

Subject: DS-260 Rollout for DV-2015 Diversity Visa Program

1. Summary: Beginning with DV-2015, all diversity visa (DV) applicants must submit the electronic DS-260 "Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration Application" accessible through the Consular Electronic Application Center (CEAC). The DS-260 will be ready for applicants to use on May 19. The Kentucky Consular Center (KCC) will no longer collect the DS-230 and DSP-122, and no physical file will be sent to post. Applicants for DV-2014 will continue to use the DS-230 and DSP-122. End summary.

No paper files at KCC

2. Adoption of the DS-260 means KCC will not create paper files for DV-2015 cases.

3. The integrated DSP-122 questions will be displayed only to those applicants who enter a DV-2015 case number into the DS-260 application form. Applicants for other IV classifications will not be shown the additional questions. Applicants from DV-2014 will not be able to access the online form and will be directed to use the paper forms DS-230 and DSP-122. Cuban Family Reunification Parole (CFRP) applicants will also continue to use the DS-230.

Background

4. Beginning last year, the DS-260 online immigrant visa application was required for all IV classifications other than DV and CFRP. For DVs, this was due in part to the need for DV applicants to submit additional biographic information on Form DSP-122. The Visa Office has now integrated the DSP-122 into the DS-260.

5. Effective May 1, DV-2015 applicants who view their selection notification online at the Entrant Status Check (ESC) website will be directed to travel.state.gov. The instructions for the visa application will tell them to fill out the DS-260 application, which will be available beginning May 19, in CEAC. To log into CEAC, DV-2015 applicants will need to provide their DV case number as given on their selection notification and the principal applicant's date of birth.

Further information, guidance and action request

6. Updated instructional pages for DV-2015 applicants will be posted to travel.state.gov on May 1, in conjunction with notification of selectees. Old instructions for DV-2014 applicants will remain in place until the end of FY 2014.

7. DV-2015 applicants will be able to utilize CEAC Status Check. The CEAC Status Check page will not return any information to the DV applicants while their DS-260s are processing at KCC, and they will receive an error message stating that their case numbers are invalid or the case number not found. This error does not indicate a problem with their application. A message on the CEAC Visa Status Check screen will state the check function is not available for DV cases. Additional CEAC Status Check functionality will be added at a later date to include updated status for the DV applicants.

Kerry