ADDENDUM

Please read the entire message for important information on your visa application.

Main Points
*** Changes in travel restrictions for visas and travel from Schengen countries to the United States have been changed effective March 2, 2021.**
*** The change makes the grounds for travel much more restrictive.**
*** E visa applicants are no longer automatically qualified for exceptions to the travel restrictions.**

In March 2020, Presidential Proclamation 9993 suspended travel and visa issuance for persons in Schengen countries.

The proclamation exempted a small number of categories from the suspension. The Secretaries of State and Homeland Security later identified more categories that could qualify for national interest exceptions (NIE) to the proclamation.

One of those exceptions was for applicants in the Investor and Trader (E visa) categories. Since July 2020, the Embassy in Paris has been processing applicants in these categories.

Unfortunately, the global health crisis that required the suspension of travel continues today. PP 9993 was extended by PP 10143 on January 25, 2021.

Effective March 2, 2021 the categories of travel that are in the national interest, for purposes of exceptions to Presidential Proclamation (PP) 10143 as it covers the Schengen Area, the United Kingdom, and Ireland has been refined and become more limited.

E visa applicants are no longer automatically qualified for NIEs. Applicants must now demonstrate they qualify under the new more restrictive criteria detailed below.

Therefore, your previously scheduled appointment has been cancelled. We will resume routine visa services as soon as possible but are unable to provide a specific date at this time. Your case is now unlocked, and you may schedule a new appointment at Embassy Paris for a later date using the website or call center. The MRV fee is validity is extended and may be used for a visa application in the country where it was purchased until December 31, 2021.

For those travelers who do qualify for an exception under the new criteria, we are asking them to use the expedite function to request an earlier appointment.

While we are scheduling a small number of expedited appointments, the decrease in staffing and appointment capacity caused by the pandemic means that we are only able to schedule a small number of the appointments requested. As staffing levels increase and pandemic conditions allow, we will re-evaluate our ability to increase appointments.

Under current conditions, you may seek an expedited appointment if you meet one of the following criteria. Please clearly explain clearly and in a detailed manner how you meet the criteria when requesting the expedited appointment using the directions below.

For E visa applicants who meet the following criteria:

1. You are married to a U.S. citizen or a U.S. Legal Permanent Resident or you are the parent of a minor U.S. citizen child under the age of 21.

2. Vital support of critical infrastructure sectors as defined by the Department of Homeland Security or critical infrastructure linked supply

chain. Vital support, for example, pertains to the installation, acquisition, maintenance, and essential safety training necessary to sustain the supply and production chains in the referenced sectors; as well as other functions performed by specialists or other individuals that are essential to continuity within a given sector.

The DHS-defined critical infrastructure sectors are:

chemical, commercial facilities, communications, critical manufacturing, dams, defense industrial base, emergency services, energy, financial services, food and agriculture, government facilities, healthcare and public health, information technology, nuclear reactors, transportation, and water/wastewater systems.

3. Travel which would directly support the creation or retention of U.S. jobs. Each applicant should demonstrate to the satisfaction of a consular officer that the proposed activity must physically take place in the United States and cannot be postponed or conducted remotely. The jobs exception is expected to be very rare and is designed for substantial job creation or retention. The decision on these grounds will be made by the Department of State in Washington, DC and not by the Consular Section at the Embassy in Paris.

If you believe that you qualify under one of the categories listed above and have an urgent need to travel immediately, please follow the guidance provided at [1]https://ais.usvisa-info.com/en-fr/niv/information/faqs#need earlier appt , or contact us at [2]fae contactus+fr+mrv+en@visaops.net , or call +33 1 82 88 29 57 (Local Number), or dial +1 703 543 9342 (If you are calling from within the United States), to request an emergency appointment.

Applicants with questions about visa applications currently in process with the Embassy may send their inquiry via [3]ParisIVPending@state.gov for immigrant visa applications or [4]ParisVisaInquiry@state.gov for nonimmigrant visa applications.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The document delivery procedure has changed in FRANCE: The pick-up option is still free of charge, but the home delivery option is not free of charge anymore, it can be purchased on your account before scheduling a new appointment.

References

1. https://ais.usvisa-info.com/en-fr/niv/information/faqs#need earlier appt
2. mailto:fae contactus+fr+mrv+en@visaops.net
3. mailto:ParisIVPending@state.gov
4. mailto:ParisVisaInquiry@state.gov
5. https://ais.usvisa-info.com/en-fr/niv/information/faqs#need earlier appt
6. mailto:fae contactus+fr+mrv+en@visaops.net
7. mailto:ParisIVPending@state.gov
8. mailto:ParisVisaInquiry@state.gov

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Falls Church, VA 22042

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