I'm not a bot

The first step in the US visa application process is to fill DS-160 form online. Filling out the DS-160 form is a mandatory requirement for all US nonimmigrant visa (NIV) applications, such as B1/B2. DS-160 is a lengthy form with several pages and sections. It can take 90 minutes to a few days to complete. It is important to complete this form accurately and honestly. Follow along this step-by-step guide to complete your DS-160 form. There are screenshots and instructions to guide you. IMPORTANTThe result of your US visa for the most part depends on the information you fill in your DS-160. Pay careful attention to the information you enter in your DS-160. It must be accurate, and honest and must match what you say during the visa interview. DO NOT, I repeat, DO NOT lie in your DS-160. This can lead to visa denial, visa ban, or permanent blacklist. *** If you are applying for a nonimmigrant US visa, such as a B1/B2, you must fill out the DS-160 form. This form is required for all US nonimmigrant visa applicants regardless of their age or nationality. *** You must fill out the DS-160 form on the US Consular Electronic Application Center (CEAC) website. This is the only website authorized for completing and submitting the form DS-160. Third parties are allowed to fill out the application on your behalf. But I highly recommend filling out the form yourself to avoid any errors. *** The validity of your DS-160 form depends on whether you are still filling it out or have already submitted it. Unsubmitted: Form DS-160 is valid for 30 days from the day of starting the application. You must complete and submit your form within this period. After 30 days, the form will expire, and you will need to complete a new form. Submitted: Form DS-160 is valid for one year from the day of submission. You must use the submitted DS-160 to schedule your interview within one year. *** Steps to fill DS-160 form To start your DS-160 form, head over to the US CEAC's Nonimmigrant Visa Application (DS-160) page. DS-160 – Apply for a Nonimmigrant Visa page Select a location where you will be applying for this visa [Instruction: Select the country where you intend to attend your US visa interview] Enter the code as shown [Instruction: Enter the code shown in the captcha in this field. This is to make sure you are a real human and not a bot] This visa application will ask you to upload a digital photo of yourself [Instruction: If you already have a digital photo for your visa application, click on "Test Photo" to check if your photo meets the specifications. If you don't have a photo and want to know the photo requirements, click on "Photo Standard Guide"] NOTEThe question "This visa application will ask you to upload a digital photo of yourself" is shown only for certain countries such as Malaysia, the Philippines, etc. If you choose a country such as India, Mexico, etc., this question will not be shown. After you have entered the above data, you will see 2 buttons – START AN APPLICATION [Instruction: Click this button if you are starting a new application] RETRIEVE AN APPLICATION [Instruction: Click this button if you are retrieving a previously saved application] Let's look into these options in detail. Click the "START AN APPLICATION" button when you are starting a new DS-160 application. This will create an Application ID, which you must print or make a note of. You will need the Application ID to retrieve your saved DS-160 application. Your session times out if you leave your DS-160 form open for too long. If that happens, you can come back to your saved application (saved till the last section) using this option. You might also need time to gather the information needed to fill DS-160 form. In that case, you can save and come back to your saved application using this option. You would need your DS-160 Application ID to retrieve the saved application. After you enter the above data and click on "START AN APPLICATION", you will see the "Application Information" Screen. Your "Application ID" will be displayed here. Print this page. Or take a screenshot or make a note of the DS-160 Application ID. You will need your Application ID to retrieve your saved DS-160 application. DS-160 – Application Information page I AGREE [Instruction: Check the "I AGREE" box for Computer Fraud and Abuse Act] Security Question [Instruction: Select a security question from the list] Answer [Instruction: Enter the answer for your security question] IMPORTANTMake a note of your "Application ID", "Security Question" and "Answer". The "Security Question and Answer" along with the "Application ID", "Surname" and "Birth Year" are REQUIRED to retrieve your saved DS-160 visa application. If you forget any of this information, you will not be able to retrieve your saved application. You will have to start over again with a new DS-160 application. NOTEYou will have 30 days to complete a partially saved DS-160 application. These 30 days are calculated from the last time you edited your