



## IMMIGRANT VISAS

### Required Documentation for Immigrant Visa Applicants

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After you've been contacted by the National Visa Center (NVC), the Kentucky Consular Center (KCC), or the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi with a visa interview appointment, you should bring all the following documents to the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi on the day of your interview. Please read this notice thoroughly. Failure to prepare properly for the visa interview will result in a delay in processing your case.

### Required documents from each Immigrant Visa applicant:

- MEDICAL EXAMINATION:** Before their final immigrant visa interview, all applicants are required to undergo a medical examination performed only by the medical doctors authorized by this Embassy to administer the examination. Please contact one of the panel physicians listed [here](#). Applicants should have their medical examinations done at least two weeks before their visa interview appointment. The applicant is responsible for the cost of the examination. A medical examination is also required for each accompanying child. On the day of medical examination you should bring your visa appointment letter with you.
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE:** One original Birth Certificate for each applicant. Birth certificates must be issued by the government of the country where the applicant was born. We will not accept Georgian birth certificates for applicants **not** born in Georgia.
- MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE:** One original Marriage Certificate for each visa applicant (if applicable). If unmarried, one original certificate of non-impediment to marriage for each applicant 18 years or older.
- DIVORCE DECREE OR DEATH CERTIFICATE:** If previously married, please include proof of termination of that marriage whether by death or divorce (e.g. death certificate of previous spouse, final decree of divorce, etc.) and the marriage certificate for the terminated marriage.
- POLICE/COURT RECORDS:** Criminal record issued by the Ministry of Justice for each applicant age 16 years or older using your current and all former names, **including maiden names and former married names**. **NOTE: Persons convicted of a crime must also obtain court records, even if the beneficiary has been pardoned or granted amnesty, or the criminal conviction is expunged. These documents must be translated and notarized.**
- POLICE RECORDS FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY:** A translated and notarized Police Record from a foreign country for applicants age 16 or older if the applicant is currently living in that country for more than six months, or if the applicant lived there after age 16 for more than one year, or if you were arrested in that country at any age. For further information, please read the [Police Certificates section](#).
- MILITARY RECORDS:** For all **male** applicants age 18 and over, regardless of having served in the military or not.
- CERTIFICATE OF NON-IMPEDIMENT TO MARRIAGE.** If you are not married you should obtain a non-impediment document from the House of Justice.

9. **OTHER COURT DOCUMENTS:** Court records regarding name changes, age amendments, convictions, adoption and similar subjects must be submitted at the time of interview.
10. **TRANSLATIONS:** Certified English translations must accompany all documents that are not in English. Translations must be certified by a competent translator and sworn before a Notary Public. All certificates must be less than 12 months old when presented on the interview date.
11. **PHOTOS:** Regardless of age, all U.S. immigrant visa applicants must present one un-retouched color photograph, approximately 2 x 2 inches (5 x 5 cm) in size, taken on a white background within the last 6 months. The photo should have a full frontal view of the face, with the head centered in the frame. The face should cover 50 percent of the photo area. For more details please review our [photo requirements](#).
12. **EVIDENCE OF QUALIFICATIONS:**
- For family preference and immediate relative visa applicants, please bring evidence of the claimed relationship to the petitioner over time. This may include only printed materials (nothing electronic) such as photos, letters, or other evidence you wish to submit.
  - For employment and other visa applicants, please bring evidence that you meet the qualifications for that visa category and documentation submitted in support of the petition. This may include only printed materials (nothing electronic).
13. **PASSPORT DELIVERY REGISTRATION:** Passports will be returned to you via TNT Express. Please register your delivery [here](#). Your passport will be delivered only to the address you specified. There are no extra fees associated with this service, but you must register before your visa interview.
14. **FINANCIAL SPONSOR (for immigrant visa applicants):**
- Original, signed Affidavit of Support Form I-864 (not photocopy, or by email)
  - If the financial sponsor is married, his or her spouse should provide you with a signed Form I-864a, accompanied by a photocopy of the spouse's U.S. passport or legal permanent resident card. You can download Form I-864 through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website. Please review [nvc.state.gov/aos](http://nvc.state.gov/aos) for more information on preparing Affidavit of Support forms.
  - A photocopy of any financial sponsor's U.S. passport or legal permanent resident card
  - A recently issued job letter for the financial sponsor
  - Your financial sponsor's federal tax returns from the last year (Form 1040)
  - Your financial sponsor's most recent tax year W-2s for all jobs held
  - If your financial sponsor cannot send you items (e) and (f) listed above, he or she can send you an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) transcript. To request IRS-generated transcripts, please visit the [IRS website](#).
15. **FINANCIAL SPONSOR (for fiancé visa or category K applicants):**
- Original, signed Affidavit of Support Form I-134 (not photocopy, or by email)
  - If the financial sponsor is married, his or her spouse should also present a signed Form I-134, accompanied by a photocopy of the spouse's U.S. passport or legal permanent resident card. You can download Form I-134 through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [website](#).
  - Supporting evidence of income
    - Statement from an officer of the sponsor's bank or other financial institution
    - Statement from the financial sponsor's employer
    - If your sponsor is self-employed, a copy of the last federal income tax return filed
16. **APPLICATION FORMS (for fiancé visa or category K applicants):** You should have completed the NONIMMIGRANT VISA ELECTRONIC APPLICATION (Form DS-160) online at [ceac.state.gov](http://ceac.state.gov) and printed the confirmation page. Instructions are [here](#).

