

## Information for International Travelers

Effective January 12, 2009, international travelers who are seeking to travel to the United States are now subject to enhanced security requirements. The Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) is an automated system used to determine the eligibility of visitors to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) and whether such travel poses any law enforcement or security risk.

You must apply under the Visa Waiver Program through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) if you are **flying** into the U.S. **or arriving by sea** and you meet **all** of these requirements:

- You are a citizen or eligible national of a Visa Waiver Program country
- You are currently not in possession of a visitor's visa
- Your travel is for 90 days or less
- You plan to travel to the United States for business or pleasure

The VWP enables citizens and nationals from 34 countries\* to travel to and enter the United States for business or visitor purposes for up to 90 days without obtaining a visa. You must have received approval prior to your travel to the United States. You may do this by visiting the Electronic System for Travel Authorization web site (<https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/esta.html>) and answering all the questions to submit an application for authorization.

In most cases, there will be an almost immediate approval for travel. Travel authorizations are valid for two years from the date of authorization, or until your passport expires, whichever comes first.

The ESTA web site is operated free-of-charge by the U.S. government. The application is available in 16 languages and includes a help section that provides additional information for VWP travelers to guide them through the application process.

You will still be required to fill out a green I-94W form and a white 6059b customs declaration and show your passport when you arrive in the U.S.

If you are uncertain whether or not these rules apply to you, or if you have **any** questions about international travel to the United States, visit <http://www.travel.state.gov/>

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\*Andorra, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom