

U.S. VISAS

U.S. Department of State • Bureau of Consular Affairs



# DOING BUSINESS IN THE UNITED STATES

# What will you be doing in the U.S.?

- I am traveling for temporary business
- I am coming for temporary employment in the U.S.
- Developing or directing an investment or a trading company
- I am coming for permanent employment in the U.S.



Photo: Mutlu Enes Alan, 2018 Summer Work and Travel Photo Competition



# Visa Options

## NON-IMMIGRANT

- B-1 Business Visa**  
*General business travel*
- H-1B Specialty Occupation Visa**  
*Employees with special qualifications*
- L-1 Intra-Company Transfer Visa**  
*Transfer to a U.S. in an intl. company*
- E-1 Treaty Trader Visa**  
*To set up a business for U.S.-Turkey trade*
- E-2 Treaty Investor Visas**  
*To invest in or set up a U.S. business*
- O-1 Alien of Extraordinary Ability Visa**  
*Key personnel who meet restrictive criteria*

## IMMIGRANT

- EB-1 Employment-Based Permanent Work Visas**
- EB-2 Visas**  
*Includes multinational executives and managers, professionals holding advanced degrees, and other skilled workers.*
- EB-3**
- EB-5 Employment-Based Immigrant Investors**  
*Employment creation and investment pilot programs*



# B-1 Temporary Visitor for Business

Non-Immigrant Visas

## B-1 VISITORS MAY

- ✓ Engage in commercial transactions not involving gainful employment in the United States
- ✓ Seek investment opportunities
- ✓ Take steps to purchase/establish business
- ✓ Consult with business associates
- ✓ Negotiate contracts and litigate
- ✓ Participate in conventions, conferences, or seminars
- ✓ Undertake independent research
- ✗ **May not** develop and direct a business

## HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete an application via [tr.usembassy.gov/visas](https://tr.usembassy.gov/visas)
2. Pay \$160 fee and make an appointment
3. Interview at U.S. Embassy Ankara or Consulate General Istanbul



# E-1/E-2 Treaty Trader/Investor Visas

Non-Immigrant Visas

Works for startups as well as business looking to expand into the United States

## E-1 TREATY TRADER VISA

- Goal: To trade between the U.S. and foreign treaty country
- Example: An established foreign business looking to staff a forward sales office in the U.S.

## E-2 TREATY INVESTOR VISA

- Goal: To invest in the U.S.
- Example: An established foreign business looking to expand operations to the U.S. via a subsidiary



# E-1 & E-2 Requirements

Non-Immigrant Visas

## TREATY TRADER (E-1)

- Requisite treaty exists and individual and/or business possess the nationality of the treaty country

- Actively trading and trade must be substantial
- Activities constitute trade
- Trade is principally between the United States and the treaty country
- Applicant possesses skills essential to the firm's operations in the United States

- Must intend to depart at the end of E1 or E2 status

## TREATY INVESTOR (E-2)

- Applicant has invested or is actively in the process of investing
- Enterprise is commercial, real, and operating
- Investment is substantial
- More than a marginal business solely for earning a living
- Applicant is in a position to "develop and direct" the enterprise

## HOW TO APPLY

1. Apply directly in Turkey (no petition through USCIS)
2. Interview at U.S. Consulate General Istanbul
3. All details via **[tr.usembassy.gov](http://tr.usembassy.gov)**



# Visas to Send Employees

Non-Immigrant Visas

## E-1/E-2 Treaty Company Employees

- Executive and supervisory employees
- Essential employees

- Provides a derivative category for family members to accompany

- Allows for traveler to work and live anywhere in the United States while working for the applying company.

- Usually valid five years and may be renewed
- Apply direct to Consulate General Istanbul

## L-1 Intra-Company Transfer

- For transferring managers and specialized knowledge employees

- Valid up to three years and may be renewed

- Must apply through a petition process with USCIS

- Numerically limited each year

## H-1B Specialty Occupation

- For professional workers with special skills



# Visas for Permanent Work

Immigrant  
Visas

## CATEGORIES

**EB-1** Outstanding professors and researchers, multinational managers or executives

**EB-2** Professionals holding an advanced degree, persons with exceptional ability sciences, arts, or business, with a job offer and petitioning employer

**EB-3** Skilled Workers, Professionals, and Unskilled Workers, with a job offer and petitioning employer

## HOW TO APPLY

1. File petition through USCIS
2. All details via **[travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov)**





# EB-5 Immigrant Investors

Immigrant  
Visas

Employment-Based 5th preference

## EB-5 Visa

**C5** Employment creation  
outside a targeted area

**T5** Employment creation in a  
targeted area

**R5** Investor Pilot Program  
not in a targeted area

**I5** Investor Pilot Program in a  
targeted area

*\* "Hands on" investment in a  
commercial enterprise in a  
"regional center"*

*\* Investment in an area  
which has unemployment  
of min. 150% of national  
average. Min. investment  
of \$500k vs \$1M*



# Contact Us



All Visa Types And Forms  
<https://travel.state.gov/>

U.S. Embassy & Consulates in Turkey  
<https://tr.usembassy.gov/tr/>

E Visa Unit Istanbul Contact  
[EVisasistanbul@state.gov](mailto:EVisasistanbul@state.gov)

All Visa Applications  
<https://ais.usvisa-info.com/>  
Call Center: 0850-390-2884

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration  
Services  
<https://www.uscis.gov/>

