

## Canada Travel

Before you travel to Canada as a tourist, you need to ask yourself the following questions:

- Do I need to obtain a tourist visa to enter Canada?
- If so, what documents do I need?
- Where and how can I submit the Canadian visa application?
- What documents do I need to re-enter the U.S.?
- Is my visa stamp still valid, and when is it permissible to travel to/from Canada with an expired visa stamp?

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) requires the nationals of certain countries to obtain a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) to visit Canada. A list of the countries whose citizens are required to obtain a TRV is available on-line at [CIC's Web site](#).

For detailed information and updates pertaining to travel to Canada, please refer to the Web site above or contact a Canadian Consulate or U.S. Embassy.

### ***Submitting the Application***

You may submit your visa application either by mail or in person at the Consulate General of Canada in New York

#### [Consulate General of Canada](#)

Immigration Section

1251 Avenue of the Americas

Concourse Level

New York, NY, 10020-1175

Phone: 212-596-1628 / Fax: 212-596-1793

E-mail: [cngny-td@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:cngny-td@dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

### ***By mail***

If you wish to submit your application by mail, you should include a prepaid, self-addressed return envelope (the consulate recommends U.S. Postal Express/Priority). You need to complete both Express Mailing labels, take them to the nearest U.S. Post Office, and pay for postage on both the outgoing and return envelope, with enclosures.

According to the Canadian Consulate, processing of a properly completed application generally takes one business week. Be sure to make photocopies of all documents before submitting your application to keep for your records.

### ***In person***

According to the consulate, applications submitted before 10:00 a.m. may be processed on the same day, except applications from the nationals of specified countries as outlined on the [CIC Web site](#).

Please note that immigration services are only provided by Canadian consulates/offices/embassy in Buffalo, Detroit, Seattle, Los Angeles, New York City and Washington D.C. Other Canadian consulates do not provide visa/immigration services. In some cases, the consulate may require a personal interview.

### ***Automatic Revalidation***

Automatic Revalidation of visas is when you travel to Canada, Mexico, or one of the adjacent islands (the Caribbean islands except Cuba) and stay for fewer than 30 days. This benefit allows you to return to the U.S. even if your U.S. entry visa in your passport is expired.

Please review these important details:

- **Citizens of Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan and Syria are not eligible.** If you are a citizen of one of these countries and travel to Canada, Mexico, or the adjacent Caribbean islands with an expired visa, you must obtain a new U.S. visa in order to re-enter the U.S., even if your planned visit is for fewer than 30 days. As the list of countries is subject to change, be certain to verify your country's status prior to leaving the U.S.
- If you received change of your visa status classification (Form I-797 approval notice) from the USCIS during your stay in the U.S., you may still take advantage of automatic revalidation and travel without obtaining a new visa stamp. In this case, however, you need to remember to retain your current I-94 card, which is proof of your status (I-94 card comes with your approval notice).
- If you are traveling to Canada, Mexico or one of the adjacent islands for the purpose of changing your visa (i.e., if you are an F-2 dependent and plan to travel to Canada in order to obtain a new F-1 visa stamp), you are not eligible for the automatic revalidation benefit.

- If your visa application is denied, you must travel to another country, most likely to your home country, to obtain a new visa stamp to re-enter the U.S. You will not be allowed to re-enter the U.S. from Canada.
- Those who plan to travel to Canada, Mexico or the one of the adjacent islands to renew a visa must be aware of the fact that nationals of some countries may be subject to a waiting period due to security clearance procedures.

If you have any questions/concerns regarding travel to Canada, Mexico or the one of the adjacent islands with an expired visa, it is strongly recommended that you speak with the ISSI.