

# **U.S. Embassy**

## Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Please follow the steps below <u>before</u> your Immigrant Visa interview at the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe, Tajikistan

We look forward to welcoming you to the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, for your Immigrant Visa interview.

The information below will help you ensure that you have all necessary documents on the day of your interview.

## Step 1: Schedule a medical exam

As soon as you receive your appointment date, you must schedule a medical exam in Tajikistan. Click the "Medical Exam Instructions" button below for the designated clinic in Tajikistan. Please schedule and attend a medical exam with the clinic before your interview.

**Medical Exam Instructions** 

## Step 2: Complete your pre-interview checklist

It is important that you bring all required original documents to your interview. We have created a checklist that will tell you what to bring. Please print the checklist below and bring it to your interview along with the listed documents.

**Pre-Interview Checklist** 

### Step 3: Review interview guidelines

Read our interview guidelines to learn about any special actions that you need to take *before* your visa interview.

**Interview Guidelines** 

## **Contact Information**

109-A, Ismoili Somoni Avenue (Zarafshon district), Dushanbe, Tajikistan 734019

- Email: <u>DushanbeVisas@state.gov</u>
- 🕆 Website:

https://tj.usembassy.gov/visas/

- □ Cancel and reschedule via email: □ DushanbeVisas@state.gov
- Map:



### **Other Links**

- <u>Diversity Visa instructions</u>
- After your interview
- Frequently asked questions

#### **Interview Preparation**



## **Medical Exam Instructions**



All 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 the clinic before your visa interview appointment at the U.S. Embassy. Medical examination results from other physicians will not be accepted.

#### **Approved Clinic:**

### **Prospekt Medical Clinic**

55, Shotemur Street, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Telephone: +992 93 501-99-40; +992 48 702-44-00

E-mail: prospekt-clinic@tajnet.tj; reception.prospekt@tajnet.tj

Website: www.prospektclinic.tj

#### Items to bring to your Medical Exam

The doctor will need the following items to complete the medical exam forms:

- Your visa interview appointment letter.
- Your valid international passport.
- Recently taken passport-sized color photographs (4 pictures 3x4 cm).
- A copy of your immunization records (vaccination booklet/certificate 063 form).
- DS-260 confirmation page.
- Appropriate fees (payable in Tajik somoni prior to medical examination).

All medical examination fees, including X-ray and blood test fees, must be paid directly to the clinic. The basic fees for the medical exam are as follows. Vaccinations and follow-on tests may require additional fees.

The basic examination fee for each adult applicant is TJS 1500.

The basic examination fee for applicants under 15 years of age is TJS 1000.

The cost of TB screening (in case it is required) is TJS 360.

#### **During the Medical Exam**

The medical examination will include a medical history review, physical examination, and chest X-ray and blood tests (for applicants 15 years of age or older). The United States also requires tuberculosis (TB) testing for all applicants two years of age and older. Please be prepared to discuss your medical history, medications you are taking, and current treatments you are undergoing. More information on general medical requirements for U.S. immigrants is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

U.S. immigration law requires immigrant visa applicants to obtain certain vaccinations prior to the issuance of a visa. Current immigrant visa vaccination requirements are available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. You can also read <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> about our medical examination requirements online.

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# **Medical Exam Instructions**



### **After the Medical Exam**

When your examination is completed, the doctor will either provide you with exam results in a sealed envelope or send them directly to the U.S. Embassy. IF GIVEN AN ENVELOPE TO CARRY TO YOUR INTERVIEW, **DO NOT OPEN THIS ENVELOPE**. Instead, bring it to your visa interview.

Any X-rays taken will be given to you. You **DO NOT** need to bring the X-rays to your visa interview unless you suffer from tuberculosis (TB). However, you **must** carry the X-rays with you when you travel to the United States for the first time. The medical report must be less than six (6) months old when you enter the United States as an immigrant.

## **Pre-Interview Checklist**



Please use the list below to determine the items that every applicant must bring to the Immigrant Visa interview.

If your case is being processed ELECTRONICALLY your petitioner should have submitted the copies of the documents listed below to NVC via the Consular Electronic Application Center (CEAC).

