

**Mar 17, 2009 9:30 AM**  
*Consulate General of the United States of America*



*Vancouver, CANADA*  
February 22, 2009

JOHN BRADFIELD  
8400 GREENSPRING AV  
STEVENSON 21153 MD  
USA

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USA

Dear Visa Applicant:

Please read carefully the following information about obtaining your U.S. non-immigrant visa.

**YOUR APPOINTMENT**

You are scheduled for a non-immigrant visa interview at the U.S. Consulate General in Vancouver.

**APPOINTMENT INFORMATION**

**Date:** Mar 17, 2009    **Time:** 9:30 AM    **Reference #:** 6380157  
**Dependents number:** 4  
**Your passport number:** AA913433

The Consulate is located at 1095 and 1075 West Pender Street. Please go first to the 1075 West Pender St. entrance. **You will NOT be admitted earlier than your appointment time.** In order to avoid any delays in consideration of your application, please arrive on time, bring original documents and make sure you have sufficient funds to pay all required fees. If you need a Canadian visa to enter Canada to apply for your visa in Vancouver, it is your responsibility to obtain one.

**Beginning October 22, 2008**, all applicants applying for nonimmigrant visas in Vancouver **must use the new DS-160 application form**, which is accessible on <https://ceac.state.gov/geniv/>. After completing the new DS-160, the applicant will electronically submit the application and will be provided with a confirmation page that includes only limited biographical information and a bar code. Applicants **must bring this confirmation page** with them to their interview. Please note: if the online application has not been completed fully and properly the applicant's case cannot be processed and a new interview appointment will be required. This first pilot version of the DS-160 will only be available in English. Future versions will allow the user to see translations of the site in other languages, including French.

**Please make sure to read the attached "SECURITY NOTICE TO ALL VISITORS" to avoid being prohibited from entering the Consulate.**

**Policy regarding Personal Appearance:** In general, all applicants **must appear in person for the visa interview** at which time, in addition to an interview, the consular officer will digitally capture the fingerprints of applicants ages 14 - 79. Under very limited circumstances the personal appearance requirement may be waived (medical emergencies) but the applicant must still be physically present in the district where the application is submitted. In the case of applicants under 14 years, a parent or guardian must appear in person to accompany.

If you need to cancel your appointment, please phone toll free 1 (888) 611-6676. This number is for cancellations only. If you require further information or need to make another appointment, please contact the Visa Information Services Center at one of the following numbers: from the U.S. (900) 443-3131 (\$1.89 U.S. per minute) and from Canada (900) 451-2778 (\$1.89 CDN per minute). **Please do not call the Consulate directly**, as the Consulate cannot provide appointment or appointment cancellation services.

## WHAT TO BRING TO YOUR INTERVIEW:

- This letter should be presented to the security guard when you enter the Consulate.
- **DS-160 APPLICATION FORM:** Beginning October 22, 2008, all applicants applying for nonimmigrant visas in Vancouver must use the new DS-160 application form, which is accessible on <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>.
- **PROOF OF INCOME/TIES:** Documents that demonstrate you have financial stability and permanent ties to a country outside of the United States. If you are a visitor to Canada, this normally means ties to your home.

### The following documents are generally useful to help establish ties:

- **Your current letter of employment (or that of the family member or person providing you financial support) showing date hired, salary and position.**
- **Pay slips and tax documents**
- **School letter with proof of tuition payment.**
- **Property deeds.**
- **Canada Immigration Form IMM-1000 (Record of Landing), or the permanent resident card.**
- **Work authorization or study authorization.**
- **Monthly bank statements.**
  
- **A VALID PASSPORT OR TRAVEL DOCUMENT:** To be eligible for a visa, your passport must be valid for at least 6 months past your intended stay in the United States. Applicants must bring evidence of their current immigration status, in Canada, as well as any documents related to prior visits to the United States. Such documents might include expired passports with old visas, I-20 Forms for former students, DS-2019 (formerly known as IAP-66) Forms for exchange visitors, I-94 cards, Employment Authorization Cards, etc.
  
- **PROOF OF RELATIONSHIP TO PRINCIPAL APPLICANT:** If you are applying as a dependent family member, such as a spouse or a child, you should bring proof of your relationship to the principal applicant. Such proof might include marriage certificates, birth certificates, adoption papers, etc. Documents must be in English or officially transcribed to English.

**NOTE:** Applicants who present false or misleading documents during the course of their interview may be found permanently ineligible for further visa consideration. Persons who provide false documentation to applicants likewise may be found permanently ineligible for U.S. visas.

