



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT VISAS FOR BUSINESS

ESTA/VISA WAIVER

- Attend meetings or consult with business associates
- Attend a scientific, educational, professional, or business convention or conference
- Short-term training
- Negotiate a contract or sign an agreement
- Open a bank account, buy property or other goods.
- Apply online at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>

If you CAN travel on ESTA, you should.

BI/B2 VISA

- Can be used for the same purposes of travel as ESTA.
- Allows longer stays.
- Might be better if you have a lot of unexpected travel to the United States.
- More expensive and requires an interview.
- Can sometimes allow limited types of work in the United States, based on contract or type of work you're doing.

O/P VISAS

- These are specialized visas for people who have extraordinary ability (O) or who are professional performers.
- The US Company organizing your travel must file a petition with the USCIS in the United States before you can apply for this visa.
 - Can apply up to 1 year ahead of time.
 - Recommend using an attorney.

LONGER TERM WORK VISAS – H AND L

- H visas are for long-term skilled workers coming to the US to work in their trade. They require a petition be filed and are limited to a certain number per year.
- Only available to certain occupations – USCIS.gov has a list
- An L Visa is for a transfer within your company. They are available for managers or highly skilled employees.

TREATY TRADER/E VISAS

- E visas are available for someone who is coming to the US to invest in a new or existing enterprise.
- Requires a significant investment of capital.
- You need to provide a clear source of the funds that you invest.
- You need to have a demonstratable ability to develop and direct the enterprise.
- Can allow you to live in the US for several years, renewable.

QUESTIONS?

The Consular section at the Embassy is here
to help!

Contact us by email or phone:

+371 6710-7034

AskConsular-Riga@state.gov