

Consular Processing:

Post Approval Instructions

Step 1: Complete DS-160

- **Fill out** the [DS-160 Form](#) for you and each Dependent.
- **Find tips** to complete the [DS-160 Form on the DS-160: Frequently Asked Questions](#) website.
- **Dependents** applying for a visa stamp will each need the DS-160 Form.
- **Print** the confirmation page once complete.
- **Note:** Some U.S. Embassies or Consulates are now accepting virtual appointments! You may be asked to send in the requested documentation in lieu of attending your in-person interview.

Step 2: Schedule Visa Appointment and Pay Visa Fees

- **Visit** the [U.S. Embassy or Consulate](#) website where you will be interviewed for country-specific instructions on how to schedule your appointment and pay the required fees.
- **Schedule** one visa appointment for the entire family! You can also schedule separate visa appointments.
- **Note:** Some U.S. Embassies or Consulates are now accepting virtual appointments! What does this mean? You may be asked to send in the requested documentation in lieu of attending your in-person interview. Please contact your [U.S. Embassy or Consulate](#) directly for further guidance.

Step 3: Attend Visa Interview

- **Visit** the [U.S. Embassy or Consulate](#) website where you will be interviewed for country-specific directions on how to get there.
 - **Note:** Some U.S. Embassies or Consulates are now accepting virtual appointments! You may be asked to send in the requested documentation in lieu of attending your in-person interview.
- **Attend** the Visa Interview at the U.S. Consulate with all required documents.
- **You will need** to bring your Copy of I-797A Approval Notice, DS-160 Confirmation Page, Application Fee Payment Receipt, Valid Passport, [Two-Color, Passport-style Photographs](#), and a Copy of Your Petition.
- **Your Dependents will need** to bring their Copy of I-797A Approval Notice, DS-160 Confirmation Page, Application Fee Payment Receipt, Valid Passport, [Two Color, Passport-style Photographs](#), Marriage Certificate (for Spouse), and Birth Certificate (for Child).*
 - *Children ages 13 and under may not need to appear for visa stamping in person, check directly with your [U.S. Embassy or Consulate](#) for details.

Step 4: [Receive Visa Approval](#)

- **Receive** your Passport back with a visa stamp inside, about 3-5 days after your interview.
- **Dependents** will have their own visa stamp.
- **Contact us** if you are issued “[Administrative Processing.](#)” This means that the Consulate needs additional time to review your application before visa issuance.

Step 5: [Carry Documents for Entry into the U.S.](#)

- **You will need** to carry your valid Passport, Visa Stamp, and I-797A Approval Notice.
- **Your Dependents will need** to carry their valid Passport and Visa Stamp. We also recommend they carry a Copy of the I-797A Approval Notice, Marriage Certificate (for Spouse), and Birth Certificate (for Child).

Step 6: [Review I-94](#)

- **View** your new [I-94 online](#), once you enter the U.S.
- **Dependents** will have a separate I-94 record.
- **The I-94** is the controlling document regarding your status.
- **Contact** [U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#) immediately if there is an error on your I-94 to request a correction.

Step 7: [Complete I-9](#)

- **Complete** Form [I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification](#) on your first day of work.
- **Present** your valid Passport and I-94 showing valid status.

Step 8: [Request Social Security Number \(SSN\)](#)

- **Apply** for a [Social Security Number and Card](#), if you do not already have one.
- **You will need** your valid Passport and I-94 showing valid status to apply.

Step 9: [The Next Time You Travel Outside The U.S.](#)

- **You will need** to carry your valid Passport, Visa Stamp, I-797A Approval Notice, and 2-3 Recent Pay Statements from Employer Listed on I-797A Approval Notice.
- **Your Dependents will need** to carry their valid Passport and Visa Stamp. We recommend (not necessary), to carry their Copy of I-797A Approval Notice, Marriage Certificate (for Spouse), and Birth Certificate (for Child).
- **Receive** a new [I-94](#) each time you re-enter the U.S.
- **Review** your new I-94 on the [I-94 - Official Website](#).
- **Follow Step 6: [Review I-94](#).**

Visit legalpad.io for more information about the visa process.