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Revisions to Presidential Proclamation 9645

April 10, 2018

On April 10, a new Presidential Proclamation (P.P.) was issued which amended P.P. 9645 of September 24, 2017. The new P.P. removes the visa restrictions imposed on nationals of Chad by the earlier P.P. This change will be effective at 12:01a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on Friday, April 13, 2018. All other visa restrictions outlined in P.P. 9645 remain in effect.

Additional Background:

The President issued Presidential Proclamation 9645, titled "Enhancing Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry into the United States by Terrorists or other Public-Safety Threats," on September 24, 2017. Per Section 2 of Executive Order 13780 of March 6, 2017 (Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry Into The United States), a global review was conducted to determine what additional information is needed from each foreign country to assess whether foreign nationals who seek to enter the United States pose a security or safety threat. As part of that review, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) developed a comprehensive set of criteria to evaluate the information-sharing practices, policies, and capabilities of foreign governments on a worldwide basis. At the end of that review, which included a 50-day period of engagement with foreign governments aimed at improving their information sharing practices, there were seven countries whose information sharing practices were determined to be "inadequate" and for which the President deemed it necessary to impose certain restrictions on the entry of nonimmigrants and immigrants who are nationals of these countries. The President also deemed it necessary to impose restrictions on one country due to the "special concerns" it presented. These restrictions are considered important to addressing the threat these existing information-sharing deficiencies, among other things, present to the security and welfare of the United States and pressuring host governments to remedy these deficiencies.

As a result of the April 10 Proclamation, nationals of seven countries are currently subject to various travel restrictions contained in the Proclamation, as outlined in the following table, subject to exceptions and waivers set forth in the Proclamation.

Country	Nonimmigrant Visas	Immigrant and Diversity Visas
Iran	No nonimmigrant visas except F, M, and J visas	No immigrant or diversity visas
Libya	No B-1, B-2, and B-1/B-2 visas	No immigrant or diversity visas
North	No nonimmigrant visas	No immigrant or

AILA Doc. No. 18041331. (Posted 4/13/18)

- growing demand for visas**

- Final Rule: Issuance of Full Validity L Visas to Qualified Applicants**

- Capitalizing on Visa Demand to Spur Economic Growth in the United States**

- State Department Supports Global Travel Growth**

- Diversity Visa Program (DV-2013) Registration**

- Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) - Visa Annotations for Certain Maritime Industry Workers**

- Diversity Visa Lottery (DV-2012) Registration**

- Department of Homeland Security Announced ESTA Fee Implementation, Effective September 8**

- Immigrant Visa Application Fees to Increase July 13, 2010**

- Nonimmigrant Visa Application Fees to Increase June 4**

- Proposal to Change Some Fees for Consular Services**

- Effective January 4, 2010 HIV Infection is Removed from the CDC List of Communicable Diseases of Public Health Significance**

- Proposal to Increase**

Korea		diversity visas
Somalia		No immigrant or diversity visas
Syria	No nonimmigrant visas	No immigrant or diversity visas
Venezuela	No B-1, B-2 or B-1/B-2 visas of any kind for officials of the following government agencies Ministry of Interior, Justice, and Peace; the Administrative Service of Identification, Migration, and Immigration; the Corps of Scientific Investigations, Judicial and Criminal; the Bolivarian Intelligence Service; and the People's Power Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and their immediate family members.	
Yemen	No B-1, B-2, and B-1/B-2 visas	No immigrant or diversity visas

In accordance with P.P. 9645, for nationals of the seven designated countries, a consular officer will determine whether an applicant otherwise eligible for a visa is exempt from the Proclamation or, if not, may be eligible for a waiver under the Proclamation allowing issuance of a visa.

No visas will be revoked pursuant to P.P. 9645. Individuals subject to P.P. 9645 who possess a valid visa or valid travel document generally will be permitted to travel to the United States, irrespective of when the visa was issued.

We will keep those traveling to the United States and our partners in the travel industry informed as we implement the order in a professional, organized, and timely way.

[FAQs on the Presidential Proclamation - Department of Homeland Security](#)

[The President's Proclamation on Enhancing Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats \(September 24, 2017\)](#)

[Presidential Proclamation Maintaining Enhanced Vetting Capabilities and Processes for Detecting Attempted Entry into the United States by Terrorists or Other Public-Safety Threats \(April 10, 2018\)](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Why were the visa restrictions against Chad removed in the April 10 Presidential Proclamation?