17. **APPLICATION FORMS (for immigrant visa applicants):** You should have completed the IMMIGRANT VISA ELECTRONIC APPLICATION (Form DS-260) online at [ceac.state.gov](http://ceac.state.gov) and printed the confirmation page.

### Before the Interview:

1. **SECURITY INFORMATION:** No one may enter the Consular Section with weapons of any sort, cellular telephones, iPods, photographic or video cameras, and electronics such as radios, portable CD players or other equipment, including computers. Please do not bring any type of electronic equipment.

Please do not bring large or bulky bags to the Consular Section. These items are not permitted inside and there is no storage space for them. There is no parking at the Embassy for visa applicants. You are advised to remove unnecessary items from your bag on the interview day, because you will undergo a security check.

2. **MEDICAL EXAMINATION:** You must schedule and complete your required medical examination before your visa interview appointment. Instructions are [online](#) and general information can be found [here](#).
3. **PASSPORT DELIVERY REGISTRATION:** In order to return your passport to you, you must register for our passport delivery service [here](#).

### At the Interview:

**APPLICATION FEE:** Diversity Visa applicants will be required to pay the visa application fee at the time of interview at the cashier of the Consular Section. The payment is made by **cash only**, in U.S. Dollars or Georgian Lari.

Fiancé (K) visa applicants are required to pay prior to scheduling and appearing for their interview. Please visit [www.ustraveldocs.com](http://www.ustraveldocs.com) to obtain the forms required to pay the fee at the Bank of Georgia. Since the fees are subject to change, please visit "[Fees for Visa Services](#)" for updated information on visa fees.

### After the Interview:

After your personal interview with a Consular Officer, if your file is complete and you are found qualified, your visa will be issued and sent together with a visa packet by courier service.

**Important: Do not open the visa packet.** You will need to give it to U.S. immigration authorities upon arrival in the U.S. Please do not purchase airplane tickets or make other life changes until you have received your visa.

Some visa applications require further administrative processing, which takes additional time after the visa applicant's interview. Applicants are advised of this requirement at the time of interview. Most administrative processing is resolved within 60 days of the visa interview; however, the timing will vary based on individual circumstances of each case. Before making inquiries about status of administrative processing, please wait at least 60 days from the date of interview or submission of supplemental documents, whichever is later.

## After Receiving Your Visa

The courier service will return your passport with a U.S. visa in it, along with a sealed envelope called a “visa packet.” **Do not open this sealed envelope.** It contains your immigration packet. It should not be altered, damaged, or opened, and you need to give it to the U.S. immigration officer at a port of entry into the United States. If you are carrying chest X-rays, you should give those to the immigration officer as well.

You must hand-carry your visa packet on the plane; do not pack it in checked luggage. You will fill out an “Alien Registration Card” (Form I-551), known as a green card, at the port of entry. This card will be mailed to the address in the United States you provided in your visa application form. This is a very important document, which serves as proof that you have permission for permanent residency in the U.S. and gives you the opportunity to stay and enter the U.S. without a visa.

Your visa is usually valid for six months, although this can vary. Check your visa for any misspellings and contact our call center immediately if any of the data is incorrect. You must enter the U.S. before your visa expires; otherwise you will lose your status. Do not travel outside the U.S. before you have received your Permanent Resident Card.

Your visa can not be extended beyond the six-month period, and any fees paid for the visa are not refundable. If, for any reason you do not use your visa, please return it to the Consular Section, U.S. Embassy Tbilisi. Another visa will be issued only if you prove that it was impossible for you to travel for reasons beyond your control.

For practical information to help you settle into everyday life in the United States, please review the USCIS guide [“Welcome to the United States.”](#)

After being issued a Permanent Resident Card, do not stay outside the U.S. for more than one year or you will lose your status of Lawful Permanent Resident. For more information on the rights and responsibilities of Lawful Permanent Residents, please visit [USCIS’s website](#).

### Important:

No assurance can be given in advance that a visa will be issued. A consular officer can make a decision only after the formal application and documents are reviewed, and that officer has personally interviewed the applicants. Beneficiaries should not make any travel arrangements for departure, dispose of personal property or make other life changes until the visa has been received.

An immigrant visa is valid for a maximum of six months from the date of issuance. *Applicants must travel and apply for admission to the United States before their immigrant visa expires.* This office will make every effort to expedite the process. However should complications arise, applicants may be required to return to this office or furnish additional information.