application. If you do not complete and submit your DS-160 form within 30 days, your application will be deleted and you will have to start over again. DS-160 – Personal Information 1 page Surnames [Instruction: Enter your surname from your passport. If you have any accents or special characters in your surname name, enter WITHOUT accents or special characters] Given Names [Instruction: Enter your given name from your passport. If you have any accents or special characters in your given names, enter WITHOUT accents or special characters] Full Name in Native Alphabet [Instruction: Enter ONLY IF you have accents or non-Latin characters in your name or know how to write your name in your native language. Otherwise, simply check "Does Not Apply/Technology Not Available". For detailed instructions, check out this article on how to fill Full Name in Native Alphabet] Have you ever used other names (i.e, maiden, religious, professional, alias, etc.)? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if you have a maiden name, otherwise select "No"] Do you have a telecode that represents your name? [Instruction: Select "Yes" only if you have a Chinese name, otherwise just select "No". For detailed instructions, read this article on how to fill Telecode name in DS-160] Sex [Instruction: Select "Male" or "Female"] Marital Status [Instruction: Select your marital status from the options] [Dropdown Options] MARRIED COMMON LAW MARRIAGE CIVIL UNION/DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP SINGLE WIDOWED DIVORCED LEGALLY SEPARATED OTHER Date and Place of Birth Date [Instruction: Enter your date of birth] City [Instruction: Enter the city where you were born] State/Province [Instruction: Enter the state/province where you were born] Country/Region [Instruction: Enter the country where you were born] The "Surnames" and "Given Names" fields DO NOT ALLOW accents or special characters. You must enter your name WITHOUT accents or special characters in the "Surnames" and "Given Names" fields. Use the "Full Name in Native Alphabet" field to enter your full name with accents and special characters. If you have a middle name in your passport (ex: Philippines passport), you must add your middle name to your given name(s) and enter it in your DS-160 "Given Name". Example below. In your current passportSurname: XXXXGiven Names: YYYY ZZZZMiddle Name: AAAA This is how you will fill in your DS-160Surname: XXXXGiven Names: YYYY ZZZZ AAAA If your surname in the passport is "blank", use the following format in your DS-160 form. In your current passportSurname:Given Name: XXXX YYYY This is how you will fill in your DS-160Surname: XXXX YYYYGiven Name: FNU Your US visa will be issued with the following nameSurname: XXXX YYYYGiven Name: FNU NOTE: FNU means First Name Unknown. IMPORTANT: You must get your passport fixed as soon as you can. It can create all kinds of issues, not only for visa applications but also at the airports. If you move to a foreign country to study or work, you won't be able to open a bank account, apply for a driving license, etc. You may be able to enter your Surname and Given Name completely in DS-160 form. But in the US visa, the Surname and Given Name fields have a certain character limit and will be truncated if over the character limit. Even though your name is truncated in your US visa, it will not pose any problems with US immigration. US border officials are all aware of this and will not ask you any questions. You may be asked by the airline staff if they are not familiar with US visa name character limit. Example below. In your current passportSurname: XXXXGiven Name: AAAABBBB CCCCDDDD YYYYZZZZ This is how you will fill in your DS-160Surname: XXXXGiven Name: AAAABBBB CCCCDDDD YYYYZZZZ Your US visa will be issued with the following nameSurname: XXXXGiven Name: AAAABBBB CCCCDDDD YYYY DS-160 – Personal Information 2 page Country/Region of Origin (Nationality) [Instruction: Select your country of nationality] Do you hold or have you held any nationality other than the one indicated above on nationality? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" if you have acquired a nationality other than your birth nationality] Are you a permanent resident of a country/region other than your country/region of origin (nationality) indicated above? