

*This information made available through the law offices of Nilan Johnson Lewis PA.  
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## 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-2026). 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-2026 program:

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

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for the DV-2026 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-2026); **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 Entry Forms found at: <https://dvprogram.state.gov/>. You must submit your application between **noon Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) (GMT-4), Wednesday, October 2, 2024, and noon Eastern Standard Time (EST) (GMT-5), Thursday, November 7, 2024.** 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 1 $\frac{3}{8}$  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 glasses, 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 (<https://dvprogram.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 2, 2024, and noon Eastern Standard Time (EST) (GMT-5), Thursday, November 7, 2024.**

**Beginning May 3, 2025,** applicants will be able to check their status at <https://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-2026 lottery will be issued between October 1, 2025 and September 30, 2026.

## DV-2026 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  
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  
Swaziland  
Tanzania  
Togo

Tunisia  
Uganda  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

### ASIA

Afghanistan  
Bahrain  
Bhutan  
Brunei  
Burma  
Cambodia  
East Timor (Timor Leste)  
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  
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  
San Marino  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Tajikistan  
Turkey  
Turkmenistan  
Ukraine  
Uzbekistan  
Vatican City

### SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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