

*This information made available through the law offices of Nilan Johnson Lewis PA.
250 Marquette Avenue South, Suite 800, Minneapolis, MN 55401*

UP TO 55,000 PERMANENT RESIDENT VISAS WILL BE ISSUED BY THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

The U.S. Department of State will issue up to 55,000 permanent resident visas to natives of countries determined to be “low admission countries” through the diversity immigrant visa lottery program (DV-2025). Attached to this notice is a list of eligible countries sorted by region.

Natives of the following countries are **NOT** eligible to register for visas under the DV-2025 program:

Bangladesh	Colombia	Honduras	Nigeria	Venezuela
Brazil	Dominican Republic	India	Pakistan	Vietnam
Canada	El Salvador	Jamaica	Philippines	
China (including Hong Kong)	Haiti	Mexico	South Korea	

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the DV-2025 program, an individual must generally:

- Be a native of a qualifying “low admission country” by one of the following: born in a qualifying country, married to someone born in a qualifying country, or born to someone who was born in a qualifying country; **AND,**
- Have at least a high school education or its equivalent (i.e., 12-year course of formal elementary and secondary education; GEDs are not considered an equivalent for purposes of DV-2025); **OR,**
- In the past five years, have worked at least two years in an occupation that requires at least two years of training or experience.

REGISTRATION

The State Department will **ONLY** accept **DV-2025 Entry Forms (E-DV Entry Form or Form DS-5501) found at: dvprogram.state.gov**. You must submit your application between **noon Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) (GMT-4), Wednesday, October 4, 2023, and noon Eastern Standard Time (EST) (GMT-5), Tuesday, November 7, 2023**. **The form may ONLY be submitted electronically. Applicants with more than one entry will be disqualified.** A confirmation screen, containing the applicant’s confirmation number and name, will follow successfully submitted entries. Print a copy of the screen; **applicants will need the confirmation number to check their entry status.** There is no cost to apply. The application form will ask applicants to submit the following information:

1. FULL NAME – Last/Family name, First name, Middle name. Enter exactly as listed on passport.
2. GENDER – Male or Female
3. DATE OF BIRTH – Day, Month, Year
4. CITY/TOWN OF BIRTH
5. COUNTRY OF BIRTH – The name of the country should be that which is currently in use.
6. COUNTRY OF ELIGIBILITY – This will usually be the same as country of birth, but if country of eligibility is different from country of birth, such applicants should indicate that they claim eligibility based on the nativity of a spouse or parent, as appropriate (see Eligibility section, above).
7. PHOTOGRAPH(S) - A digital photograph of the applicant, spouse, and each child under 21 years of age, excluding children who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States, must be submitted with the on-line application form. The photograph **MUST** meet the following criteria (entrants may test their photos for suitability through the photo validator link on the e-DV website before submitting entries):

Specifications of the DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH: (1) must be in JPEG format, (2) must be in color, (3) resolution must be 600 pixels by 600 pixels in a square aspect ratio (height must equal width), (4) the maximum image file size accepted is 240 KB. If the photograph is *scanned*, the existing photo must also be 2 inches x 2 inches and must be scanned at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (12 pixels per millimeter).

Specifications of the IMAGE in the photograph: (1) no family or group photos, (2) individual must be directly facing camera with a neutral facial expression, (3) head should not tilt up, down, or to the side, (4) head must be between 1 and 1³/₈ inches (22 mm to 35 mm), (5) head height should be 50-69% of image height, (6) both eyes should be open, (7) background should be white or off-white, (8) image should be in focus, (9) no eyeglasses of any kind, including prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses, or other items that obscure image of face are allowed, (10) items that are for religious purposes (e.g., hats, head coverings, etc.) may be worn *BUT ONLY IF* they do not obscure image of face, (11) uniforms and other non-religious headgear (e.g., tribal headgear, hats) should not be worn.

IMPORTANT: Photographs must have been taken within the six months prior to submission. Photographs that were submitted with a prior year's entry will not be accepted.

