



The University of Pittsburgh
Office of International Services

Information for Inviting Dependents, Friends, or Relatives to the United States

Below is a list of suggested items to send to dependents, relatives and/or friends when inviting them to the United States for a visit. They in turn take these documents to the U.S. consulate or embassy to assist in their visa application (B-2 for Visitors)

1. A letter in English to whom you are inviting into the U.S. This letter should state:
 - The purpose of their visit, i.e. graduation, vacation, birth of baby, etc.,
 - The duration of the visit.
 - Include proof of financial support for the visit.
2. Visa application forms and fees. Check US Consulate or Embassy's website for further details.

The initial entry I-94 card governs how long a visitor may stay in the United States. Under current regulations, people entering the U.S. on a B-2 visa are routinely granted a six-month period of stay at the port-of-entry. However, this time can vary from 30 days to 6 months.

An extension of B-2 visitor visa status may be requested on form I-539. It may be obtained at the USCIS website www.uscis.gov. Applications must be submitted by mail to USCIS - follow the instructions on the form as to where to mail it. The extension request must be submitted & received by USCIS prior to the expiration date on the I-94 card. OIS suggests applying at least 2-3 months prior to the expiration date on the I-94 card. It may take 3-6 months to receive the extension approval or denial back from USCIS.

Complete information about applying for and obtaining a B-2 visitor visa may be found at www.travel.state.gov.