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" if you have acquired permanent residence in a country other than your country of birth] National Identification Number [Instruction: Enter your National Identification Number from your country. If you don't know, check "Does Not Apply" |] U.S. Social Security Number [Instruction: Check "Does Not Apply". Enter your US SSN if you have lived in the US before] U.S.Taxpayer ID Number [Instruction: Check "Does Not Apply". Enter your US TIN Number if you had/have one] DS-160 – Travel Information page Purpose of Trip to the U.S. [Instruction: Select "TEMP. BUSINESS PLEASURE VISITOR (B)" from the options. If applying for a different visa, select the appropriate visa class from the options] [Dropdown Options] FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL (A) TEMP. BUSINESS PLEASURE VISITOR (B) ALIEN IN TRANSIT (C) CNMI WORKER OR INVESTOR (CW/E2C) CREWMEMBER (D) TREATY TRADER OR INVESTOR (E) ACADEMIC OR LANGUAGE STUDENT (F) INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION REP./EMP. (G) TEMPORARY WORKER (H) FOREIGN MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE (I) EXCHANGE VISITOR (J) FIANCÉ(E) OR SPOUCE OF U.S. CITIZEN (K) INTRACOMPANY TRANSFEREE (L) VOCATIONAL/NON-ACADEMIC STUDENT (M) OTHER (N) NATO STAFF (NATO) ALIEN WITH EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY (O) INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ALIEN (P) CULTURAL EXCHANGE VISITOR (Q) RELIGIOUS WORKER (R) INFORMANT OR WITNESS (S) VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING (T) NAFTA PROFESSIONAL (TD/TN) VICTIM OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY (U) PAROLE BENEFICIARY (PARCIS) Specify [Instruction: Select "BUSINESS & TOURISM (TEMPORARY VISITOR) (B1/B2)". If you have selected a different visa class, then select the appropriate option here] Have you made specific travel plans [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" ONLY IF you have already booked your flight tickets and hotel] Intended Date of Arrival [Instruction: Select the approximate date on which you intend to arrive in the US] Intended Length of Stay in the U.S. [Instruction: Select the number of days you intend to spend in the US on this trip] Address Where You Will Stay in the U.S. [Instruction: Enter the address where you intend to stay in the US (hotel, friend, relative, etc)] Street Address (Line 1) Street Address (Line 2) *Optional City State Zip Code (if known) Person/Entity Paying for Your Trip [Instruction: Select "SELF". If someone else is paying for your trip, select "OTHER PERSON" and enter their details and relationship] [Dropdown Options] SELF OTHER PERSON PRESENT EMPLOYER EMPLOYER IN THE U.S. OTHER COMPANY/ORGANIZATION PRO TIPFor "TEMP. BUSINESS PLEASURE VISITOR (B)", you will have 3 options to choose from: B1 (Business), B2 (Tourism), and B1/B2 (Business and Tourism). I recommend selecting "B1/B2" even though your purpose might be strictly business or tourism. A US visa is issued for 10 years and you never know when you will need to visit the US for business or when for tourism. "B1/B2" will work for both purposes and will spare you from unnecessary questions at the port of entry. NOTEEven if you have selected "B1" or "B2" as your choice, the US consulate might still issue "B1/B2". In very rare cases, they issue a "B1" or a "B2". If you are planning to stay in a hotel, book a refundable or pay-at-check-in hotel. Use that address for the question "Address Where You Will Stay in the U.S.". Cancel the booking after you receive your visa. If you have already booked your flight and hotel, then you must select "Yes" to the question "Have you made specific travel plans". You will see some specific questions for your trip. Enter the following information. Date of Arrival in the U.S. [Instruction: Select your exact date of arrival in the US] Arrival Flight (if known) [Instruction: Enter your arrival flight number. Leave it blank if you don't know] Arrival City [Instruction: Enter the first city where you will arrive] Date of Departure from U.S. [Instruction: Enter your exact date of departure from the US] Departure Flight (if known) [Instruction: Enter your departure flight number. Leave it blank if you don't know] Departure City [Instruction: Enter the city where you will depart the US from] Provide the locations you plan to visit in the U.S. [Instruction: Enter the list of cities or places you plan to visit as part of your US trip. If you have more than one city, use the "Add Another" button to add more] DS-160 – Travel Companions Information page Persons traveling with you Are there other persons traveling with you? [Instruction: Select "No" if you will be traveling by yourself. Select "Yes" if you will be traveling with family/friends and provide details] If answered "Yes" to the above question, you must answer the following questions. Are you traveling as part of a group or organization? [Instruction: Select "No" if you will be traveling with family/friends. Select "Yes" only if you will be traveling with a group on an organized group tour] Surnames of Person Traveling With You [Instruction: Enter the surname of the person (family member/relative/friend/etc.) traveling with you] Given Names of Person Traveling With You [Instruction: Enter the given names of the person (family member/relative/friend/etc.) traveling with you] Relationship with Person [Instruction: Select the relationship of the person (family member/relative/friend/etc.) traveling with you from the below options] [Dropdown Options] PARENT SPOUSE CHILD OTHER RELATIVE FRIEND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE OTHER Add Another [Instruction: Use this option if you