



**Nassau, The Bahamas
Embassy of the United States of America
Consular Section**

STREET ADDRESS:

U.S. Embassy
42 Queen Street
Nassau, The Bahamas

LOCAL MAILING ADDRESS:

U.S. Embassy
P.O. Box N-8197
Nassau, The Bahamas

IMMIGRANT VISA GUIDELINES – THE BAHAMAS, NASSAU (NSS)

Immediate Relative (IR) and Family Preference (F) Visa Classes

The Immigrant Visa Unit conducts visa interviews by appointment only. You should have been notified of your appointment date by the National Visa Center unless you are a K1 (Fiancé) visa applicant or expedited case. For K1 visas and expedited cases, the Immigrant Visa Unit will contact you directly with instructions on the visa process as soon as we receive your file from the National Visa Center. If you have not been contacted send an e-mail to IVnassau@state.gov.

Read the below instructions for information on what is required before and during the interview.

Rescheduling your appointment

If you are unable to attend your scheduled appointment, you may reschedule your interview by calling the U.S. Embassy in Nassau at 242-322-1181 or e-mailing IVnassau@state.gov.

Medical exams: Schedule and attend your medical examination before your interview

Immigrant visa applicants, regardless of age, require a medical examination prior to the issuance of a visa. Only a physician accredited by the U.S. embassy can perform this exam. **It is your responsibility to schedule a medical exam with one of the doctors listed below.** Please take your interview appointment letter, your passport and four (4) recently taken color photographs to your medical exam. When your examination is completed, the doctor will send the report directly to the U.S. embassy. The doctor is not permitted to reveal the results to you unless authorized by our office.

NASSAU

Dr. Tyneil Cargill
Bay Street Medical
Nassau, New Providence
Tel: 242-326-5230
Fax: 242-326-5231
Email: drc@baystmedical.com

FREPORT, GRAND BAHAMA

Dr. Renee Lockhart
Seahorse Family Health Centre
Better Executive Business Centre – Suite #5
Tel: 242-373-9174, 242-443-8004, or 242-477-9721
Email: drreneelockhart@hotmail.com

What to bring to your interview

You are responsible for ensuring that you have all required documents at the time of the interview. You must bring the below documents to the visa interview for the consular officer to review *even if you submitted a photocopy of them to NVC*. Also, there may be additional documents that you need to bring to your interview. **Failure to bring all required documentation to the interview may result in a delay in visa issuance or a visa refusal.**

You must bring the following documents to your visa interview:

1. The interview appointment letter
2. Passport(s) for all traveling applicants. Passports must be valid for six months beyond the intended date of entry into the United States.
3. Two color photographs (2" x 2" or 50 mm square)
4. Court and prison records, if applicable
5. Police Certificate(s) for all applicants 16 years or older. See table below:

IF the applicant...	AND....	Then the applicant needs a police certificate from...
has lived in his/her country of nationality or at his/her current residence for more than 6 months	was 16 years or older at that time	The police authorities of that locality.
lived in a different country for more than 12 months	was 16 years or older at that time	The police authorities of that locality.
was arrested for any reason, regardless of how long he/she lived there	was 16 years or older at that time	The police authorities of that locality.

6. **Civil Documents: YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR UNITED STATES VISA without recently issued Bahamian birth certificates and marriage certificates.** All such documents must be current. You should bring these documents to your interview:

- Original birth certificate(s) for both the petitioner and beneficiary
- Marriage certificate for all present and prior marriages, if applicable, for the petitioner and beneficiary
- Divorce decree for the petitioner and beneficiary for all prior marriages, if applicable
- Death certificate of prior spouse(s) of the petitioner and beneficiary, if applicable

