

NOV 28 2016



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Directors, Field Operations
Director, Preclearance
Office of Field Operations

FROM: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Executive Director
Admissibility and Passenger Program
Office of Field Operations

SUBJECT: Electronic Visa Update System Field Guidance

On October 20, 2016, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published a notice in the Federal Register (FR) amending regulations to formally establish the Electronic Visa Update System (EVUS). EVUS is a web based system, similar to the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA), which allows for the collection of biographic and other information from nonimmigrant aliens who hold a passport issued by an identified country containing a U.S. nonimmigrant visa of a designated category. Individuals subject to the EVUS requirement must enroll in the program in order to maintain visa validity.

The EVUS requirement will initially be limited to nonimmigrant aliens who hold unrestricted, B-1 (business visitor), B-2 (visitor for pleasure), or combination B-1/B-2 visas, with ten year validity periods in a passport issued by the People's Republic of China (PRC). The requirement does not include Macau and Hong Kong.

Travelers have been submitting enrollments in EVUS since October 20, 2016. The EVUS enrollment requirement will become mandatory for **ALL** modes of entry into the United States on November 29, 2016 at 12:01AM EST. Travelers who board a vessel or aircraft must be enrolled in EVUS prior to embarkation or enrolled in EVUS prior to admission at a land border port of entry (POE) after this date. Due to numerous time zones throughout the world, a person may board and aircraft or get an approved boarding pass prior to November 29. CBP officers may encounter travelers on the 29th and 30th that may not have an EVUS. These travelers, upon arrival into the United States, will not require to be enrolled in EVUS and may be admitted without enrollment when seeking admission. After that time, EVUS will be mandatory.

Failure to successfully enroll in EVUS results in a 'provisionally' revoked visa which will not be valid for entry until such time as the traveler has successfully enrolled in EVUS. Once successfully enrolled in EVUS, the visa again becomes valid for travel. (b) (7)(E)

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Carriers are required to verify EVUS status prior to boarding a passenger on an aircraft or vessel to the United States. (b) (7)(E)

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At land border POEs, travelers must have a valid EVUS prior to admission. (b) (7)(E)

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Final determination regarding admission is the discretion of the POE.

Please ensure that the memorandum and muster are disseminated to all POEs within your area of responsibility. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Program Manager, ESTA at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Attachment