

Visa Office
EAST-WEST CENTER
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PROCEDURES FOR ENTRY INTO CANADA, MEXICO, AND THE CARIBBEAN FROM THE U.S. AND RE-ENTRY TO THE U.S.

ENTRY INTO CANADA

Citizens from the following Pacific/Asian countries **do not** require a visa to visit Canada: **Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, United States, Western Samoa.** Persons holding a valid and subsisting Special Administrative Region passport issued by the Government of the **Hong Kong Special Administrative Region** of the People's Republic of China are also exempt. (7/00- C&I-165-07-00L) See the Canadian Embassy website for more complete information on persons required to obtain visas to enter Canada.
<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/apply-how.asp>

Persons in J-1, F-1, or H-1 status and their dependents travelling directly to Canada from the U.S. must have a valid Form DS-2019, I-20, or I-797 in their possession in order to **enter** Canada. Whether or not you are exempt from Canadian tourist visa requirements, you **MUST** have these visa documents in hand. Canadian immigration officials will not let you enter Canada without them.

ENTRY INTO MEXICO

Starting May 1st, 2010, all foreigners, regardless of their nationality, visiting Mexico as tourists, transmigrate or for business matters will not need a visa for Mexico as long as they hold a **valid US visa and arrive in Mexico from the United States.**

For additional information on visas to Mexico, please go to the following website:
<https://mexico.visahq.com/>

ENTRY TO THE CARIBBEAN

The Immigration & Nationality Act of 1952 defines "adjacent islands" as Saint Pierre, Miquelon, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, the Windward and Leeward Islands, Trinidad, Martinique, and other British, French and Netherlands territories or possessions in or bordering on the Caribbean Sea. (Contact Visa Office for information on specific entry requirements.)

RE-ENTRY TO THE U.S.

Nonimmigrants who visit Canada, Mexico, or the Caribbean for **less than 30 days** who have maintained a lawful nonimmigrant status in the U.S., and intend to resume that status upon their return may return to the U.S. with an expired visa which can be considered automatically extended to the date of re-entry **PROVIDED** you have the following proof of readmissibility*: (

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J-1 Status. Upon return to the U.S., a J-1 exchange visitor and dependents must show the U.S. Immigration Inspector:

- (a) **a current DS-2019 form** (w/travel endorsement by the RO/ARO is necessary before first departure from the U.S. and annually thereafter); and
- (b) **a valid passport.** Since the inspector may also ask to see evidence of financial support for the duration of stay in the U.S., it is **strongly** advised that you carry such evidence with you. EWC participants may request an award certification letter from their scholarship coordinator/program officer.

H-1 Status. Upon return to the U.S., an H-1 temporary worker and dependents must show the U.S. Immigration Inspector:

- (a) **Form I-797** (copy of a current H-1 approval notice);
- (b) **a valid passport.** Since you may need to show evidence of financial support to the Immigration Inspector, you should carry a letter from your employer certifying your current position, dates of hire, and salary.

F-1 Status. Upon return to the U.S., F-1 students and dependents must show the U.S. Immigration Inspector:

- (a) **valid passport(s);** and
- (b) **a current Form I-20** which is properly endorsed by their DSO. The Immigration Inspector may ask you for evidence of financial support. Please see your international student advisor for further information.

***Citation 22 CFR 41.112(d) Changes made in 2002 are still in effect:**

A student's visa may be 'revalidated' under the following conditions:

- 1) Travel for less than 30 days to Canada, Mexico or adjacent islands**
- 2) Valid I-20 or DS-2019**
- 3) Not citizen of state sponsor of terrorism**
- 4) Is not applying for a new visa while out of the US**
- 5) Visa has only expired and not been cancelled**

IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE IN CANADA, MEXICO, OR THE CARIBBEAN LONGER THAN 30 DAYS AND YOUR VISA HAS EXPIRED, YOU MUST APPLY FOR A NEW ENTRY VISA FROM AN AMERICAN EMBASSY OR CONSULATE.

Foreign nationals with the notation "212(d)(3)" on their U.S. visas must apply for a waiver of inadmissibility if they do not hold double or multiple entry, unexpired visas. Please consult with the EWC Visa Officer if you have questions about this.