



Changes to Iranian Student Visa Validity

Press Statement

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Secretary of State

Washington, DC

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[Text also available in [Persian](#) (Farsi)]

A video message is available here:

[<http://video.state.gov/en/video/952172201001>] & [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mImeewemk2g>])

A Farsi version is available here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rytZFOIOAWI>

I am very pleased to announce a big step forward in the Obama Administration's support of the Iranian people.

Under our old visa policy, Iranian students and exchange visitors were eligible for visas that lasted for only three months and could be used to enter the country just one time. As of today, that has changed. They are now eligible for two-year, multiple entry visas.

This gives young Iranians the opportunity to return home for family events, to participate in internships, to travel outside the United States—and they won't need to get a new visa every time.

I've heard from many Iranian students and Iranian Americans that you wanted this change. So I want you to know that we are listening to your concerns. We want more dialogue and more exchange with those of you who are shaping Iran's future. We want to be able to share with you what we think is great about America.

Because as long as the Iranian government continues to stifle your potential, we will stand with you. We will support your aspirations, and your rights. And we will continue to look for new ways to fuel more opportunities for real change in Iran.

Thank you.

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