As part of a periodic review of countries as directed in Executive Order 13780, Chad was found to meet the baseline criteria established by the Department of Homeland Security. Specifically, Chad has made significant progress toward modernizing its passport documents, regularizing processes for routine sharing of criminal and terrorist threat information, and improving procedures for reporting of lost and stolen passports.

What are the exceptions in the Proclamation?

The following exceptions apply to nationals from all eight countries and will not be subject to any travel restrictions listed in the Proclamation:

- a) Any national who was in the United States on the applicable effective date described in Section 7 of the Proclamation for that national, regardless of immigration status;
- b) Any national who had a valid visa on the applicable effective date in Section 7 of the Proclamation for that national;
- c) Any national who qualifies for a visa or other valid travel document under section 6(d) of the Proclamation;
- d) Any lawful permanent resident (LPR) of the United States;

Nonimmigrant Visa Application Fees	<p>e) Any national who is admitted to or paroled into the United States on or after the applicable effective date in Section 7 of the Proclamation for that national;</p>
Diversity Visa Lottery (DV-2011) Registration	<p>f) Any applicant who has a document other than a visa, valid on the applicable effective date in Section 7 of the Proclamation for that applicant or issued on any date thereafter, that permits him or her to travel to the United States and seek entry or admission, such as advance parole;</p>
Visa Waiver Program (VWP) emergency or temporary passports must be electronic passports (e-Passports)	<p>g) Any dual national of a country designated under the Proclamation when traveling on a passport issued by a non-designated country;</p> <p>h) Any applicant traveling on a diplomatic (A-1 or A-2) or diplomatic-type visa (of any classification), NATO-1 -6 visas, C-2 visa for travel to the United Nations, or G-1, G-2, G-3, or G-4 visa; except certain Venezuelan government officials and their family members traveling on a diplomatic-type B-1, B-2, or B1/B2 visas</p> <p>i) Any applicant who has been granted asylum; admitted to the United States as a refugee; or has been granted withholding of removal, advance parole, or protection under the Convention Against Torture.</p>
Legal Rights and Protections for Certain Employment or Education-based Nonimmigrants— Notice: Informational Pamphlet is Now Available!	<p>Exceptions and waivers listed in the Proclamation are applicable for qualified applicants. In all visa adjudications, consular officers may seek additional information, as warranted, to determine whether an exception or a waiver is available.</p> <p><i>If a principal visa applicant qualifies for an exception or a waiver under the Proclamation, does a derivative also get the benefit of the exception or waiver?</i></p> <p>Each applicant, who is otherwise eligible, can only benefit from an exception or a waiver if he or she individually meets the conditions of the exception or waiver.</p>
President Obama signs into law, an extension for “SR” nonminister special immigrant religious workers	<p><i>Does the Proclamation apply to dual nationals?</i></p> <p>This Proclamation does not restrict the travel of dual nationals, so long as they are traveling on the passport of a non-designated country.</p>
Nonminister Special Immigrant Religious Worker Program Expiration	<p>Our embassies and consulates around the world will process visa applications and issue nonimmigrant and immigrant visas to otherwise eligible visa applicants who apply with a passport from a non-designated country, even if they hold dual nationality from one of the eight restricted countries.</p>
President Bush Announces Visa Waiver Program Expansion - VWP travel begins November 17	<p><i>Does this apply to U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents?</i></p> <p>No. As stated in the Proclamation, lawful permanent residents of the United States are not affected by the Proclamation</p> <p><i>Are there special rules for permanent residents of Canada?</i></p>
Department of State Announces Diversity Visa Lottery (DV-2010) Registration	<p>Waivers may not be granted categorically to any group of nationals of the eight countries who are subject to visa restrictions pursuant to the Proclamation, but waivers may be appropriate in individual circumstances, on a case-by-case basis. The Proclamation lists several circumstances in which case-by-case waivers may be appropriate. That list includes foreign nationals who are Canadian permanent residents who apply for visas at a U.S. consular section in Canada. Canadian permanent residents should bring proof of their status to a consular officer.</p>
DHS Announces Implementation of the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) for Visa Waiver Program (VWP) Travelers	<p>A consular officer will carefully review each case to determine whether the applicant is affected by the Proclamation during each phase of the implementation and, if so, whether the applicant qualifies for an exception or a waiver.</p> <p><i>Will you process waivers for those affected by the Proclamation? How do I qualify for a waiver to be issued a visa?</i></p>
USCIS Announces a Proposal to Increase Periods of Stay for TN	<p>As specified in the Proclamation, consular officers may issue a visa based on a listed waiver category to nationals of countries identified in the PP on a case-by-case basis, when they determine: that issuance is in the national interest, the applicant poses no national security or public safety threat to the United States, and denial of the visa would cause undue hardship. There is no separate application for a waiver. An</p>

Professional Workers from Canada or Mexico

individual who seeks to travel to the United States should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might demonstrate that he or she is eligible for a waiver.