Any documents that are submitted to CEAC and are not in English must be uploaded with a notarized English translation. It is very important that copies and translation of each document are scanned and uploaded in one file. If your documents are not submitted in the required format, they will be rejected at the time of your interview which may delay the processing of your case. Therefore, ensure to review all documents submitted to CEAC before your Interview.

For additional information on how to upload documents to CEAC, please review **Scanning and Uploading Tips**.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BRING THE ORIGINALS OF ALL DOCUMENTS WHICH WERE SUBMITTED TO CEAC TO YOUR INTERVIEW.

Please ensure that your petitioner has submitted the following documents using the CEAC before your interview:

- Police certificate from Tajikistan issued no more than 6 months before your interview.
- The police certificate must contain all names, surnames, maiden names, and dates of birth that the beneficiary has ever
  used. You must have a police certificate from each country in which you have ever lived or served for more than 6
  months, starting from the age of 16, including periods of study and military service. If you have lived abroad (including
  military service), certificates are required from those countries where you stayed for more than six months (except the
  United States).
- Proof of petitioner's status in the United States, such as U.S. passport, naturalization certificate, or Permanent Resident Card (also known as green card).
- Petitioner's most recent tax return or other documents indicated most recent year's income.

If your case is being processed REGULARLY (PAPER BASED, including DIVERSITY VISA cases) any documents that are not in English must be accompanied by a notarized English translation:

- A copy of your interview letter.
- Unexpired passport valid for international travel and at least six (6) months beyond your intended date of entry to the United States and a photocopy of the biographic page (where your name and photo are located).
- ➤ 2 color photographs of each person applying for a visa (5 cm x 5 cm, or 2-inch x 2-inch). Please review <u>our online photorequirements</u>.
- Confirmation page from the Form DS-260 Application for an Immigrant Visa you submitted online at <u>ceac.state.gov/iv</u>. (Not required for fiancé or K visa applicants).
- For fiancé or K visa applicants only: Confirmation page from the Form DS-160 Application for a Nonimmigrant Visa you submitted online at ceac.state.gov/genniv.
- Your <u>original</u> birth certificate, and a photocopy with a notarized English translation. If your name has changed, please provide a name change document issued by a court or Civil Registration Office with a notarized English translation.

## **Pre-Interview Checklist**



**NOTE:** If your civil documents (e.g., birth certificate, marriage certificate, education documents) are readable, you are not required to submit renewed duplicates.

Applicants who fall into any category listed in italics below should provide these additional documents.

For family-based visa applications:

- The appropriate <u>Form I-864 Affidavit of Support</u> for **each** financial sponsor along with a photocopy of the sponsor's IRS transcript or most recent U.S. federal income tax return, and any relevant W-2s.
- Proof of your U.S. petitioner's status and <u>domicile</u> in the United States (photocopy of a U.S. passport, naturalization certificate, or Permanent Resident Card).
- Evidence of the relationship between the petitioner and visa applicant: for parents of U.S. citizens original birth certificate of the petitioner. If you are applying for a spouse or fiancé visa, bring evidence to demonstrate your relationship with the petitioner, such as photos, letters, emails and chat printouts, money transfer receipts, etc., from the beginning of your relationship to the present.

If you are married: Your original marriage certificate, notarized English translation, and a photocopy.

If you were previously married: Your **original** divorce decree or spouse's death certificate, notarized English translation, and a photocopy.

If you are older than 16 years of age: The **original** police certificate from your country of current residence and countries of previous residence. If these three items are **all** true, you must bring a more recent police certificate to the interview:

- 1. You are older than 16 years;
- 2. You obtained a police certificate more than one year ago; and
- 3. You still live in the country that issued the police certificate.

For employment-based visa applications: Letter from your U.S. employer dated less than one month ago.

If you have ever been convicted of a crime: Court and criminal records, notarized English translation, and a photocopy. You must also provide a copy of the statute under which you were convicted.

All male applicants over 18 years old: Military records (military book or draft registration card also known as "Гувоҳномаи бақайдгирй" or "Приписное свидетельство"), notarized English translation, and a photocopy. Applicants who completed Soviet military service outside what is now Tajikistan (i.e., in Russia, Germany, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, etc.) must present police certificates from those countries. For information on how to apply for a police certificate in another country, please visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs website and select the desired country from the drop-down menu.