7. **Evidence of financial support:** Petitioners and joint sponsors commonly fail to understand what is required of them in terms of financial support. **Please review the financial support forms extremely carefully as INCORRECTLY FILLED OUT FORMS WILL RESULT IN VISA REFUSAL.**
- You must bring an original, signed Affidavit of Support form (I-864) from your petitioner (**employed or unemployed**) and, if required, a Form I-864 or I-864A from joint sponsors and household members. Biological children of U.S. citizens who will be under the age of 18 at the time of entry to the U.S. classified as IR2 or IR3 should complete Form I-864W instead of Form I-864. A copy of the Affidavit of Support is required for each travelling applicant. The most recent versions of the I-864 Forms are available at uscis.gov/forms. You can find tips on completing the forms at nvc.state.gov/aos.
 - Petitioners and joint sponsors are encouraged to have their U.S. citizen or Legal Permanent Resident spouse (where applicable) complete a Form I-864A to ensure all of their income can be counted towards supporting the visa applicant.
 - Either the petitioner or joint sponsor (along with qualifying household members who have completed Form I-864A) must earn enough income to meet poverty guidelines as specified on Form I-864P. This form is available at uscis.gov/forms.
 - You must bring a certified copy of the **most recent** year of U.S. Federal Income Tax forms (**1040 and W-2**) or a **tax transcript from the IRS. IRS screen prints are not acceptable.** You can request an IRS tax transcript online at irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript.
 - You must present proof of legal status in the U. S. from **all** sponsor(s) and household members if their income is being used (a copy of the green card, naturalization certificate, or biographic page of a U.S. passport).
 - If you have a joint sponsor, they should include a letter stating their relationship to you or your family and why they want to sponsor you.
8. **Translations:** All documents not in English must be accompanied by a certified translation into English. Translations must be certified by a competent translator and sworn to before a Notary Public.
9. **Photocopies:** In addition to your original documents, you must also bring a photocopy of **all** civil, supporting, and financial documents.

Fees

The application fee is U.S. \$325.00 per person. **If the petitioner has not paid this fee to NVC, the applicant must pay all applicable fees on the day of the appointment.** The fee is non-refundable. Personal checks and credit union drafts are not acceptable. The fee may be paid in Bahamian dollars or U.S. dollars; only one currency may be used, not a combination of both.

If you do not pay the fees, you will not be interviewed and must wait for another appointment date.

Proof of U.S. citizenship or naturalization

If the relative who filed the petition has become a U.S. citizen, bring a notarized copy of the naturalization certificate or official notification from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) indicating that your relative is now a U.S. citizen.

Marriage-based applicants: IR-1 and CR-1 visa classes

If you are a marriage-based visa applicant, bringing your spouse (the petitioner) to your scheduled interview is likely to significantly shorten the amount of time needed to process your visa application.

How to prove the relationship between parents and children

Generally these documents should cover years prior to and a few years after the birth of the person whose relationship is in question.

- Hospital Records
- Baptismal Certificates
- School Records
- Childhood Immunization Records
- Bank Statement or other financial records
- Court Reports
- Correspondence - cards and letters
- Photographs

If you do not have any of the evidence listed above, the consular officer may recommend DNA testing. DNA testing must be supervised by this office.

Recently executed deed polls, testimonials or other new documents will not be acceptable for this purpose.

Please submit original documents and not photocopies. These original documents will be returned to you after they are reviewed.

Minor children appearing for the interview with a relative or guardian: The guardian accompanying the child must have written consent from the petitioner to accompany the child to his/her interview. Photo ID will be required from the guardian or relative for entry into the embassy.

Prohibited items

The following are not permitted inside the Consular Section:

- **All battery-operated or electronic gadgets such as mobile phones, digital diaries, digital watches, pagers, cameras, audio/video cassettes, portable music players, portable digital storage (floppies, USB drives and CDs), laptops, and personal digital assistants (palmtops and Blackberry)**
- All bags such as travel bags, back packs, briefcases, suitcases, leather, jute or cloth bags, and zip folders
- Any food item
- Sealed envelopes or packages
- Cigarettes / cigars / match boxes / lighters
- Any sharp objects such as scissors, pen knives, nail files, nail clippers, or razor blades
- Weapons or explosive material of any kind
- Items such as perfumes, lipsticks, nail polish, and cosmetics including facial powder

The list provided above is not comprehensive. Other items may be prohibited based on security staff discretion. Only a small lady's handbag and/or a plastic bag containing your application-related papers will be permitted.

Failure to comply with these instructions will delay your application.