New York Business Group Seeks Fewer Restrictions on Foreign Worker Visas

What is a "close family member" for the purposes of determining if someone is eligible for a waiver?

Section 201(b) of the INA provides a definition of immediate relative, which is used to interpret the term "close family member" as used in the waiver category. This limits the relationship to spouses, children under the age of 21, and parents. While the INA definition includes only children, spouses, and parents of a U.S. citizen, in the context of the Presidential Proclamation it also includes these relationships with LPRs and aliens lawfully admitted on a valid nonimmigrant visa in addition to U.S. citizens.

Overseas Education More Attainable for Chinese Students

Immigration Tops Agenda at North American Summit

Can those needing urgent medical care in the United States still qualify for a visa?

Applicants who are otherwise qualified and seeking urgent medical care in the United States may be eligible for an exception or a waiver. Any individual who seeks to travel to the United States should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might qualify the individual for an exception or waiver. A consular officer will carefully review each case to determine whether the applicant is affected by the Proclamation, and if so, whether the case qualifies for an exception or a waiver.

The Department of State Meeting with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)

The Proclamation provides several examples of categories of cases that may be appropriate for consideration for a waiver, on a case-by-case basis, when in the national interest, when entry would not threaten national security or public safety, and denial would cause undue hardship. Among the examples provided, a foreign national who seeks to enter the United States for urgent medical care may be considered for a waiver.

USCIS Modifies Application for Employment Authorization Previous Versions of Form I-765 Accepted until July 8, 2008

I'm a student or short-term employee that was temporarily outside of the United States when the Proclamation went into effect. Can I return to school/work?

If you have a valid, unexpired visa and are outside the United States, you can return to school or work per the exception noted in the Proclamation.

DHS Proposes Biometric Airport and Seaport Exit Procedures

If you do not have a valid, unexpired visa and do not qualify for an exception you will need to qualify for the visa and a waiver. An individual who wishes to apply for a nonimmigrant visa should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might demonstrate that he or she is eligible for a waiver per the Proclamation. A consular officer will carefully review each case to determine whether the applicant is affected by the Proclamation and, if so, whether the case qualifies for a waiver.

DHS Signs Visa Waiver Program Agreement with Korea

I received my immigrant visa but I haven't yet entered the United States. Can I still travel there using my immigrant visa?

The Proclamation provides specifically that no visas issued before the effective date of the Proclamation will be revoked pursuant to the Proclamation, and it does not apply to nationals of affected countries who have valid visas on the date it becomes effective.

USCIS Issues Guidance for Approved Violence against Women Act (VAWA) Self-Petitioners

I recently had my immigrant visa interview at a U.S. embassy or consulate overseas, but my case is still being considered. What will happen now?

If your visa application was refused under Section 221(g) pending updated supporting documents or administrative processing, you should proceed to submit your documentation. After receiving any required missing documentation or completion of any administrative processing, the U.S. embassy or consulate where you were interviewed will contact you with more information.

USCIS to Allow F-1 Students Opportunity to Request Change of Status

I am currently working on my case with NVC. Can I continue?

Yes. You should continue to pay fees, complete your Form DS-260 immigrant visa applications, and submit your financial and civil supporting documents to NVC. NVC

AILA Doc. No. 18041331. (Posted 4/13/18)

