Introducing the DS-160 U.S. Visa Application Form

U.S. Embassy, Beirut

February 2010

Background

- New online DS-160 nonimmigrant visa (NIV) application form
- Replaces the following forms:
  - DS-156 "Nonimmigrant Visa Application"
  - DS-157 "Supplemental Nonimmigrant Visa Application"
  - DS-158 "Contact Information and Work History for Nonimmigrant Visa Applicant"
- Mandatory as of March 1, 2010
  - Optional from February 16 through February 28

Advantages to Applicants

- One form instead of three
- Completely online – nothing to fill out by hand
- Family and group feature – no need to fill in identical data more than once
- "Save" feature – don't need to complete all at once
- Frequent applicants can save application for reuse
- Print only a single confirmation page

Application Process

NEW!
The DS-160 should be completed BEFORE the applicant goes to Credit Libanais

Complete DS-160 Form

Pay Fee and Make Appointment At Credit Libanais

Interview At Embassy and Take Fingerprints

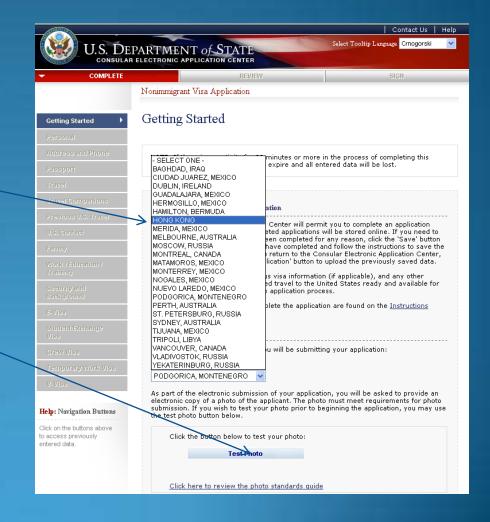Pick Up Visa At Embassy Reception on designated day

Completing the DS-160

Step 1 – Accessing the Application

- Go to https://ceac.state.gov/genniv

- Read the instructions and press "Start Application"

Completing the DS-160

Step 2 – Choose the Embassy

- Choose the Embassy or Consulate where you will apply

- Press "Test Photo" to begin uploading your photo
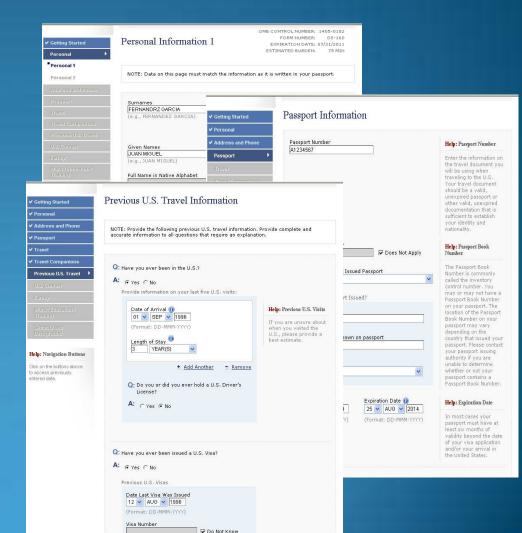
Completing the DS-160

Step 3 – Upload Photo

- Browse to your photo and press "Upload Selected Photo"
- If your photo meets the quality standards, you can press "Continue Using This Photo"
- If your photo does not pass, press "Continue Without A Photo"
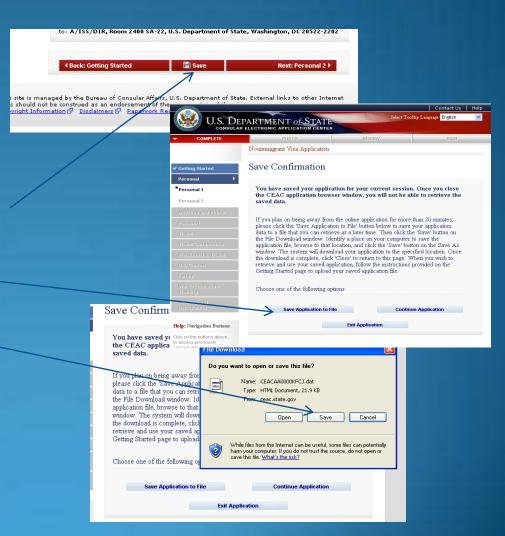
Completing the DS-160

