

**Non Immigrant** The chart below contains many different purposes of temporary travel and the related nonimmigrant visa categories available on this website.

Purpose of Travel	Visa Category	Required: Before applying for visa*
Athlete, amateur or professional (competing for prize money only)	<a href="#">B-1</a>	(NA)
Au pair (exchange visitor)	<a href="#">J</a>	SEVIS
Australian professional specialty	<a href="#">E-3</a>	DOL
Border Crossing Card: Mexico	<a href="#">BCC</a>	(NA)
Business visitor	<a href="#">B-1</a>	(NA)
CNMI-only transitional worker	<a href="#">CW-1</a>	(USCIS)
Crewmember	<a href="#">D</a>	(NA)
Diplomat or foreign government official	<a href="#">A</a>	(NA)
Domestic employee or nanny - must be accompanying a foreign national employer	<a href="#">B-1</a>	(NA)
Employee of a designated international organization or NATO	<a href="#">G1-G5, NATO</a>	(NA)
Exchange visitor	<a href="#">J</a>	SEVIS
Foreign military personnel stationed in the United States	<a href="#">A-2</a>	(NA)
Foreign national with extraordinary ability in Sciences, Arts, Education, Business or Athletics	<a href="#">NATO1-6</a>	(NA)
Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Professional:	<a href="#">O</a>	USCIS
Chile, Singapore	<a href="#">H-1B1 - Chile</a>	DOL
International cultural exchange visitor	<a href="#">H-1B1 - Singapore</a>	DOL
Intra-company transferee	<a href="#">Q</a>	USCIS
Medical treatment, visitor for	<a href="#">L</a>	USCIS
Media, journalist	<a href="#">B-2</a>	(NA)
NAFTA professional worker: Mexico, Canada	<a href="#">I</a>	(NA)
Performing athlete, artist, entertainer	<a href="#">TN/TD</a>	(NA)
Physician	<a href="#">P</a>	USCIS
Professor, scholar, teacher (exchange visitor)	<a href="#">J</a> , <a href="#">H-1B</a>	SEVIS
Religious worker	<a href="#">J</a>	SEVIS
Specialty occupations in fields requiring highly specialized knowledge	<a href="#">R</a>	USCIS
	<a href="#">H-1B</a>	DOL then USCIS

Student: academic, vocational	<a href="#">F, M</a>	SEVIS
Temporary agricultural worker	<a href="#">H-2A</a>	DOL then USCIS
Temporary worker performing other services or labor of a temporary or seasonal nature.	<a href="#">H-2B</a>	DOL then USCIS
Tourism, vacation, pleasure visitor	<a href="#">B-2</a>	(NA)
Training in a program not primarily for employment	<a href="#">H-3</a>	USCIS
Treaty trader/treaty investor	<a href="#">E</a>	(NA)
Transiting the United States	<a href="#">C</a>	(NA)
Victim of Criminal Activity	<a href="#">U</a>	USCIS
Victim of Human Trafficking	<a href="#">T</a>	USCIS
Nonimmigrant (V) Visa for Spouse and Children of a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR)	<a href="#">V</a>	(NA)
<a href="#">Renewals in the U.S. - A, G, and NATO Visas</a>		(NA)

**\*What the abbreviations above mean** - Before applying for a visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate, the following is required:

- [DOL](#) = The U.S. employer must obtain foreign labor certification from the U.S. Department of Labor, prior to filing a petition with USCIS.
- [USCIS](#) = U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) approval of a petition or application (The required petition or application depends on the visa category you plan to apply for.)
- [SEVIS](#) = Program approval entered in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)
- (NA) = Not Applicable - Additional approval by another U.S. government agency is not required prior to applying for a visa

**Important Notes:**

- **About this chart** – It is not a complete list of all travel purposes for the visa category. Select a visa category webpage for more information. The chart lists almost all nonimmigrant visa categories, with the exception of several not listed above. Refer to the Foreign Affairs Manual, [9 FAM 402.1](#) for all nonimmigrant visa categories.
- **Canadian NAFTA Professional workers** – A visa not required; apply to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at border port of entry.
- **K nonimmigrant visas** – For U.S. citizen fiancé(e) and spouse for immigration related purposes. Refer to [Immigrant Visa Categories](#).

**Immigrant** The chart below contains different purposes for immigrating to the United States, and the related immigrant visa categories for which information is available on this website.

**Immediate Relative & Family Sponsored**

Spouse of a U.S. Citizen

Spouse of a U.S. Citizen awaiting approval of an I-130 immigrant petition

Fiancé(e) to marry U.S. Citizen & live in U.S.

Intercountry Adoption of Orphan Children by U.S. Citizens

Certain Family Members of U.S. Citizens

Certain Family Members of Lawful Permanent Residents

**Employer Sponsored – Employment**

**Visa Category**

[IR1, CR1](#)

[K-3](#) \*

[K-1](#) \*

[IR3, IH3, IR4, IH4](#)

[IR2, CR2, IR5, F1, F3, F4](#)

[F2A, F2B](#)

[E1](#)

[E2](#)

Employment-Based Immigrants, including (preference group):

- Priority workers [First]
- Professionals Holding Advanced Degrees and Persons of Exceptional Ability [Second]
- Professionals and Other Workers [Third]
- Employment Creation/Investors [Fifth]
- Certain Special Immigrants: [Fourth]

[E3, EW3](#)

[C5, T5, R5, I5](#)

[S \(many\\*\\*\)](#)

[SD, SR](#)

[SI](#)

[SQ](#)

[SQ](#)

Religious Workers

Iraqi and Afghan Translators/Interpreters

Iraqis Who Worked for/on Behalf of the U.S. Government

Afghans Who Worked for/on Behalf of the U.S. Government

**Other Immigrants**

Diversity Immigrant Visa

Returning Resident

[DV](#)

[SB](#)

**Important Notes:**

\***K Visas** – Listed with immigrant visas because they are for immigration related purposes.

**About this chart** - This chart is a list of many immigrant visa categories, but not every immigrant visa category.

\*\*Refer to the Foreign Affairs Manual, [9 FAM 502.1](#) for a listing of all immigrant visa categories.