USCIS Runs Random Selection Process for H-1B Petitions

USCIS Announces Update for Processing Petitions for Nonimmigrant Victims of Criminal Activity	<p>will continue reviewing cases and scheduling visa interviews overseas. During the interview, a consular officer will carefully review the case to determine whether the applicant is affected by the Proclamation and, if so, whether the case qualifies for an exception or may qualify for a waiver.</p> <p><i>What immigrant visa classes are subject to the Proclamation?</i></p> <p>All immigrant visa classifications for nationals of Chad, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Syria, Yemen, and Somalia are subject to the Proclamation and restricted. All immigrant visa classifications for nationals of Venezuela are unrestricted. An individual who wishes to apply for an immigrant visa should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might demonstrate that he or she is eligible for an exception or waiver per the Proclamation. A consular officer will carefully review each case to determine whether the applicant is affected by the Proclamation and, if so, whether the case qualifies for an exception or a waiver.</p>
USCIS Releases Preliminary Number of FY 2009 H-1B Cap Filings	
USCIS Revises Filing Instructions for Petition for Alien Relative	<p><i>I sponsored my family member for an immigrant visa, and his interview appointment is after the effective date of the Proclamation. Will he still be able to receive a visa?</i></p> <p>All immigrant visa classifications for nationals of Chad, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Syria, Yemen, and Somalia are subject to the Presidential Proclamation and suspended. An individual who wishes to apply for an immigrant visa should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might demonstrate that he or she is eligible for an exception or waiver per the Proclamation. A consular officer will carefully review each case to determine whether the applicant is affected by the Proclamation and, if so, whether the applicant qualifies for an exception or a waiver.</p> <p><i>I am applying for a K (fiancé) visa. My approved I-129 petition is only valid for four months. Can you expedite my case?</i></p> <p>The National Visa Center already expedites all Form I-129F petitions to embassies and consulates overseas. Upon receipt of the petition and case file, the embassy or consulate will contact you with instructions on scheduling your interview appointment.</p> <p><i>I received my Diversity Visa but I haven't yet entered the United States. Can I still travel there using my Diversity Visa?</i></p> <p>The Proclamation provides specifically that no visas issued before the effective date of the Proclamation will be revoked pursuant to the Proclamation, and it does not apply to nationals of affected countries who have valid visas on the date it becomes effective.</p> <p><i>I recently had my Diversity Visa interview at a U.S. embassy or consulate overseas, but my case is still being considered. What will happen now?</i></p> <p>If your visa application was refused under Section 221(g) pending updated supporting documents or administrative processing, please provide the requested information. The U.S. embassy or consulate where you were interviewed will contact you with more information.</p> <p><i>Will my case move to the back of the line for an appointment?</i></p> <p>No. KCC schedules appointments by Lottery Rank Number. When KCC is able to schedule your visa interview, you will receive an appointment before cases with higher Lottery Rank Numbers.</p> <p><i>I am currently working on my case with KCC. Can I continue?</i></p> <p>Yes. You should continue to complete your Form DS-260 immigrant visa application. KCC will continue reviewing cases and can qualify your case for an appointment. You will be notified about the scheduling of a visa interview.</p>
USCIS to Accept H-1B Petitions Sent to California or Vermont Service Centers Temporary Accommodation Made for FY 09 Cap-Subject H-1B Petitions	
17-Month Extension of Optional Practical Training for Certain Highly Skilled Foreign Students	
Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption Enters into Force	
USCIS Extends Comment Period for Proposed Change to H-2A Program	
USCIS Revises Filing Instructions for Petition for Alien Relative	
Questions and Answers: USCIS Announces Interim Rule on H-1B Visas	
Fact Sheet: Changes to the FY2009 H-1B Program	
USCIS Announces Interim Rule on H-	

1B Visas

DHS Signs Visa Waiver Program Agreements with Slovakia, Hungary and Lithuania

Latvia, Estonia Sign Deals with US on Visa-Free Travel

With All the Talk about Illegal Immigration, a Look at the Legal Kind

Update: Biometric Changes for Re-entry Permits and Refugee Travel Documents

Testimony of Stephen A. "Tony" Edson on U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Science and Technology Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, House Committee on Science and Technology

DHS Proposes Changes to Improve H-2A Temporary Agricultural Worker Program

Briefing on Developments in the Iraqi Refugee and Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) Admissions Programs

Senior Advisors to Brief Press on the Latest Developments in Iraqi Refugee and Special Immigrant Visa Issues

DHS Begins Collecting 10 Fingerprints from

What if my spouse or child is a national of one of the countries listed, but I am not?

KCC will continue to schedule new DV interview appointments for nationals of the affected countries. A national of any of those countries applying as a principal or derivative DV applicant should disclose during the visa interview any information that might qualify the individual for a waiver/exception. Note that DV 2018 visas, including derivative visas, can only be issued during the program year, which ends September 30, 2018, and only if visa numbers remain available. There is no guarantee a visa will be available in the future for your derivative spouse or child.

What if I am a dual national or permanent resident of Canada?

