

**Apply By Mail Expansion**  
**F, academic J, M, O, P, Q, H-1, H-3, H-4, and non-blanket L**

The Department of State has waived the in-person interview requirement through December 31, 2022, for visa applicants in categories F, M, O, P, Q, H-1, H-3, H-4, non-blanket L and academic J qualifying as secondary and university students, professors, research scholars, short-term scholars, or specialists, who were previously issued any class of visa, or traveled on ESTA, subject to certain conditions.

Complete each section of this coversheet. You must qualify in Section 1 and 2 to continue to Section 3. If you do not qualify you must schedule an appointment online.

**Section 1**

To qualify you must  **YES** to **ALL** criteria:

**YES**   **NO**

- I have no refusals for a visa in any category.
- I have never been denied a visa or the Visa Waiver Program (ESTA).
- I am not a Chinese or Nigerian national.
- I am a resident or citizen/national of Australia.

**Section 2**

To qualify you must also  below.

- I am applying for an F, M, O, P, Q, H-1, H-3, H-4, non-blanket L or academic J visa.

You must also  from either **Column A** or **Column B**:

**A. Previous U.S. visa holder (of any category)**

- I have had my ten (10) fingerprints collected in a previous U.S. visa application.

**B. Never had a U.S. visa before**

- I am a citizen or national of a Visa Waiver Program Country and I have previously traveled to the United States on ESTA and have no prior ESTA denials. I can submit a copy of a prior ESTA approval, an I-94, or an entry stamp.

**Section 3**

You must include/complete items below.

- This completed coversheet.
- What is your intended travel date?     DD/MMM/YYYY
- [Application fee receipt](#): Also referred to as machine-readable visa (MRV) fee.
- Valid passport
- [Form DS-160](#): Nonimmigrant Visa Application confirmation page.
  - Each individual applying for a visa must have their-own Form DS-160, detailing a unique barcode.
  - Previously submitted forms cannot be reused.
  - The Form DS-160 must be completed based on the Consulate where you are submitting your application.
- Photo: U.S. passport sized photo. If incorrect, your application will be rejected.

Additional items required based on visa classification. **DO NOT submit original documents** unless indicated.

**F, M or J visa applicants:**

- DS-2019 (original)
- I-20 (original or copy)
- SEVIS Fee Receipt

**P, Q, H, non-blanket L visa applicants:**

- I-797
- I-129
- Employment Letter

Include any of these items if applicable.

- Old passport: showing your previous U.S. visa, I-94 or U.S. entry stamp, prior ESTA stamp if not in current passport.
- [Visa issuance fees](#): (different from the application MRV fee and SEVIS fee). This fee will only be processed if the visa is approved by the Consular Officer.  
**NOT ACCEPTED** - CASH, US Dollar checks, Personal or Company checks
  - [Acceptable forms of payment](#): EXACT amount made payable to the "U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL"

- [Australian passport holders](#): Please determine if an issuance fee is applicable to you.
- [Other nationalities](#): Please determine if an issuance fee is applicable to you.

Meeting the above conditions does not guarantee a visa, and the Consulate may still require an in-person interview.

**Applicant Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Please now mail the required documents (preferably using an Express Post satchel for tracking purposes) to the appropriate address below. This is the office that will be processing your mail-in application. It is suggested that you take a photo of the tracking number on the satchel for your records.

Applicants residing in <b>Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and Northern Territory.</b>	Applicants residing in <b>New South Wales, Queensland, Norfolk Island, Western Australia, and the Australian Capital Territory.</b>
U.S. Consulate General Attn: [Visas Class] – [Travel Date] Level 6 / 553 St. Kilda Road Melbourne, VIC 3004	U.S. Consulate General Attn: [Visas Class] – [Travel Date] Suite 2, 50 Miller Street North Sydney, NSW 2060

Our standard processing time requires a minimum of fifteen (15) business days from receipt of all the required documentation. If your travel is sooner than 15 days and you are unable to schedule an interview date earlier than what’s available online you may qualify to submit a request for an [emergency appointment](#).