Business Travel to the United States

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Business Travel to the United States

It is our desire to facilitate the travel of all legitimate travelers who want visit the United States for business

- Visa application process
- Visa interviews
- Business activity in the United States
U.S. Visa Procedures

All visa decisions and procedures are based on U.S. law and regulations

- Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended (INA)
- U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
- Additional State Department regulations in Volume 9 of the Foreign Affairs Manual
Applying for a visa
Plan ahead: Start the process as early as possible

- In peak seasons, the wait for the next available appointment may be a month or more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonimmigrant Visa Type</th>
<th>Appointment Wait Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitor Visas</td>
<td>28 Calendar Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/Exchange Visitor Visas</td>
<td>13 Calendar Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Nonimmigrant Visas+</td>
<td>3 Calendar Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Visa Services

- **Dedicated website** for visa information and appointment scheduling: [www.ustraveldocs.com/vn](http://www.ustraveldocs.com/vn)

- **Call Center** 19006444, 8am-8pm weekdays

- **Passport delivery** for approved visas

- **Mail-in renewal applications**

  *All at no additional cost once the visa application fee has been paid*
Follow the step-by-step instructions to:

- Complete the **DS-160** (online application)
- Pay your $160 **application fee**
- Make an **interview appointment**
  (or mail in your renewal application)
On the day of your interview

- Bring printouts of
  - Your DS-160 confirmation sheet
  - Appointment letter
  - Photo taken less than 6 months ago with no eyeglasses
  - Valid passport

- Arrive no more than 20 minutes before or after your appointment time
Visa Renewals by Mail (Drop Box)

- Vietnamese citizen or resident, present in Vietnam
- Most recent visa
  - Expired less than 12 months ago*
  - Was the same type (business, student) as the visa you are applying for now
- You haven’t been refused since your last visa issuance

Processed & returned in 5-7 business days

*Change as of January 2017
Visa interview
Which of the below documents must a business traveler present to receive a B1/B2 visa?

- Invitation letter from a U.S. business
- Confirmation of employment from one’s employer
- Pay stubs or statements of income
- Bank statements
- Tax returns or other evidence of tax payments
- Evidence of land or real estate holdings
Answer:

NONE!

- A valid passport is the only “document” you need to receive a B1/B2 visa
Visa issuance is based on an applicant’s interview

- An applicant must be able to explain what he or she will do in the United States and why
  - We are unlikely to issue a visa to an applicant who cannot do this, no matter how many documents he or she has.
  - Applicants should not claim “market research” or “conference” attendance if their primary purpose is tourism or a family visit.
Why visas are issued or refused

- Our goal is to issue a visa to every lawful traveler who wants to conduct business in the United States.
- The consular officer considers the applicant's overall circumstances when deciding.
- Visa applications are denied if:
  - It does not appear credible that the applicant primarily intends to conduct business in the United States.
  - The applicant has extremely weak ties overseas.
  - The applicant’s activity may not be allowable in B1/B2 status in the United States.
Reaplication

- Applicants who reapply will interview with a different officer, but must pay the $160 fee and make a new appointment
  - We do not recommend reaplication unless there is new information you want us to review about the applicant or the purpose of travel
  - Quick reaplications with no new information will likely result in a second refusal
Legitimate business activity
Legitimate business activity

- “Other than one coming for the purpose of… performing skilled or unskilled labor”
- Commercial transactions, negotiations, consultations/meetings, conferences/seminars, litigation, independent research
- Installation, service, and repair of commercial or industrial equipment or machinery (by contract)
- Board meetings or board functions
- Seeking investment
- Trade fair/expo exhibitors
“Training”

- When training will further a career abroad
- Will not be placed in a position which is in the normal operation of the business
- Salary from the foreign employer
  - No salary from a U.S. source except for an expense allowance or reimbursement for expenses, including room and board
Contact Information:

- [www.ustraveldocs.com/vn](http://www.ustraveldocs.com/vn)
- 1900-6444
- In U.S. 703-665-7350
- [support-vietnam@ustraveldocs.com](mailto:support-vietnam@ustraveldocs.com)

https://vn.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmigrant-visas/

https://vn.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmigrant-visas/niv-inquiries/