If you are adopted: Adoption papers or custody documents, notarized English translation, and a photocopy.

If you are the petitioner's stepchild: The **original** marriage certificate of the petitioner and your biological parent, notarized English translation, and a photocopy along with original divorce records for any previous marriages of either parent.

## **Pre-Interview Checklist**



If you are applying for an IR5 (parent of a U.S. citizen) or F4 (brother/sister of a U.S. citizen) visa: Bring the **original** birth certificate of the petitioning U.S. citizen, notarized English translation and a photocopy.

If you are a follow-to-join derivative applicant (the parent or spouse who was the principal beneficiary on the petition is already in the United States): Bring evidence of the principal applicant's status change in the United States. This can be shown with a copy of Form I-551 and/or other documentation from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security verifying the principal applicant's legal status.

If you are applying for a K1, K2, K3, or K4 visa:

- Confirmation page from the Form DS-160 Application for a Nonimmigrant Visa you submitted online at <a href="mailto:ceac.state.gov">ceac.state.gov</a>.
- An I-134 Affidavit of Support of each financial sponsor along with a photocopy of the sponsor's IRS transcript or most recent U.S. federal income tax return, and any relevant W-2s.

## **Interview Guidelines**



## Rescheduling or cancelling your interview

If you are unable to attend your appointment, please send an email to <a href="DushanbeVisas@state.gov">DushanbeVisas@state.gov</a>. There may be a significant wait time before the next available appointment, so please attempt to attend the date already scheduled. For some family-based and employment preference visa categories, a visa became available within the month you have been scheduled by NVC. Please carefully consult the Visa Bulletin before you decide to reschedule your interview.

DV applicants should be aware that under U.S. law, all Diversity Visas for a fiscal year must be issued prior to September 30. Available visas for some countries and regions may be used up prior to that date. If you delay or miss your appointment, it is unlikely to be rescheduled and you may lose your opportunity to immigrate on the basis of your DV application.

#### **Security screening procedures**

All visitors to the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe must follow certain security procedures. Any visitor who declines to be screened by U.S. Embassy security personnel will be unable to enter the Embassy. To avoid delaying your entry and the entry of those in line behind you, please bring only what is required for your interview. We recommend that you arrive at least 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment. If you are late, you may not be allowed into the Embassy for your appointment.

### **Accompanying persons**

The following persons may accompany a visa applicant to their interview:

- Special Needs Visitors: Applicants may bring ONE person to help if they are elderly or disabled.
- If a custodial parent is not with them, minors under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a legal guardian appointed under a signed and notarized power of attorney issued by the petitioner.
- If you have minor children under 6 years of age, please bring an accompanying person to your visa interview who will help you with the children while you are awaiting your interview.
- If the petitioner for your immigrant visa is currently in Tajikistan, please bring them to your appointment. While their attendance is not required, it can be helpful in verifying your relationship to the petitioner.

To notify the Embassy that one of the above persons will attend your visa interview with you, please send an email to <a href="mailto:DushanbeVisas@state.gov">DushanbeVisas@state.gov</a>. All persons entering the Embassy must bring their passport.

Please note that attorneys are **not** permitted to accompany clients into the waiting room or to their interview.

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# **Interview Guidelines**



## **Immigrant Visa fees**

If you have not paid all required fees to the National Visa Center, please be prepared to pay these fees on the day of your interview. All fees must be paid in cash and a single currency, either U.S. dollars or Tajik somoni. *Please note that if you are found ineligible to receive a visa, the application fee cannot be refunded.* A complete list of fees can be found on our Fees for Visa Services webpage.

## Do not make travel plans outside of Tajikistan

If your visa is approved, we will keep your passport at the Embassy while we prepare your immigration packet and print a visa for your passport. If you need to travel within Tajikistan while your passport is still with us, please make sure you have a valid photo ID other than your passport.

## **After Your Visa Interview**



A consular officer can make a decision on a visa application only after reviewing the formal application and interviewing the applicant. *There is no guarantee that you will receive a visa.* Do not sell your house, car or property, resign from your job or make non-refundable flight or other travel arrangements until you have received your immigrant visa.

#### If more information is needed

Sometimes a consular officer is unable to make a decision on a visa application because he/she needs to review additional documents, or the case requires further administrative processing. *When additional documents are requested,* the consular officer will give you a refusal letter that asks you to submit additional documents. The letter will include instructions on how to send those documents to the consulate.