8. MAILING ADDRESS - Street Address, City, District/Province/State, Postal/Zip Code, Country.
9. COUNTRY WHERE APPLICANT LIVES TODAY
10. PHONE NUMBER (optional)
11. E-MAIL ADDRESS – Applicants will *not* receive selection letters via email. Instead, selected applicants will respond to the notification through the website (www.dvlottery.state.gov) and will then receive follow-up information from the Department of State at the email address provided.
12. HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION RECEIVED AT THE TIME OF FILING – Indicate which one of the following represents the applicant's highest level of education: (1) primary school only; (2) some high school, no diploma; (3) high school diploma; (4) vocational school; (5) some university courses; (6) university degree; (7) some graduate level courses; (8) master's degree; (9) some doctoral level courses; or (10) doctorate degree.
13. MARITAL STATUS – Current marital status: (1) unmarried, (2) married and spouse is NOT a U.S. citizen or U.S. Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR), (3) married and spouse IS a U.S. citizen or U.S. LPR, (4) divorced, (5) widowed, or (6) legally separated. Enter the name, date of birth, gender, city/town of birth, and country of birth of spouse, and a digital photograph of spouse meeting the same technical specifications as applicant's photo. Applicant must list spouse even if the applicant plans to get divorced before applying for a visa unless legally separated by a court order. Applicant does not need to list spouse if spouse is a U.S. citizen or LPR. Failure to list spouse will result in applicant's disqualification for the visa.
14. NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNMARRIED AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE – Applicant must list Name, Date of Birth, Gender, City/Town of Birth, Country of Birth, and include individual photographs for each child. Applicant must include all living natural children, all living adopted children, and all living step-children who are unmarried and under the age of 21, with the exception of children who are already U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents of the United States, even if the applicant is no longer married to the child's parent, and even if the spouse or child does not currently reside with the applicant and/or will not immigrate with the applicant. Note that married children and children 21 years or older will not qualify for the diversity visa program based on a parent's application. Failure to list all children will result in applicant's disqualification for the visa.

NOTE: Only one application may be submitted by each applicant during this registration period. Submission of more than one application will disqualify the applicant. However, spouses may each submit one application for registration if each independently meets the eligibility requirements. If either is selected, the other would be entitled to obtain permanent residence through the selected spouse.

As a reminder, forms must be submitted electronically between noon Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) (GMT-4), Wednesday, October 4, 2023, and noon Eastern Standard Time (EST) (GMT-5), Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Beginning May 4, 2024, applicants will be able to check their status at dvprogram.state.gov to find out whether their application was selected using their confirmation number by clicking the "Entrant Status Check" link and entering their unique confirmation number and personal information. This is the sole means to find out an applicant's status; applicants will not receive any mail or email notifications. The Department of State will invite selected applicants to submit a formal application for U.S. permanent resident status to the appropriate U.S. Consulate or, if eligible, to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in the United States. If selected, the applicant must file for permanent residence as quickly as possible. Visas issued through the DV-2025 lottery will be issued between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2025.

DV-2025 LIST OF COUNTRIES SORTED BY REGION

AFRICA

Algeria
Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde (Cabo Verde)
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Congo
Congo, Democratic
Republic of the
Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory
Coast)
Djibouti
Egypt (including those
born in the Gaza Strip)
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Eswatini
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia, The
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger

Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
South Sudan
Sudan
Tanzania
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

ASIA

Afghanistan
Bahrain
Bhutan
Brunei
Burma
Cambodia
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Israel
Japan
Jordan (including those
born in the West Bank)
Kuwait
Laos
Lebanon
Malaysia
Maldives
Mongolia
Nepal
North Korea
Oman
Qatar
Saudi Arabia

Singapore
Sri Lanka
Syria (including those born
in Golan Heights)
Taiwan
Thailand
Timor-Leste (East Timor)
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

EUROPE

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark *
Estonia
Finland
France *
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Kazakhstan
Kosovo
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg

Macau, S.A.R.
Macedonia
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands *
Northern Ireland
Norway *
Poland
Portugal *
Romania
Russia (including Southern
Sakhalin)
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tajikistan
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
United Kingdom (including
dependent areas)
Uzbekistan
Vatican City

**SOUTH AMERICA,
CENTRAL AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Barbados
Belize
Bolivia
Chile
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominica
Ecuador

Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
St. Kitts and Nevis
St. Lucia
St. Vincent and the
Grenadines
Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago
Uruguay

OCEANIA

Australia *
Fiji
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Micronesia, Federated
States of
Nauru
New Zealand *
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Tuvalu
Vanuatu

NORTH AMERICA

Bahamas, The

* including components and
dependent areas overseas