

Embassy of the United States of America
Consular Section
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Waiver Application (I-601 form) – Immigrant Visa Unit

The waiver request (I-601 form) consists of three steps:

- 1) I-601 form, filled out completely with no question left blank, all answered completely and honestly. Forms filled out improperly will not be accepted, create delays in your case or could put at risk the approval of the waiver.
- 2) Payment of \$545 USD (or equivalent in pesos) at window 12 in the consular section.
- 3) Written evidence of extreme hardship for the U.S. citizen or Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) relative of the applicant.

Approval of a waiver requires a finding that the refusal of admission to the United States of such immigrant alien would result in **extreme hardship to the United States citizen or lawful permanent resident relative** (i.e. not you, the applicant).

In order to attain a favorable decision on your waiver request all claims of hardship must be supported by documentary evidence or explanation specifying the hardship. Family separation and financial inconvenience, in and of themselves, do not necessarily constitute extreme hardship. Therefore, it is important for your U.S. citizen or LPR relative to describe and document any other claim that might be a hardship, for example, a letter from a medical doctor in the event that a critical health problem exists and could show extreme hardship for the U.S. citizen or LPR relative of the waiver applicant.

Keep in mind that the extreme hardship should be documented for the U.S. citizen or LPR relative, not you as the applicant, and can be demonstrated through the following:

- a. **HEALTH** – Ongoing or specialized treatment requirements for a physical or mental condition; availability and quality of such treatment in your country, anticipated duration of the treatment; whether a condition is chronic or acute, or long- or short-term.
- b. **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS** – Future employability; loss due to sale of home or business or termination of a professional practice; decline in standard of living; ability to recoup short-term losses; cost of extraordinary needs such as special education or training for children; cost of care for family members (i.e., elderly or institutionalized parents).
- c. **EDUCATION** – Loss of opportunity for higher education; lower quality or limited scope of education options; disruption of current program; requirement to be educated in a foreign language or culture with ensuing loss of time for grade; availability of special requirements, such as training programs or internships in specific fields.
- d. **PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS** – Close relatives in the United States and/or your country; separation from spouse/children; ages of involved parties; length of residence and community ties in the United States.
- e. **SPECIAL FACTORS** – Cultural, language, religious, and ethnic obstacles; valid fears of persecution, physical harm, or injury; social ostracism or stigma; access to social institutions or structures.
- f. **OTHER** - Any other situation that you feel may help you meet the burden of extreme hardship.

To submit all of the above please visit window 26 or 27 any weekday (except Fridays, holidays and the last Wednesday of each month). We do not accept incomplete documentation. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office will make a decision on your waiver request, basing such exclusively on the documentation that you provide.

Sincerely,
Vice Consul of the Immigrant Visa Unit

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