



Before the Interview

1. INTERVIEW NOTICE & ATTORNEY PREP

- ☐ Review the interview notice and confirm the date, time, and interview location.
- ☐ Contact Sumner Immigration Law immediately if you cannot attend the scheduled interview.
- ☐ Schedule your complimentary Existing Client Interview Prep Session using the attorney link in the email we sent you.
- ☐ Review the I-130 package and NVC/CEAC filings included with the email we sent you. You do not need to memorize them, but be familiar with what was submitted.

2. YOUR EMBASSY OR CONSULATE INSTRUCTIONS

- ☐ Open the official Department of State instructions for the city where your immigrant visa interview is scheduled.
- ☐ Register for passport/document return, if required by your interview post.
- ☐ Schedule biometrics, fingerprinting, or another pre-interview appointment, if required.
- ☐ Schedule and complete the immigrant visa medical examination with an approved panel physician.
- ☐ Review the post-specific pre-interview document checklist, arrival instructions, and security rules.

3. CIVIL DOCUMENTS

- ☐ Gather the originals or certified copies of the civil documents required for your case, plus photocopies as required.
- ☐ Gather required birth certificates, marriage certificates, divorce decrees, death certificates from prior spouses, and other applicable civil records.
- ☐ Make sure required documents are translated into English when the post's instructions require a translation.
- ☐ Review the current police certificate requirements for your interview location. Police certificates generally expire after two years, but exceptions may apply, including for a former country of residence if you have not returned there since the certificate was issued.
- ☐ Contact our office if you are unsure whether a new police certificate is required.



4. I-864 / FINANCIAL EVIDENCE

- ☐ Tell our office if the petitioner or joint sponsor has changed jobs, lost a job, changed income, filed a newer tax return, moved, or had another material financial change since the I-864 was submitted.
- ☐ Gather the most recent federal tax return, Form 1040, or IRS tax return transcript, as advised.
- ☐ Gather applicable W-2s, 1099s, tax schedules, and other supporting tax documents.
- ☐ Gather recent proof of current income, such as pay stubs, and any other financial or asset evidence our office has requested.

IRS TRANSCRIPTS

If our office asks for an IRS transcript, use the IRS Get Transcript service. A Tax Return Transcript shows most line items from the federal tax return as originally filed. A Wage and Income Transcript shows IRS-reported items such as W-2s and 1099s. Contact us if you are unsure which transcript is needed.

5. MARRIAGE / RELATIONSHIP EVIDENCE (IF APPLICABLE)

- ☐ Gather updated evidence that reflects your actual relationship. You do not need every type of evidence.
- ☐ Consider joint residence, joint assets, joint liabilities, insurance, IDs or mail showing the same address, and children's birth certificates.
- ☐ Consider communications, travel records, photographs, receipts for trips/gifts/relationship expenses, and other credible evidence of your shared life.

6. INTERVIEW DAY

- ☐ Dress neatly, allow extra travel time, and follow your post's arrival and security instructions.
- ☐ Bring the originals/certified copies and other documents required by your post.
- ☐ Answer all questions truthfully. If you do not know or do not remember an answer, say so rather than guessing.
- ☐ Keep every paper the officer gives you. Send our office a copy immediately if you receive a 221(g), refusal notice, or request for additional documents.

7. AFTER THE INTERVIEW

- ☐ Wait until the immigrant visa is in hand before making nonrefundable travel arrangements.
- ☐ When the passport is returned, review the visa carefully for errors and confirm the expiration date.
- ☐ If you receive a sealed immigrant packet, keep it sealed and carry it as instructed.
- ☐ Enter the United States before the immigrant visa expires.
- ☐ Review the current USCIS Immigrant Fee, exemptions, and payment instructions, and pay the fee before entering the United States if it applies to you.
- ☐ Keep Sumner Immigration Law updated on the interview result and any further communication from the Embassy or Consulate.