

## Information on Inviting a Family Member or Friend to the USA

This form contains information on how to request that your family member or friend visit the United States on a B Visitor visa. For the most accurate and updated information, *please visit the U.S. Embassy website of the city/country your family member/friend will apply.*

### **B2 Tourist Visa**

Intended for tourist activities, such as sightseeing, visiting friends and relatives, obtaining medical treatment, etc. B visas are not valid for study or employment in the U.S. Applicants for a B visa must demonstrate for a temporary visit to the US, solely for the purpose of tourism and/or short-term business. Applicants must also demonstrate sufficient funds to cover travel expenses during their stay in the U.S.; as well as sufficient social, economic, and other ties to their home country.

**All B1/B2 applicants should prepare to present the following documentation and any other relevant information at the time of the interview:**

1. **Valid Passport:** If the applicant's passport will expire less than 6 months from the planned arrival date in the U.S., is damaged, or does not have a page for a visa, the applicant must get a new passport before the interview.
2. **The DS-160 application form confirmation page.** This is the form to apply for a visa and is different in every country. Please check the information on the U.S. Embassy or Consulate website where the applicant will apply.
3. **Photograph(s)**-Passport style
4. **Application Fee or Original Bank Receipt for the Application Fee**
5. **Passports containing all previous U.S. visas, even if expired.**
6. **Evidence of Why the Applicant Will Return to their Home Country:** Proof of economic, social, family or other commitments that will help demonstrate that the applicant intends to return to his/her home country after a temporary stay in the U.S.
7. **Proof of Finances:** Proof that that the applicant can support himself/herself during the entire stay in the U.S. without working, e.g. pay statement that shows regular monthly salary & bank books with regular history of deposits and withdrawals, etc.
8. **Invitation Letter Written by Student:** WOU students or scholars can help invite their family member by writing a letter inviting the applicant and include the purpose of travel, and planned itinerary or schedule while in the United States. OIED staff do not write invitation letters.
  - The applicant will also need to provide proof of a genuine, ongoing relationship with the person they are inviting to the US. A birth certificate, family record, photos with the family members in recent years, may be helpful to prove family/friendship relationship.
9. **Proof of Current F-1/J-1 Immigration Status:** The WOU student or scholar should also provide information about his/her immigration status in the U.S. including a copy of his/her passport, U.S. Visa, I-94 record, and I-20/DS-2019.
  - It is also a good idea to get proof of being a full-time student at Western Oregon University by getting an Enrollment Verification letter from the Registrar's Office in the WOU Administration building.

**Note:** B Tourist visas are usually granted for six months or less. For more information or additional documents for a visitor visa, please visit: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visitor.html>

The above items should not be considered an exhaustive list and presentation of these documents does not guarantee visa issuance. The applicant should be prepared to explain to the visa officer and present evidence regarding why they are going to the US and why they will return home.

**Please visit the U.S. Embassy website of the city/country your family member/friend will apply for more detailed and most up to date information about applying.**