professional	Ineligible	N/A
Crime Victims Visa	U-1	Victim of criminal activity	Ineligible	N/A
	U-2	Spouse of U-1	Ineligible	N/A
	U-3	Child of U-1	Ineligible	N/A
	U-4	Parent of U1 under 21 years of age	Ineligible	N/A
	U-5	Unmarried Sibling under age 18 of U1 under 21 years of age	Ineligible	N/A
	V-1	Spouse of a Permanent Resident (delayed)	Eligible	No
	V-2	Child, under-21, of V-1	Ineligible	N/A

	V-3	Spouse or child accompanying a principal beneficiary	Eligible	No
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*Verification that the applicant does not have diplomatic immunity must be obtained from the applicant's employer and/or by viewing the applicant's passport.