

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION**

**Application for A, G, or NATO Visa,
OMB Number 1405-0100,
DS-1648**

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Why is this collection necessary and what are the legal statutes that allow this?

This collection is necessary for the Department of State to collect the information necessary to adjudicate applications for all A, G, or NATO visas in the United States, excluding applicants for a(n) A-3, G-5, or NATO-7 visa who must apply for such visas using the DS-160 (Online Nonimmigrant Visa Application).

Department regulations that allow eligible applicants to be issued A, G, or NATO visas while in the United States are found at 22 C.F.R. § 41.111(b).

Ambassadors, public ministers, diplomats, consular officers, foreign government officials, their immediate family members, and attendants, servants, and personal employees may apply for category “A” nonimmigrant visas under section 101(a)(15)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(A).

Representatives of recognized foreign governments to international organizations and officers or employees of international organizations, as well as their immediate family members, attendants, servants, or personal employees may apply for category “G” nonimmigrant visas under INA § 101(a)(15)(G), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(G).

Under the [Agreement on the Status of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization \(NATO\), National Representatives and International Staff sign in Ottawa](#) (“Ottawa Agreement”); the [Agreement Between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces](#) (“NATO SOFA”); and the [Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters Set Up Pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty](#) (“Paris Protocol”)—as well as 22 C.F.R. § 41.25—certain individuals may apply for “NATO” nonimmigrant visas to enter the United States.

2. What business purpose is the information gathered going to be used for?

The DS-1648 is used by foreigners applying for a(n) A-1, A-2, G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, or NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, NATO-5, and NATO-6 visa from within the United States.

The Department uses the information gathered in the DS-1648 to issue a new visa to eligible individuals who intend to return to the United States after a temporary trip abroad. The information requested on the form is limited to that which is necessary to determine the eligibility of the applicant to receive such a visa.

3. *Is this collection able to be completed electronically (e.g., through a website or application)?*

The DS-1648 is submitted electronically at <https://ceac.state.gov/agnato>.

4. *Does this collection duplicate any other collection of information?*

The DS-1648 collects some of the same information as the DS-160, which is completed by aliens applying for a new nonimmigrant visa while residing abroad. Only aliens who have previously filed a DS-160 and are applying for subsequent A, G, or NATO visas from within the United States are eligible to complete the DS-1648.

The DS-1648 has an estimated time burden of 30 minutes while the DS-160 has a time burden of 110 minutes. This information collection significantly reduces the burden imposed on eligible foreign diplomats, international civil servants, and U.S. allies while allowing the Department to collect the necessary, up-to-date information required for issuance of an A, G, or NATO visa.

5. *Does this collection impacts small business?*

This information collection does not burden small businesses or other small entities.

6. *What are consequences if this collection is not done?*

Foreigners who entered the United States on an A, G, or NATO visa (excluding the A-3, G-5 and NATO-7 categories), reside within the United States, and are temporarily departing from the United States must complete this collection in

order to return to the United States on a subsequent A, G, or NATO visa, in accordance with federal law and international agreements.

Without this information collection, these aliens would be required to return to their home countries to re-apply for an A, G, or NATO visa. This collection must be available to collect the up-to-date information necessary for issuing a subsequent visa.

7. Are there any special collection circumstances?

No special collection circumstances are associated with this collection.

8. Did the Department solicit public comments on the collection?

The Department will publish a notice in the Federal Register soliciting public comments for a period of 60 days.

9. Are payments or gifts given to the respondents?

No. No payments or gifts are provided to respondents.

10. Are any assurance of privacy/confidentiality provided to respondents?

In accordance with INA section 222(f), 8 U.S.C. § 1202(f), information obtained from applicants in the immigrant visa application process is considered confidential and is to be used only for the formulation, amendment, administration, or enforcement of the immigration, nationality, and other laws of the United States. The statement further notes that, at the discretion of the Secretary of State, copies of visa records may be made available to a court which certifies that the information contained in such records is needed in a case pending before the court.

11. Are any questions of a sensitive nature asked?

The form does not seek personal information of a sensitive nature.

12. What is the hour time burden and the hour cost burden on the respondent needed to complete this collection?

Approximately 17,000 responses are received by the Department annually, based on the average number of applications processed for the past three fiscal years. The Department estimates that the time burden for the form is 30 minutes. This means the annual hour burden estimate is 8,500 hours (17,000 responses x 30 minutes = 8,500 hours).

To calculate the hour cost burden, we use the following formula:

$$(\text{annual hour time burden}) \times (\text{median U.S. hourly wage estimate}^1) = \text{Hour Cost Burden}$$

This gives us a total hour cost burden of \$202,300 (8,500 hours x \$23.80).

13. What is the monetary burden to respondents (out of pocket costs) needed to complete this collection?

Respondents are required to print the confirmation page containing the application barcode/record locator. This results in a minimal cost of approximately 25 cents per application. The total estimated out of pocket cost for this information collection is \$4,250 (17,000 annual responses x \$0.25).

14. What are the costs incurred by the Federal Government to complete this collection?

The Department of State's Cost of Service Model (CoSM) estimates the cost value for data intake and review is approximately \$145.51 per visa application. With 17,000 responses, the total estimated cost incurred by the federal government is \$2,473,670. This figure encompasses the time associated with form review, records management, system checks, and all related activities within "Data Intake and Review."

15. Are there any changes/adjustments to this collection since the previous submission?

The Department is making the following changes to the collection:

- Providing additional instructions on the DS-1648 landing page.
- Adding a question to the Passport page: "Do you currently hold, or have you previously held, nationality of another country other than specified above?" [Yes/No].
- If yes, adding the following field and question:

¹ Please note a wage multiplier is not included in this calculation as the wage estimate accounts for the total per hour cost to the employer, including benefits, rather than the gross income received by the employee.

- o “Other Country/Region of Origin (Nationality)”
AND
- o “Do you hold a passport for the other country/region of origin (nationality) indicated above?” [Yes/No]
→ If yes, provide the following information:
“Passport Number” [text box].

16. Will any data gathered by this collection be published?

No. The data gathered by this collection will not be published, however, a quantitative summary of all Department of State visa activities is published in the annual Report of the Visa Office. The Report of the Visa Office is an annual report providing statistical information on immigrant and non-immigrant visa issuances by consular offices, as well as information on the use of visa numbers in numerically limited categories. The Visa Office currently has annual reports available from 2000 to 2024. The link to the site is:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-statistics.html>.

17. Will the OMB expiration date be displayed?

Yes. The Department will display the OMB expiration date on the collection.

18. Are any exceptions to the OMB certification statement being sought?

No. The Department is not seeking exceptions to the OMB certification statement.

B. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This collection does not employ statistical methods.