

List of the Various Types of Non-Immigrant and Immigrant U.S. Visas

A non-immigrant visa is most frequently a tourist, business, student or specialty worker document issued by a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad, that permits you to travel to the United States during the validity of the visa to accomplish a specific purpose, such as visiting, studying or working in a specialty job.

Individuals who are traveling to the United States for a temporary purpose are classified under U.S. law as non-immigrants, since they do not intend to remain here permanently. These persons must obtain a "non-immigrant visa" (NIV). Individuals who are traveling to the United States to live and work permanently are classified as immigrants and must obtain an "immigrant visa" (IV) permitting them to stay indefinitely. Below is a current list of visa types issued by the U.S. government.

Symbol	Type	Description
A-1		Foreign government officials and families: ambassadors, public ministers, career diplomats, or consular officers
A-2		Foreign government officials and families: other foreign government officials or employees
A-3		Foreign government officials and families: attendants, servants, or personal employees of A-1 and A-2 classes
B-1	Non-immigrant	Temporary visitors: for business
B-2	Non-immigrant	Temporary visitors: for pleasure
C-1	Non-immigrant	Transit aliens: aliens in transit
C-2	Non-immigrant	Transit aliens: aliens in transit to the United Nations
C-3	Non-immigrant	Transit aliens: foreign government officials and families in transit
DV-1	Immigrant	Diversity visa: lottery winner
DV-2	Immigrant	Diversity visa: spouses and children
E-1		Treaty traders and investors: treaty traders
E-2		Treaty traders and investors: treaty investors
E-3		Treaty traders and investors: Australian Free Trade Agreement
EB-5	Immigrant	Immigrant investors
F-1	Non-immigrant	Students and exchange visitors: academic students
F-2	Non-immigrant	Students and exchange visitors: spouses and children of academic students
F-3	Non-immigrant	Students and exchange visitors: Canadian or Mexican national academic commuter students
G-1		Representatives to international organizations and families: principals of recognized foreign governments
G-2		Representatives to international organizations and families: other representatives of recognized foreign governments
G-3		Representatives to international organizations and families: representatives of nonrecognized or nonmember foreign governments

G-4		Representatives to international organizations and families: international organization officers or employees
G-5		Attendants, servants or personal employees of representatives
GB		Temporary visitors: for business, visa waiver, Guam
GT		Temporary visitors: for pleasure, visa waiver, Guam
H-1B	Dual-intent	Temporary workers and trainees: specialty occupations
H-1B1	Dual-intent	Temporary workers and trainees: Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreement
H-1C	Dual-intent	Temporary workers and trainees: registered nurses participating in the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas
H-2A		Temporary workers and trainees: seasonal agricultural workers
H-2B		Temporary workers and trainees: seasonal nonagricultural workers
H-3		Temporary workers and trainees: industrial trainees
H-4	Dual-intent	Temporary workers and trainees: spouses and children of H-1, H-2, and H-3 workers
I-1		Representatives of foreign information media and families
IR-1	Immigrant	Immediate relative of U.S. citizen: Spouse of a U.S. citizen. This visa is called CR-1 (for conditional resident) if the marriage is less than 2 years old at the time of application. The CR-1 visa has to have its conditionality "removed" two years after entry in a separate process.
IR-2	Immigrant	Immediate relative of U.S. citizen: Unmarried child, under 21 years of age, of a U.S. citizen.
IR-3	Immigrant	Immediate relative of U.S. citizen: Orphan adopted by U.S. citizens, whose adoption was finalized outside the U.S. Note: In order for an IR-3 visa to be issued, U.S. regulations require that both adoptive parents take part in the overseas adoption and actually meet with the child in the child's home country. If only one parent travels to pick up the child, the child will be issued an IR-4 visa instead.
IR-4	Immigrant	Immediate relative of U.S. citizen: Orphan whose adoption by a U.S. citizen will be finalized in the citizen's home jurisdiction.
IR-5	Immigrant	Immediate relative of U.S. citizen: Parent of a U.S. citizen; the citizen must be at least age 21.
J-1	Nonimmigrant	Students and exchange visitors: exchange visitors
J-2	Nonimmigrant	Students and exchange visitors: spouses and children of exchange visitors
K-1	Dual-intent	LIFE Act: fiancés(ees) of U.S. citizens
K-2	Dual-intent	LIFE Act: children of fiancés(ees) of U.S. citizens
K-3	Dual-intent	LIFE Act: spouses U.S. citizens, visa pending
K-4	Dual-intent	LIFE Act: children of U.S. citizen, visa pending
L-1	Dual-intent	Intracompany transferees: principals
L-2	Dual-intent	Intracompany transferees: spouses and children of intracompany transferees
M-1		Students and exchange visitors: vocational students
M-2		Students and exchange visitors: spouses and children of vocational students
N-1 to N-6		NATO officials and families
N-8 and N-9		Immediate relatives of certain SK-3 special immigrants
O-1		Temporary workers and trainees: extraordinary ability or achievement
O-2		Temporary workers and trainees: accompanying and assisting in performance of O-1 workers
O-3		Temporary workers and trainees: spouses and children of O-1 and O-2 workers
P-1		Temporary workers and trainees: internationally recognized athletes or entertainers

P-2		Temporary workers and trainees: artists or entertainers in reciprocal exchange programs
P-3		Temporary workers and trainees: artists or entertainers in culturally unique programs
P-4		Temporary workers and trainees: spouses and children of P-1, P-2, and P-3 workers
Q-1		Temporary workers and trainees: workers in international cultural exchange programs
R-1		Temporary workers and trainees: workers in religious occupations
R-2		Temporary workers and trainees: spouses and children of R-1 workers
S visa [two types: S-5/S-6]		Aliens Assisting Law Enforcement
T-1		Victims of human trafficking
T-2		Victims of human trafficking: spouse of victim
T-3		Victims of human trafficking: children of victim
T-4		Victims of human trafficking: parents of victim who are children
TD		Temporary workers and trainees: spouses and children of NAFTA workers
TN		Temporary workers and trainees: NAFTA professional workers
V-1		LIFE Act: spouses of permanent residents, visa pending
V-2		LIFE Act: children of permanent residents, visa pending
V-3		LIFE Act: dependents of V-1 and V-2, visa pending
WB		Temporary visitors: visa waiver, business
WT		Temporary visitors: visa waiver, pleasure