



American Embassy Consular Section
Dakar, Senegal

How to Obtain a Non-Immigrant Visa Interview for U.S. Government-Sponsored Travel

We encourage all non-immigrant visa applicants to schedule their interviews by calling the U.S. Visa Information Service (USVIS) at (+221) 33-869-63-00. USVIS also offers information about the visa application process. Applicants whose travel is funded by the U.S. government may also request an interview without an appointment, if they have proper documentation regarding their purpose of travel. Read on for more information about these two options:

U.S. Visa Information Service

This is a user-pays service and the charge is 7,800 CFA for 9 minutes. Unused minutes can be reused at a later time. Pre-paid PIN cards are available at vendors throughout Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea, Mauritania, and Sierra Leone. For a complete list of vendors, please click on the link to right. If you cannot purchase a card yourself, someone can purchase one for you and email/call you with the PIN number. Telephone charges for domestic or international long-distance calls, including cell phone charges, are solely the responsibility of the caller.

When scheduling your visa appointment, you must provide biographic information from your passport. Please have your passport with you when you call. Appointments are scheduled by USVIS a first-come, first-served basis.

The appointment backlog varies during the year according to seasonal demands, so we recommend that applicants apply as far in advance as possible. For the latest NIV interview wait times, please click on the NIV Interview Wait Times link to the right.

Contact the Consular Section Directly

If you would like to request an appointment outside of the schedule with USVIS, please follow these instructions carefully. Because of the high demand for appointments and our limited staff and resources, we are only able to accommodate applicants whose travel is funded by the U.S. federal government. Travelers sponsored by a state, city, or other local government must schedule their appointments through USVIS.

The sponsoring agency should send us a letter, preferably on their letterhead, explaining their sponsorship of your travel. This letter should be sent to the attention of the NIV Chief by email (consulardakar@state.gov) or fax (+221-33-823-5903). The letter should include: (1) the name of the federal government agency that is sponsoring the travel, (2) the date of intended travel, (3) the names of all travelers that plan on applying for visas in Dakar, and (4) the email address and telephone number for each applicant. If several applicants plan to travel for the same purpose, one letter is sufficient.

For J visas, the applicant should drop off his/her application, along with the approved DS-2019, directly at the Consular Section, from Monday to Thursday between 14:00 and 16:00. Applicants will usually be seen the following Wednesday afternoon.

Please note that all applicants must submit the [Electronic Visa Application Form \(EVAF\)](#) version of the DS-156. Forms DS-156 completed by hand will not be accepted.