This Proclamation does not restrict the travel of dual nationals, so long as they are traveling on the passport of a non-designated country. You may apply for a DV using the passport of a non-designated country even if you selected the nationality of a designated country when you entered the lottery. Also, permanent residents of Canada applying for DVs in Montreal may be eligible for a waiver per the Proclamation, but will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If you believe one of these exceptions, or a waiver included in the Proclamation, applies to you and your otherwise current DV case has not been scheduled for interview, contact the U.S. embassy or consulate where your interview will take place/KCC at KCCDV@state.gov.

Does this Proclamation affect follow-to-join asylees?

The Proclamation does not affect V92 applicants, follow-to-join asylees.

I've heard that the Department of State does not grant waivers of the Proclamation. Is this correct?

This information is incorrect. As specified in the Proclamation, consular officers may issue a visa to nationals of countries covered by the Proclamation with a waiver on a case-by-case basis, when they determine: that issuance is in the national interest, the applicant poses no national security or public safety threat to the United States, and denial of the visa would cause undue hardship. There is no separate application for a waiver. An individual who seeks to travel to the United States should apply for a visa and disclose during the visa interview any information that might demonstrate that he or she is eligible for a waiver. From December 8, 2017 through April 1, 2018, more than 430 applicants were cleared for waivers after a consular officer determined the applicants satisfied all criteria and completed all required processing. Many of those applicants already have received their visas.

**International
Visitors at
Hartsfield-Jackson
Atlanta International
Airport**

**USCIS Extends
Suspension of
Premium
Processing Service
for Religious
Workers (R-1)
Nonimmigrant Visa
Classification**

**USCIS Field Office
Adopts Teletch
Call Appointment
System For Filing
Waiver of
Inadmissibility
Applications**

**Application Fees for
Non-Immigrant
Visas to Increase on
January 1, 2008**

**Electronic
Submission of
Diversity Visa
Lottery Applications**

**U.S. security
officials will begin
scanning all 10
fingerprints of most
non-Americans
traveling to the
United States**

**U.S. Student Visas
Reach Record
Numbers in 2007**

**Record Numbers of
U.S. Students Are
Studying Abroad**

**USCIS Centralizes
Filing for H-2A
Petitions**

**MEDIA NOTE:
Proposal for
Increase of Non-
Immigrant Visa
Application Fees**

**Diversity Visa
Program (DV-2014)
Registration**

**DHS Announces
Visa Waiver
Program Expansion
to Include Taiwan**

**USCIS Announces
New Immigrant Fee**

**USCIS Announces
Process Changes
for Waivers of
Inadmissibility for
Certain Relatives of
U.S. Citizens**

**Department of State
transitions to online
immigrant visa
application**

**Diversity Visa
Program (DV-2015)
Registration**

**Department of State
Transitions to DS-
160 for K Visa
Applications**

**Afghan SIV Program
Update**

**Reports on the
Status of the Iraqi
and Afghan Special
Immigrant Visa
(SIV) Programs**

**Afghan SIV Program
Update**

**Afghan SIV Program
Extended**

**Afghan SIV Program
Update**

**The United States
and China to Extend
Visas for Short-term
Business Travelers,
Tourists, and
Students**

**National Visa
Center Meeting with
the American
Immigration
Lawyers
Association (AILA)**

**Visa Office Meeting
with the American
Immigration
Lawyers
Association (AILA)**

**White House Call
for Ideas: Help
Shape a Federal
Immigrant and
Refugee Integration
Strategy**

**All Cuban Family
Reunification Parole
(CFRP) Program
appointments will
be rescheduled by
the National Visa
Center (NVC) after
February 1, 2015**

**Child Status
Protection Act: Q&A
from the IIUSA 2015
EB-5 Regional
Economic Advisory
Conference**

**National Visa
Center Meeting with
the American
Immigration
Lawyers
Association (AILA)**

**Mexican IV Cases:
Change to
Document
Submission Rules**

**U.S. Embassy
Bishkek to Begin
Interviewing IV
Customers**

**Ink Signature No
Longer Required on
Affidavits of
Support
(12/28/2016)**

**Presidential
Proclamation on
Visas**

**USCIS Role in the
Visa Process**

**Meeting between
the American
Immigration**

**Lawyers
Association (AILA)
Department of State
Liaison Committee
and the Visa Office
of the U.S.
Department of
State, Bureau of
Consular Affairs**

**National Visa
Center Meeting with
American
Immigration
Lawyers
Association (AILA)**

**U.S. Visas News -
Archive**

**Mission India
Immigrant Visa
Processing
Consolidation**

**Revisions to
Presidential
Proclamation 9645**

**The Department of
State Meeting with
the American
Immigration
Lawyers
Association (AILA)**

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