Administrative processing takes additional time after the interview. Most administrative processing is resolved within 60 days. However, the timing varies based on the circumstances of each case. Before inquiring about the status of administrative processing, please wait at least 60 days after your interview.

#### What happens after visa approval

**Passport, Visa, and Sealed Immigrant Packet** – We will place your immigrant visa on a page in your passport. Please review your visa to make sure there are no spelling errors. We will also give you a sealed envelope containing documents that you must give to U.S. immigration authorities when you arrive in the United States for the first time. **Do not open this envelope. You must carry it with you; do not put it in your checked luggage.** If you receive X-rays during your medical examination, carry those with you and give them to the U.S. immigration authorities.

**USCIS Immigrant Fee** – All individuals who are issued immigrant visas overseas must **pay an <u>Immigrant Fee</u>** to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) *prior to traveling* to the United States. This fee is for processing your residency status and printing your Permanent Resident Card. The only people exempt from paying this fee are: children entering the United States under the Hague Process, returning residents, and people traveling on a K visa.

When You Should Travel – You must enter the United States *before* the expiration date on your visa, which is usually six months from the date of printing. Your visa cannot be extended, and all fees are nonrefundable. The principal applicant must enter **before or at the same time** as other family members with visas. Unless they are eligible for benefits under the Child Status Protection Act, children who are issued a visa before turning 21 years of age must enter the United States *before* their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday to avoid losing their immigrant status.

**Getting a Green Card** – Your Form I-551 Permanent Resident Card, also known as a green card, will be automatically mailed to the address in the United States that you write in your visa application form. This is a very important document that proves you have permission to reside in the United States. *If you plan to travel outside the U.S. before your green card arrives*: Please consult <u>USCIS's</u> and <u>CBP's</u> websites for rules about what documents you need to re-enter the country. We also recommend you check with the airline to ensure you are in compliance with their rules. *Once your card is issued, you should not stay outside of the United States for more than one year. If you do, you will lose your status as a Lawful Permanent Resident.* 

Children's Issues – In the United States, children are required to have certain vaccinations before they can enroll in school. We recommend that you bring your child's complete vaccination records with you to the United States. If your child is adopted, you have full custody as a result of a divorce, or you share custody with another parent, you should bring a copy of all applicable adoption or custody papers from the authoritative court in your home country. You will need these papers (translated into English) for issues such as school enrollment, medical care, and eventual citizenship.

**Information for New Immigrants** – Please visit the USCIS web page for helpful information on moving to the United States. You can read their publication "Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants" online.

# **Diversity Visa Applicants – Additional Information**



If you are interviewing for a Diversity Visa (DV), all of the above instructions apply to you. Please schedule and attend a medical examination prior to your visa interview; and gather the required documents.

Below are additional instructions that apply **only** to DV applicants.

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Bring to your interview
n addition to the documents listed on the <u>Pre-Interview Checklist</u> in this package, DV applicants should also bring the following items to a visa interview:
Appointment information printed from the "Entrant Status Check" on the E-DV website.
Documents showing that you have either a qualifying high school education <u>OR</u> two (2) years of qualifying work experience in the five (5) years immediately prior to application (for the principal applicant only; more information is available at <u>travel.state.gov</u> ).
Payment in cash of the \$330 Diversity Visa Application Fee for <u>each</u> visa applicant.
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## Review your DV Program entry

Prior to your visa interview, we recommend that you review the data on your initial E-DV entry. On your initial E-DV application, you must have correctly entered your marital status. If you are legally married you must have listed your spouse, even if you are currently separated from him/her (unless your spouse is a U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident).

Additionally, you must have listed ALL of your living children who are unmarried and under 21 years old. This includes your natural children, your spouse's children, or children you have formally adopted in accordance with the laws of your country.

Failure to have listed an existing spouse or children at the time of your entry in the Diversity Visa Program will result in the denial of your visa and visas for your family. Any fees paid to the U.S. government in support of your visa application(s) are nonrefundable. If you failed to include a child who had already been born, or a spouse to whom you were married when you entered the Program, you should not proceed with the visa application. You can review the eligibility requirements at travel.state.gov.