

INVITING FAMILY MEMBERS TO THE U.S.

If family members would like to visit you in the U.S. for a short period of time, they should follow the procedures outlined by the U.S. embassy or consulate in their home country. In most cases, family members would apply for a B-2 (tourist) visa. For a list of U.S. embassy and consulate websites, please refer to: <http://usembassy.state.gov/>.

You may provide your relatives with additional information to assist them in their visa interview, regardless of the reason for their visit.

You could provide your relative with:

- An invitation letter that you write (a sample invitation letter is on the back)
- Copies of your I-20, passport, visa and I-94
- Copies of your academic transcripts
- An OSU enrollment verification letter from <http://oregonstate.edu/registrar/verify-your-enrollment>
- Commencement ceremony information: <http://oregonstate.edu/events/commencement/>

Please tell your relatives to remember the following information when applying for a visitor visa:

The most common reason that tourist visas are denied is because the applicant is believed to have “immigrant intent”. Applicants must show that they do not wish to remain in the United States. If applicants are not able to show this, the consular officer may deny the visa.

Some of the ways applicants can attempt to prove that they do not have “immigrant intent” is by producing documents showing:

- They have a job to return to in their home country
- They own property in their home country
- An itinerary for their visit to the United States
- They have the funds to finance the trip
- Any other documentation showing they have a reason to return to their home country

SAMPLE INVITATION LETTER

You may wish to write an “invitation letter” for your family members to submit with their application for the B-2 visa (see the sample letter below).

Our experience has shown that invitation letters written by students may assist your family in obtaining a visa. However, as with any visa application, there is no guarantee a visa will be issued. The success of the applicant's request for a visa lies in their ability to prove that they have no intention of staying permanently in the U.S.

Sample Letter of Invitation

I, the undersigned, would like to invite _____
 for a temporary stay in the U.S. for the period beginning _____ to _____
 The purpose of the visit is _____

Information on the Host:

Name _____
 Current Address _____
 Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____
 Passport Number _____ Valid Until _____
 Current Immigration Status _____ Date of Initial Entry to the U.S. _____
 Relationship to Guest _____

Information on the Guest:

Name _____
 Current Address _____
 Date of Birth _____ City and Country of Birth _____
 Passport Number _____ Valid until _____
 Occupation in Home Country _____
 Name and Address of Employer _____
 Source of Funding During Stay in U.S. _____
 Signature of the host _____