

### Visas

Home | Visas

Dear visa applicants,

On December 11, the U.S. consulates in St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, and Vladivostok resume limited nonimmigrant visa interviews at a reduced scale as a result of the Russian Federation's imposition of drastic cuts to our personnel. Embassy Moscow also continues to offer interviews for immigrant, diversity and nonimmigrant visas. Our services, however, are not back to the levels prior to the Russian Federation's 60 percent cut of personnel at the U.S. Embassy and three consulates. Fewer people inevitably mean fewer staff to provide visa services.

Because of reduced staffing, we had to cancel and reschedule previous NIV interview appointments. NIV applicants who have had their interviews canceled should call the number below to reschedule their interview for a later date at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow or at the U.S. consulates in St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, and Vladivostok.

For rescheduling of nonimmigrant visa interviews and other questions, contact: +7 (495) 745 3388 or 8 800 100 2554 (ITFN).

For general information on how to apply for a visa, please refer to our web-page: www.ustraveldocs.com/ru.

The purpose of your intended travel and other facts will determine what type of visa is required under U.S. immigration law. As a visa applicant, you will need to establish that you meet all requirements to receive the category of visa for which you are applying.

See our Directory of Visa Categories on usvisas.state.gov to determine which visa category might be appropriate for your purpose of travel to the United States.

### Nonimmigrant Visas

#### **Immigrant Visas**

What is a Visa?

A citizen of a foreign country who seeks to enter the United States generally must first obtain a U.S. visa, which is placed in the traveler's passport, a travel document issued by the traveler's country of citizenship.

Certain international travelers may be eligible to travel to the United States without a visa if they meet the requirements for visa-free travel. The Visa section of this website is all about U.S. visas for foreign citizens to travel to the United States.

(Note: U.S. citizens don't need a U.S. visa for travel, but when planning travel abroad may need a visa issued by the embassy of the country they wish to visit.).

**Contact Us** 

To contact a customer service representative, please visit the GSS Contact Us page for full information or use contact information below. Visa application services call center agents are available from 8:00 AM to 8:00PM from Monday through Friday, able to assist you via telephone or chat.

#### : support-russia@ustraveldocs.com

Callers in Russia: +7 (495) 745 3388 or 8 (800) 100-2554 (toll free)

Callers in the United States: +1 (703) 745 5474

To chat with a customer service representative, please click <u>here</u>. Chat software works with Internet Explorer 8.0, Internet Explorer 7.0, Internet Explorer 6 Service Pack 2, and Firefox 3.6.

For case-specific inquiries not answered on our visa application website or by the call center, you may contact the relevant Consular Section's public inquiries team at:

- · Moscow: consulmo@state.gov
- St. Petersburg: visastpete@state.gov
- · Yekaterinburg: consulyekat@state.gov
- · Vladivostok: vladcons@state.gov

#### Customer Service Statement

The Department of State manages the visa process strictly but fairly in order to best protect the United States. We are committed to the essential openness for which the United States has always been known. Travel to the United States is welcomed and encouraged.

- We will treat you with dignity and respect, even if we are unable to grant you a visa.
- We will treat you as an individual and your case as unique.
- We will remember that, to you, a visa interview may be a new or intimidating experience and that you may be nervous.
- We will use the limited time available for the interview to get as full a picture as possible of your travel plans and intentions.
- We will use our available resources to fairly assist all applicants to get appointments to allow travel in time for business, study, and other important obligations.
- · We will post detailed and accurate information on visa requirements and application procedures on every Embassy and Consulate website.
- We will provide information on non-immigrant appointment waiting times at every Embassy and Consulate posted on http://travel.state.gov.
- · We will explain the reason for any visa denial to you.
- · Student, we will make every effort to ensure that you get an appointment and, if qualified, a visa in time to start classes.
- Medical and humanitarian emergency traveler, we will expedite processing for those dealing with life threatening emergencies.
- Business traveler, we will establish appropriate mechanisms to facilitate business travel and expedite cases of particular concern to American business.
- Plan your travel and visa application as far in advance as possible.
- · Complete your application fully and accurately.
- Be forthcoming about your purpose and plans.
- Prepare for your interview by being able to clearly and concisely describe your intentions.

#### Suggested for You



Statement from State Department Spokesperson Heather Nauert on the expulsion of U.S. Diplomats



White House Press Secretary Statement Regarding Russia's Expulsion of American Diplomats

### **Translation**

Русский

### Attention, Visa Applicants

U.S. Embassy Moscow Visa Unit has moved to a new location!

#### **Additional Resources**

Nonimmigrant Visa FAQs

**Current Wait Times** 

**Emergency/Expedited Appointments** 

Renew My Visa

Travel and Tourism in the U.S.

Legal Rights and Protections

Summer Work Travel

Fraud Prevention Warning

A to Z Index

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## **Government Agency Links**

- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- USA.gov
- U.S. Department of State

### U.S. EMBASSY & CONSULATES IN RUSSIA

Visas

U.S. Citizen Services

U.S.-Russia Relationship

Business

**Education & Culture** 

**Embassy & Consulates** 

News & Events

Privacy

Sitemap

### U.S. EMBASSY

U.S. Embassy Moscow Bolshoy Deviatinsky Pereulok No. 8

Moscow 121099

Russian Federation

Phone: +7 (495) 728-5000 Fax: 728-5090

U.S. CONSULATES

# U.S. Consulate General Vladivostok

U.S. Consulate General Yekaterinburg

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