Proskauer

2021 Immigrant Visa Lottery Opens on October 2

September 25, 2019

The Diversity Visa (DV) Lottery Registration for 2021 opens Wednesday, October 2, 2019. Entries must be submitted electronically at: https://www.dvlottery.state.gov/ between noon on October 2, 2019, and noon on November 5, 2019, Eastern Standard Time. Qualified applicants are strongly encouraged to register as early as possible. Heavy demand may result in system delays in the final days of the registration period. Only one entry per person – multiple entries will result in disqualification.

The DV Lottery is administered annually by the Department of State, and provides immigrant visas (green cards) each year to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the U.S. This year there are 55,000 DVs available. The visas are distributed among six geographic regions, with a greater number of visas going to regions with lower rates of immigration, and with no visas going to natives of countries sending more than 50,000 immigrants to the U.S. in the past five years.

Who Can Enter?

Natives of the following countries are not eligible to apply: Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born), Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories, and Vietnam.

Natives of Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR and Taiwan are eligible.

People who cannot register because their country of birth is excluded may be able to qualify through a spouse who was born in an eligible country.

In addition, successful registrants must have either a high school education or its equivalent, defined as successful completion of a 12-year course of elementary and secondary education; or two years of work experience within the past five years in an occupation requiring at least two years of training or experience to perform the job.

How to Enter?

A foreign national must submit an online form and a digital photo through the official DV lottery website. Only one entry is permitted per person. If there are multiple registrations on behalf of one person, all of them are disqualified. There is no cost to apply.

All DV Lottery entrants will be required to visit the E-DV Entrant Status Check website to find out whether or not their entry has been selected in the DV Lottery. Selectees will be notified of their selection through the Entry Status Check available starting May 5, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Selectees will be directed to a confirmation page that will provide further instructions, including information on fees connected with immigration to the United States. Selectees will be able to apply for permanent residence in fiscal year 2021, which is October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. The E-DV Entry Status Check website will be the only means by which selectees will be notified of their selection for the DV Lottery. To guard against fraud, please note the official website is the only legitimate source for lottery entrants.

DV Lottery Link:

Complete instructions for participation in the DV Lottery may be found at:

https://travel.state.gov/content/dam/visas/Diversity-Visa/DV-Instructions-Translations/DV-2021-Instructions-Translations/DV-2021-Instructions-English.pdf

If you require additional information, please contact the Immigration Group at Proskauer.