### FEES:

- **VISA APPLICATION FEE:** Each applicant must pay a U.S. \$131.00 application fee, in exact U.S. currency only (coins are not accepted). **This application fee is non-refundable, regardless of whether or not you are issued a visa.** This fee cannot be paid at the Consulate. You must present two copies of the receipt for the USD \$131.00 nonrefundable visa fee, paid at any ScotiaBank branch using the deposit slip available at [www.amcits.com/deposit.pdf](http://www.amcits.com/deposit.pdf)
  
- **RECIPROCITY FEE:** Depending on your country of citizenship, you may also be required to pay a fee for visa issuance, known as a "reciprocity" fee. If your visa application is approved, you will be asked to pay this fee at the time of your interview. Operators at the 900-telephone service can give you information about this fee. The following methods of payments are accepted: Credit Card (Master Card or VISA), cash (U.S. Funds), U.S Postal Money Order or Certified check payable to U.S Consulate General. You may also obtain this information by visiting the following web site: <http://travel.state.gov/reciprocity/index.htm>

### WILL I QUALIFY FOR A VISA?

In order to qualify for most categories of U.S. non-immigrant visas, you must be able to demonstrate to a U.S. Consular Officer that you have a permanent residence outside the United States that you do not intend to abandon. You may satisfy this requirement by showing you have strong economic and social ties to your country of residence. "Ties" are factors that would require you to return to your country of residence upon completion of your temporary visit to the United States. Landed immigrants in Canada must show ties to Canada. Applicants who are not landed immigrants must generally demonstrate ties to their home country.

Many applicants ask what documents they can bring to their visa interview that would demonstrate sufficiently their "ties" to their home country. The answer to this question is that no single document will be relevant to every case. Applicants should ask themselves the following question: "If I were visiting in the United States, what factors would cause me to end my visit and depart the United States?" Relevant factors, or "ties," outside the U.S. could be such things as a job, property, dependent children, or other important responsibilities that require your presence in your home country. You must demonstrate to the Consular Officer that these "ties" are strong enough to compel you to return to your home country upon completion of your visit to the United States.

The following Canadian documents are generally useful to help establish ties:

- Letters of employment showing salary, hours worked per week, and amount of time on the job
- Pay slips and tax documents
- School attendance records (tuition payment, grades, letters of acceptance, etc.)
- Property deeds, rental agreements, automobile registrations
- Canada Immigration Form IMM-1000 (Record of Landing)

The following documents are generally not useful:

- Credit cards and bank letters
- Documents from countries outside Canada
- Letters of support from third parties
- Airline tickets

**NOTE:** Visa applicants should normally apply at a U.S. embassy or consulate in their country of residence. If you are not a resident of Canada, interviewing officers in Vancouver may not have experience in evaluating the circumstances in your country of residence. You may, therefore, have greater difficulty establishing your eligibility for a U.S. visa in Vancouver than you would experience in your home country. A substantial percentage of visitors to Canada are denied visas under these circumstances. Consequently, **visitors to Canada are strongly urged to apply for U.S. visas in their country of residence.**

### **IF MY VISA IS APPROVED, WHEN WILL IT BE READY FOR COLLECTION?**

There is no same day issuance of visas. All eligible visa applicants must be prepared for processing delays which could take from a few days to several weeks or more. For residents of Canada, applicants should bring with them to the visa interview a Canada Post Express Post envelope for the return of the passport(s). A small Express Post envelope must be purchased for use within British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. For all other provinces, you must purchase a National Express Post envelope. In limited circumstances, applicants may be allowed to pick up their passports and visas on the second business day following the interview.

### **THE U.S. NON-IMMIGRANT VISA**

The validity period of your visa and number of entries you are allowed are printed on the visa. Immigration officials at the U.S. port-of-entry have final authority to permit or deny entry to the United States. A visa entitles the bearer to apply for admission to the U.S., but does not guarantee entry. The maximum permitted length of time to stay in the U.S. is also determined by U.S. Immigration at the port-of-entry.

If you misplace your passport containing a U.S. visa or it is stolen, you should report the loss to the police as soon as possible. If you apply for a replacement visa, you will be asked for a police report detailing the circumstances of the loss. We recommend you photocopy your visa and maintain the copy in a safe place.

### **SPECIALIZED VISAS**

Most visa applications at Vancouver are for business trips or for personal travel (Visa category "B"). If you are seeking another type of visa, such as for study or work in the U.S., please read the following:

- Diplomatic and International Organization Workers (categories "A" and "G"). Applicants must demonstrate they will be employed by recognized diplomatic or international organization missions in the United States and will maintain that status throughout their stay in the country. Dependent family members must provide proof of relationship to the sponsor. **Note:** The \$131.00 processing fee is not applicable.

