

VISA DOCUMENT GUIDE / 2026 EDITION

United States

A clear, beautifully organised checklist for your application.

The United States issues sticker visas only after an in-person interview at a US consulate. The DS-160 form, the interview appointment and a strong document file are the three things that decide the outcome.

VISA TYPE

Sticker visa (consular interview)

ENTRY

Multiple entry (most categories)

VALIDITY

Up to 10 years for B-1/B-2

Application essentials

VISA TYPE

Sticker visa (consular interview)

ENTRY

Multiple entry (most categories)

VALIDITY

Up to 10 years for B-1/B-2

STAY

Decided by the officer at entry, usually up to 6 months

BIOMETRICS

Mandatory at the VAC

Photograph specification

- 1 51 x 51 mm (2 x 2 inch) square photograph
- 2 Plain white background, head centred
- 3 Taken within the last 6 months
- 4 No glasses, no uniforms, neutral expression

Eligibility checklist

- ☐ A valid passport with sufficient remaining validity
- ☐ A completed DS-160 for every traveller, including infants
- ☐ Demonstrable financial capacity for the trip
- ☐ Clear ties to your home country such as job, family or property

DOCUMENTS TO PREPARE

Complete checklist

REQUIRED FOR EVERY APPLICANT

- ☐ **Passport**
Valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay, with 2 blank pages. Carry old passports too.
- ☐ **DS-160 confirmation page**
Printed confirmation with the barcode, matching the details on your passport.
- ☐ **Appointment confirmation**
VAC biometrics appointment and consular interview appointment letters.
- ☐ **Photograph**
One 51 x 51 mm photo on a white background, uploaded and carried in print.

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

- ☐ **Bank statements**
Last 6 months, bank-stamped or e-statements with the bank logo and IFSC visible.
- ☐ **Income tax returns**
ITR acknowledgement for the last 2 to 3 assessment years.
- ☐ **Salary slips**
Last 3 months for salaried applicants.
- ☐ **Proof of funds**
Fixed deposits, investments or a sponsor letter with the sponsor's own statements.

OCCUPATION PROOF

- ☐ **Employed**
Leave sanction letter on company letterhead, employment certificate and ID card copy.
- ☐ **Self-employed**
Business registration / GST certificate, company bank statements and partnership deed if applicable.
- ☐ **Student**
Bonafide certificate from the school or college plus latest mark sheet.
- ☐ **Retired**
Pension order or retirement proof, plus proof of savings.

DOCUMENTS TO PREPARE

Complete checklist

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- ☐ **Confirmed flight itinerary**
Round-trip booking showing entry and exit dates.
- ☐ **Accommodation proof**
Hotel bookings for the full stay, or a host invitation with their address proof.
- ☐ **Day-wise itinerary**
Cities, dates and planned activities for the full trip.

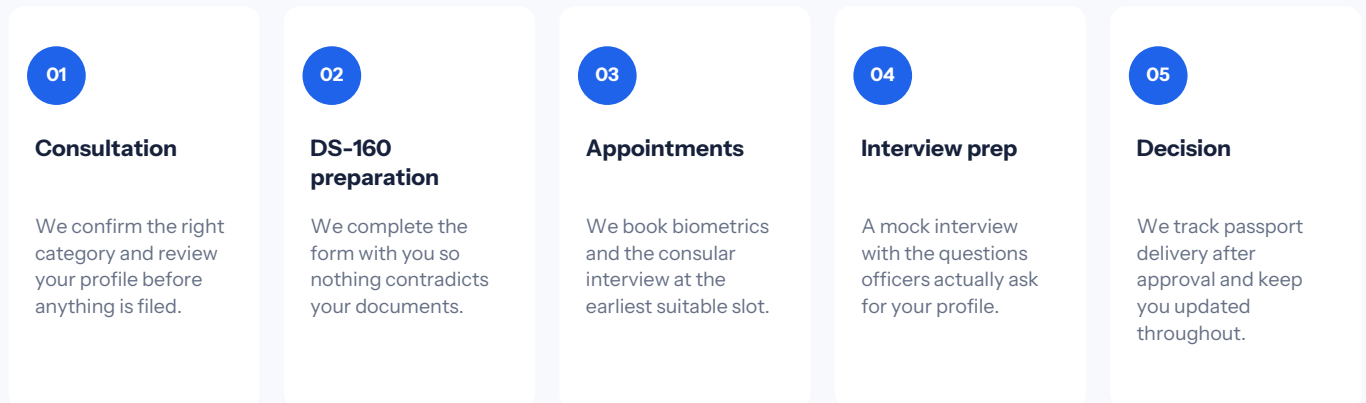
PURPOSE-SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS

- ☐ **Tourist (B-2)**
Trip plan, proof of ties to India such as property papers or family responsibilities, and invitation letter if visiting relatives.
- ☐ **Business (B-1)**
Invitation from the US company, letter from your employer stating the purpose and who bears the trip cost, and conference registration if applicable.
- ☐ **Student (F-1)**
Form I-20 from a SEVP-approved school, SEVIS fee receipt, academic transcripts, test scores and proof of tuition funding.
- ☐ **Work (H-1B / L-1)**
Approved I-797 petition notice, employment contract, qualification certificates and experience letters.

FINAL REVIEW & NEXT STEPS

Before you submit

Application journey



Important to know

- Every traveller, including children, needs their own DS-160 and interview appointment in most cases.
- Answers given in the interview must match the DS-160 exactly.
- Previous US refusals should be declared; hiding them causes further problems.

READY WHEN YOU ARE

Let's make your file submission-ready.

Start your application at imigro.com. Our team will tailor this checklist to your profile, travel purpose and circumstances.