Please follow the steps below <u>before</u> your immigrant visa interview at the U.S. Consulate General in Naha, Japan.

# Step 1: Get a medical exam in Japan

As soon as you receive your appointment date, you must schedule a medical exam in Japan. Click the "Medical Exam Instructions" button below for a list of designated doctors' offices in Japan. Please schedule and attend a medical exam with one of these doctors 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've 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**

U.S. Consulate General Naha 2-1-1 Toyama, Urasoe City, Okinawa, Japan 901-2101

Phone:
Call Center

Website:
jp.usembassy.gov

**%** Map:



#### Other links

- Diversity visa instructions
- After your interview
- Frequently asked questions
- Where to find civil documents

### Social media







# **Interview Preparation Video**



# **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. Consulate can perform this exam. It is your responsibility to schedule a medical exam with one of the doctors listed below before your visa interview at the U.S. Consulate. Medical examination results from other physicians will not be accepted.

The <u>medical examination</u> information and <u>approved Physicians</u> are available at the Embassy website.

#### **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 via jp.usembassy.gov.

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 via <u>jp.usembassy.gov</u>. You can also read Frequently Asked Questions about our medical examination requirements via <u>jp.usembassy.gov</u>.

### After the medical exam

When your examination is completed, the doctor will either provide you with exam results in a sealed envelope or, if your online DS260 application form was submitted on or after January 21, 2020, electronically send the results to the Consulate. All K/DV applicants will receive their results in a sealed envelope. If you receive a sealed envelope **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 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:

Ш	the "Content Descriptions" field and include a local address. We will use this to return your passport after the interview.
	A copy of your NVC interview letter (does not apply to Diversity Visa, fiancé(e), adoptive, or asylee/refugee applicants).
	Unexpired passport valid for at least 60 days beyond the validity date of the Immigrant Visa
	Two (2) color passport-size photographs of each person applying for a visa (5 cm x 5 cm). Please review the <u>requirements</u> .
	Confirmation page from the Form DS-260 Application for an Immigrant Visa you submitted online at <a href="mailto:ceac.state.gov/iv">ceac.state.gov/iv</a> .
	Your <b>original</b> birth certificate and an English translation,
	Medical examination results in a sealed envelope or if your medical results were sent by the Consulate electronically, a copy of your vaccination records generated by the hospital
	Original or certified copies of birth certificates for all children of the principal applicant (even if he or she is not accompanying).
Ap	plicants who fall into any category listed in italics below should bring these additional documents:
For	family-based visa applications:
	The appropriate Form I-864 Affidavit of Support 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. The sponsor needs to submit separate Forms I-864 and supporting documents for each Immediate Relative visa applicant, such as IR-1, IR-2 or IR-5. If more than one applicant is traveling on a preference case such as F1, F2, F3 or F4, a photocopy of Form I-864 and supporting documents must be provided for each derivative applicant (spouse and children).
	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 lawful permanent resident card).
	Evidence of the relationship between the petitioner and visa applicant (such as photographs, letters, or emails).
	If you are married: Your original marriage certificate and an English translation
	If you were previously married: Your original or certified true copy of the divorce decree or spouse's death certificate and an English translation.
	<ul> <li>If you are 16 years or older: You must obtain an original or certified copy of a police certificate from the following countries:</li> <li>1. Any country that you have lived in for more than 1 year</li> <li>2. Your country of nationality, if you have lived there for more than 6 months after the age of 16</li> </ul>

Your Japanese Police Certificate should be in a sealed envelope. If the seal is broken, the certificate is no longer valid.

If the following items are <u>all</u> true, you must acquire and bring a more recent police certificate to the interview:

3. Your current country of residence, if you have lived there for more than 6 months after the age of 16.

- 1. You are older than 16 years;
- 2. You obtained a police certificate more than two years ago; and
- 3. You reentered the country that issued the police certificate.

# Return to top

# Pre-Interview Checklist ✓ □ 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 and an English translation □ If you have served in any country's military: Military records and an English translation □ If you are adopted: Adoption papers or custody documents and an English translation □ If you are the petitioner's stepchild: The original marriage certificate of the petitioner and your biological parent, an

English translation, <u>and</u> along with divorce records for any previous marriages of either parent.

# **Interview Guidelines**



# Sending documents to the U.S. Consulate General in Naha

If the consular officer asks you to submit documents to the U.S. Consulate, please send them by mail to U.S. Consulate General Naha, Visa Branch, 2-1-1 Toyama, Uraseo-City, Okinawa, 901-2101.

# Rescheduling or cancelling your interview

If you are unable to attend your appointment, please use the consulate's <u>Interview Request Form</u> to ask for a new appointment date. **There may be a significant wait before the next available appointment,** so please attempt to attend the date already assigned.

For some family-based and employment preference visa categories, a visa became available within the month you have been scheduled by NVC. DV applicants should be aware that visas are numerically limited and must be issued by September 30 of the program year. **There is no guarantee that a visa will still be available on the date of your rescheduled interview.** Please carefully consult the <u>Visa Bulletin</u> before you decide to reschedule your interview.

# Security screening procedures

All visitors to the U.S. Consulate in Naha must follow certain security procedures. Any visitor who declines to be screened by U.S. Consulate security personnel will be unable to enter the consulate. To avoid delaying your entry and that of those in line behind you, please bring only what is required for your interview.

#### **Accompanying persons**

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

- Interpreter: Applicants may bring ONE interpreter if they do not speak English or Japanese well enough to
  participate in an interview. Due to security requirements, only those with appointments will be admitted to the
  Visa Section. Please notify us that you are bringing an interpreter using our contact information at <u>U.S. Visa</u>
  Navigator (google.com)
- Special Needs Visitors: Applicants may bring ONE person to help if they are elderly, disabled, or a minor child.

Attorneys are **not** permitted to accompany clients into the waiting room or to their interview.

# **Immigrant visa application 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 may be paid in either Yen or U.S. dollars. We accept cash and credit cards. *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 via travel.state.gov.

Please be prepared to pay with cash or able to withdraw cash from an ATM in case the credit card verification system is unavailable. Payment by credit card is billed in U.S. dollars.

# **Interview Guidelines**



# Do not make travel plans outside of Japan

If your visa is approved, we will keep your passport at the consulate while we prepare your immigration packet and print a visa for your passport. If you have to travel within Japan while your passport is still with us, please make sure you have a valid picture 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 Immigrant Fee** 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, . The visa's validity will be limited to the validity of the medical examination. 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 may 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 custodial 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.

# **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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	cion to the documents listed on the Pre-Interview Checklist in this package, DV applicants should also bring the ng items to your visa interview:
	Appointment information printed from the "Entrant Status Check" on the <u>E-DV website</u>
	Documents showing that you have either a qualifying high school or higher education <b>OR</b> have two years of qualifying work experience in the last five years immediately prior to application (for the principal applicant only; more information is available via <a href="mailto:travel.state.gov">travel.state.gov</a> .
	Payment in cash or by credit card (VISA, MasterCard, Diners Club, JCB or American Express) for the Diversity Application Fee.
	Overcoming Public Charge: The Immigration and Nationality Act requires all immigrant visa applicants to establish to the satisfaction of a consular officer at the time of the application for a visa, and also to the satisfaction of an officer of the Department of Homeland Security at the time of application for admission to the United States, that he/she is not likely to become a public charge.

### **Review your DV Lottery 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, and 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 lottery 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 lottery, you should not proceed with the visa application. You can review the eligibility requirements via travel.state.gov.