- **Student Visas** (categories "F" and "M"). Applicants planning to study in the U.S. must present a valid form I-20 from the institution in the United States. Please ensure that your educational or training institution has entered your name and relevant data into the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) so that the Consular Officer can verify your documentation. For applicants with an I-20, IAP-66 or DS 2019 issued prior to February 15, 2003, please ensure that your educational or training institution has entered your name and relevant data into the Interim Student and Exchange Authentication System (ISEAS). Also required is proof of adequate English language skills, and proof of sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses. Applicants must also be able to demonstrate that they intend to depart the U.S. upon completion of their studies.
- **Temporary Workers** (category "First-time "H"). Applicants must present their original Form I-797, a copy of the Labor Condition Application (LCA), an employment letter (indicating nature and duration of employment as well as remuneration), and several recent pay stubs (if already working). They should also bring a complete copy of the I-129 petition with all supporting documents as well as evidence of qualifications for the job (original diplomas and transcripts). Former exchange visitors (J-1 visas) whose programs were subject to the two-year foreign residency requirement will require an original Immigration and Naturalization Service 212(e) waiver approval form. **First-time "H1 - B" visa applicants who earned their qualifying academic degrees outside the U.S. or Canada are strongly urged to apply in their home countries, as Vancouver consular officers are generally unable to evaluate foreign academic credentials.**
- **Specialty Occupation, Australian Citizens Only (Category E-3)** Applicants must present The Approved Labour Condition Application (Employment and Training Administrative Form 9035), with attestations by the sponsoring employer related to wages and working conditions be filed with and approved by, the Secretary of Labour.) They should also show the Job Offer Letter from the Prospective United States based Employer, Proof of Appropriate Credentials if required for the position (licenses, degrees, etc.) Must be originals or certified copies, Proof of Ties to a country outside of the U.S. in which they have no intention of abandoning and a valid Australian Passport.
- **International Media** (category "I"). Applicants must present an employment letter verifying their qualifications as a foreign journalist. They must also be able to prove their intent to depart the United States upon completion of their assignments.
- **Exchange Visitors** (category "J"). Applicants must present a valid form DS-2019 (formerly known as IAP-66). Please ensure that your educational or training institution has entered your name and relevant data into the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) so that the Consular Officer can verify your documentation. For applicants with an I-20, IAP-66 or DS 2019 issued prior to February 15, 2003, please ensure that your educational or training institution has entered your name and relevant data into the Interim Student and Exchange Authentication System (ISEAS). Also, proof of sufficient funds to cover all expenses while participating in the exchange program. They must also demonstrate adequate knowledge of English and that they intend to depart the U.S. upon completion of the program.
- **Intracompany Transferees** (category "L"). Applicants must present their original Form I-797, a complete copy of the I-129 petition with all supporting documents, and information establishing the relationship between the applicant's work in the U.S. and the associated foreign business.
- **Blanket L-1** Applicants must present three copies of the I-797 Approval Notice, three copies of the I-129S initial petition – one of them MUST bear an original signature, three copies of all International Affiliates Worldwide, three copies of an Employment Letter indicating the position held in the Organization and **\$500 U.S. Fraud Prevention and Protection Fee** This fee is paid in addition to any and in the same manner as any applicable reciprocity fees at the Consulate.
- **Alien of Extraordinary Ability, Performing Artist, or International Cultural Exchange** (categories "O," "P," and "Q"). Applicants must present an original Form I-797 as well as proof of qualifications and a copy of the I-129 petition. "P" and "Q" applicants must prove their intent to depart the United States upon completion of their work.
- **Religious Workers** (category "R"). Applicants must demonstrate they have work experience in their home country with the same religious organization they will represent in the United States.



## SECURITY NOTICE TO ALL VISITORS

Please note that all visitors must be screened prior to entry and are subject to inspection via a walk-through metal detector and with a hand-held metal detector. Carried personal items will undergo full inspection by use of an X-ray machine and other equipment.

**Any visitor who declines to be screened by U.S. Embassy/Consulate security personnel will be prohibited from entering the Embassy/Consulate.**

In order to facilitate your entrance to the Embassy/Consulate and reduce your waiting time at the security checkpoint, we recommend that you leave behind any unnecessary personal items such as purses and briefcases. If you leave them in your car, be sure to put them in the trunk and lock your car; do not leave any personal items in view in the passenger compartment.

Please bring only the documentation required for your appointment.

### **Prohibited Items**

Please note that the following items are prohibited inside the U.S. Embassy/Consulate and we have no facilities for storing these items, so please leave them at your home, hotel or in your vehicle:

- food and beverages;
- weapons or tools;
- backpacks, luggage, or purses;
- electronic or recording equipment of any kind, including, but not limited to: laptop
- computers; mobile phones; PDAs; cassette, CD, MP3 players, pagers, keyless remotes; and
- oversized strollers.

### **Accompanying Persons**

The following persons may accompany a visa applicant during his or her visit to the Embassy/Consulate:

- **Interpreters:** An applicant may bring **one** interpreter if he does not speak English well enough to participate unassisted in the visa interview.
- **Special Needs Assistants:** An applicant may bring **one** person to assist him if he is elderly, disabled, or a minor child.
- **Attorneys:** Attorneys will **NOT** be permitted to accompany clients into the waiting room or at their interview.
- **U.S. Citizens:** An applicant may be accompanied by a U.S. Citizen.

Due to the limited size of our waiting room, the high volume of visa applicants, and the time required to screen consular clients, other accompanying persons cannot and will not be admitted to the Embassy/Consulate. Drivers, friends, extra relatives, and others not specifically named above cannot be permitted to enter and will be asked to return to meet the applicant after the interview is complete.