Embassy of the United States Manila, Philippines

IMMIGRANT VISAS

You should be able to find answers to many of your questions about the immigrant visa process on this website. If you are interested in filing a petition for a fiancé (e) or family member, please see the Who can apply for an Immigrant Visa and see what steps you need to take to begin this process. If you have already filed a petition or have had a petition filed for you, and your case is current, please see the Immigrant Visa Appointment section on the left side of this page. If you have questions about a specific case, or after reviewing this information have other questions, please contact the Immigrant Visa Unit by fax, e-mail, mail or telephone.

CHANGES TO THE IMMIGRANT VISA SERVICES

Effective December 1, 2010, various changes to immigrant visa services are as follows:

- Immigrant visa applicants whose appointments have not been scheduled through the National Visa Center (NVC) (i.e., immigrant visa petitions approved by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigrations Services Manila) may request a visa appointment by visiting the U.S. Embassy in Manila's Visa Information and Appointment Service online at **http://www.ustraveldocs.com/ph** or by calling **(632) 982-5555**. The Visa Information and Appointment Service is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Manila time), except on U.S. and Philippine holidays. Callers in the U.S. should call (**214) 571-1600**, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time). Callers are able to speak with an English-, Tagalog-, Ilocano- or Cebuano-speaking operator.

- Visa Information and Appointment Service representatives can provide information on visa appointment-related inquiries only. Inquiries on a specific case may be directed to the Immigrant Visa (IV) Unit by e-mail at IVManilaReplies@state.gov or by fax at (632) 301-2591. Petitioners and applicants may also call the IV Inquiry line at (632) 301-2000, extension 5184 or 5185 during normal business hours.

- Immigrant visa applicants who have been scheduled by the NVC for a visa appointment at the Embassy are required to visit the online appointment website to register their delivery address.

- K visa applicants who have been notified by the Embassy to prepare for their interview, must pay the visa application fee of $350 before they can request a visa appointment via the online appointment website or the Visa Call Center. There are three ways to pay the K visa application fee:

a) Cash payment at any Bank of the Philippine Island (BPI) branch

b) Online payment bill option provided by BPI to their clients

c) Online payment through Bancnet.

- Prior to the submission of returning resident applications, applicants are

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advised to book an interview appointment by visiting the online appointment website or by calling the Visa Call Center.

- **2GO** commercial courier is the authorized courier service provider for the visa units. The issued visa will be delivered to the applicant's designated address at **no additional cost**. Applicants also have the option to pick up the visa at the nearest 2GO branch.
- Applicants should use the 2GO courier service to return documents to the Immigrant Visa Unit. Information on the procedure may be found at http://www.ustraveldocs.com/ph.
- Applicants who were refused 221 (g) under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) prior to December 1, must submit the required documentation, along with the refusal sheet, at any 2GO branch.

For further information regarding K and Immigrant Visa Appointment Services, please click here.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Fee Changes Effective November 23, 2010

On November 23, 2010, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) new fee schedule will take effect. For more details, please visit this website: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis and select "Before I File - Check Filing Fees".

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The State Department has announced the December 2010 Visa Bulletin. Because of the continued high demand on the following visa categories for Philippine born applicants (namely F2B, F3 and F4), priority cut-off dates have retrogressed as follows:

	Nov-10	Dec-10
F2B	01-Sep-2002	01-Mar-2000
F3	01-Mar-1995	01-Jul-1992
F4	01-Apr-1991	01-Jan-1988

If your case is affected by the retrogression and you have previously received a visa appointment notification from us, please do not continue with your medical exam and interview appointment at this time. When your case becomes current, you will receive notification from us on how to proceed with your application.

U.S. immigration law requires that immigrant visa numbers be made available strictly in order of priority date. There is no provision within the law that would allow the numerical limitation to be waived in any individual's case, regardless of the circumstances.

Regrettably, there is no reliable way to predict the movement of the cutoff dates, which can advance, remain at a standstill, regress or even become completely unavailable from

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month to month. To keep abreast on the movement of priority date cutoff and visa number availability, you may visit the web site at http://travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin/bulletin_1360.html.

If you need more information, please contact us by email at **IVManilaReplies@state.gov** or fax at (632) 301-2591.

New Consular Fees in Effect July 13, 2010

The Department of State published its new Schedule of Fees for Consular Services in the Federal Register on June 28, 2010. The changes to the schedule, which include fees for the passport, immigrant visa and other consular services, will be implemented on July 13, 2010.

The new fees are as follows:

Immigrant Visa Fees	**Current Fee**	**New Fee**
Immediate relative and family preference cases	$355	$330
Employment-based cases	$355	$720
Other immigrant visa applications:		
• Diversity Visa applicants	$355	$305
• I-360 self-petitions	$355	$305
• Special Immigrant Visa applicants	$355	$305
Immigrant Visa Security Surcharge	$45	$74
Certain Iraqi and Afghan special immigrant visa applications	No fee	No Fee
Diversity Visa Lottery Fee	$375	$440
Domestic Review Affidavit of Support	$70	$88
Special Visa Services: Determine Returning Resident Status	$400	$380

The new fees are due in full for any services provided on or after July 13, 2010. Applicants who receive bills from the NVC that are dated after July 13 must pay the new processing fees. Fees paid at the Embassy or to NVC prior to the publication of the final rule are

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considered paid in full at the current rate, and these applicants will not be required to pay additional fees to cover the difference between the current and new fees. Applicants already billed by NVC prior to July 13, 2010 will only pay the fees billed, regardless of whether they pay before or after the new fees are implemented. If applicants paid their visa application processing fees before March 2005, they will be required to pay the security surcharge.

For further information, please visit this link: http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1263.html.

K VISA FEE TO INCREASE ON JUNE 4, 2010

Effective June 4, 2010, application fees for non-immigrant visas will increase, including those for K-visas, to ensure sufficient resources to cover the rising cost of processing non-immigrant visas. All K-1/Fiancé (K-2 derivative) and K-3/Spouse (K-4 derivative) visa applicants are required to pay the $350 application fee (payable in Philippine pesos at the prevailing exchange rate) at a designated Banco de Oro (BDO) branch prior to the interview date.

If an applicant has already paid the $131 visa fee prior to June 4, the incremental fee of $219 must be paid at a designated BDO branch. Proof of payment of the full amount of the new K visa fee is required for entrance to the Embassy on the interview date.

For more information regarding the increase of the non-immigrant visa application fees, please click here.

MORE INFORMATION

Immigrant Visa Priority Date

USEFUL LINKS

Air21
Commission on Filipinos Overseas
National Bureau of Investigation
Department of Foreign Affairs
National Statistics Office
Inter-Country Adoption Board

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