Step 4 – Fill In The Form

- Complete all questions carefully and accurately

- Inserting wrong information or leaving required items blank will only delay your application

Completing the DS-160

Saving an Application

- If you can't finish in one sitting, you can save the application to your hard drive and continue later

- Press "Save" at the bottom of any data entry page

- Press "Save Application to File"

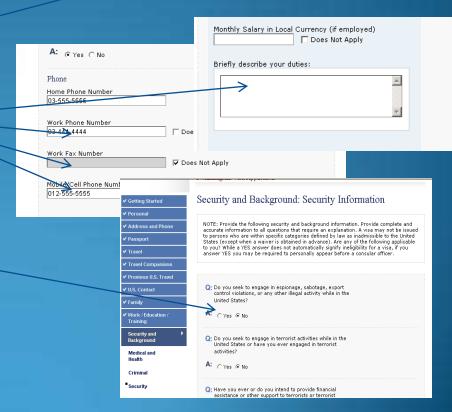- Press "Save" and navigate to the place you want to save your application

Completing the DS-160

Retrieving a Saved Application

- Browse to a saved application file

- Press "Upload Data"

Completing the DS-160

Tips

- If a question doesn't apply to you, you must check the "Does Not Apply" box

- Answer fully and include as much detail as you can

- Be especially careful with the yes/no questions near the end – misrepresenting the facts can make you ineligible to receive a visa ever
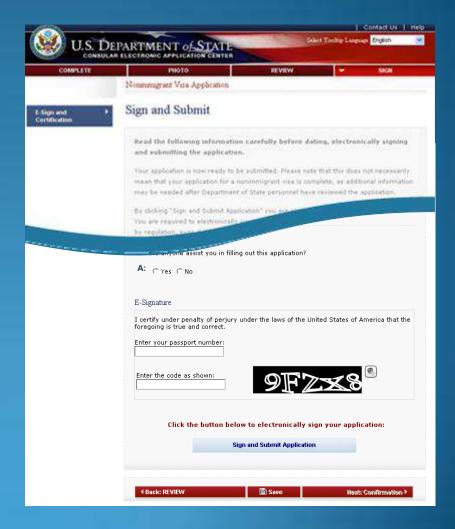
Completing the DS-160

Step 5 – Reviewing Your Application

- You have an opportunity to review and edit all your answers before submitting your application

- Check carefully that everything is correct – it's impossible to make changes later

Completing the DS-160

Step 6 – Submitting Your Application

- Once you submit your application, you can't change it

- Pressing "Sign and Submit Application" constitutes your electronic signature, certifying that all the answers on the application are true
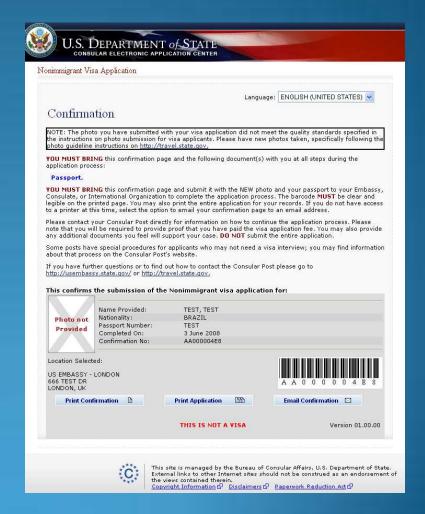
Completing the DS-160

Step 7 – Printing Your Confirmation Page

- Print the confirmation page

- You only need to bring the printed confirmation sheet to the interview

- You can print the entire application for your own records if you wish

- You can e-mail the confirmation to someone else (e.g., if you are completing the application for another person)

Completing the DS-160

Step 7 – Printing Your Confirmation Letter (cont)

- This is what the confirmation page looks like if your photo was not uploaded

- You will need to bring a photo with you to the interview

Reminder

The DS-160 replaces only the application forms. Other items are still required

- Students: I-20

- Exchange Visitors: DS-2019

- Diplomats and Officials: Diplomatic Note

And most applicants still need evidence of ties to their place of residence

The Future

- Integrated Appointment Scheduling

- Online Fee Payment

- DS-260 for Immigrants

Contacts

Consular Section:

Website:
http://lebanon.usembassy.gov/visa_services.html
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