have more than one person (family member/relative/friend/etc.) traveling with you] DS-160 – Previous U.S. Travel Information page Have you ever been in the U.S.? [Instruction: Select "No" if you have NEVER been in the US. Select "Yes" if you have traveled to the US before and enter the below details] (If answered "Yes" to the above question) Provide information on your last five U.S. visits: Date Arrived [Instruction: Enter your previous date of arrival in the US] Length of Stay [Instruction: Enter the number of days or months of your previous stay in the US] Add Another [Instruction: Use this option if you have been in the US multiple times. You can enter up to 5 previous visits to the US] Do you or did you ever hold a U.S. Driver's License? [Instruction: Select "No" if you have not lived in the US before. If you have a US driver's license, select "Yes" and enter your existing/expired US driver's license details below] (If answered "Yes" to the above question) Provide the following information Driver's License Number [Instruction: Enter your US driver's license number. If you don't remember, just check "Do Not Know"] State of Driver's License [Instruction: Select the "State" that issued your driver's license] Add Another [Instruction: Use this option if you had/have more than one US driver's license] Have you ever been issued a U.S. Visa? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" if you have been issued a U.S. visa before and enter your old visa details] (If answered "Yes" to the above question) Previous U.S. Visas Date Last Visa was Issued [Instruction: Enter the date of issue of your previous US visa] Visa Number [Instruction: Enter the visa number (printed in RED on your visa sticker) of your previous US visa] Are you applying for the same type of visa? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if applying for the same visa type, ex: B1/B2. Otherwise, select "No"] Are you applying in the same country or location where the visa above was issued, and is this country or location your place of principal of residence? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if applying in the same location as your previous US visa and is also your current country of residence. Otherwise, select "No"] Have you been ten-printed? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if your fingerprints were captured (all 10 fingers) during the interview of your previous US visa. Otherwise, select "No"] Has your U.S. Visa ever been lost or stolen? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if any of your old US visas were lost or stolen] Has your U.S. Visa ever been cancelled or revoked? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if any of your old US visas were cancelled or revoked] Have you ever been refused a U.S. Visa, or been refused admission to the United States, or withdrawn your application for admission at the port of entry? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you have been denied a US visa or refused entry into the US at the port of entry] (If answered "Yes" to the above question) Explain [Instruction: Provide the details of your visa refusal or denial of entry] Has anyone ever filed an immigrant petition on your behalf with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services [Instruction: Select "No" | Select "Yes" only if you had/have an approved I-140 (immigrant petition) and then explain the details below] (If answered "Yes" to the above question) Explain [Instruction: Provide the details of your old/existing I-140 such as the priority date and receipt number] NOTEIf you have been in the US before but do not remember the exact dates, you can look up your previous US travel history on the US Customs and Border Protection website. For calculating "Length of Stay", you can use the Date and Time's Days Calculator. DS-160 – Address and Phone Information page Home Address Street Address (Line 1) [Instruction: Enter your home address in the following fields] Street Address (Line 2) *Optional City State/Province Postal Zone/Zip Code Country/Region Mailing Address Is your Mailing Address the same as your Home Address? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if your home and mailing addresses are the same. Otherwise, select "No" and enter your mailing address] Phone Primary Phone Number [Instruction: Enter your cell phone number where the consulate can reach you if needed] Secondary Phone Number [Instruction: Enter your home phone number where the consulate can call you if your cell phone is not reachable. If you don't have one, just check "Does Not Apply"] Work Phone Number [Instruction: Enter your work phone number where the consulate can call you if your cell/home phones are not reachable. If you don't have one, just check "Does Not Apply"] Have you used any other phone numbers in the last five years? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if you have used any other phone number in the last five years. Select "No" if you didn't] (If you have answered "Yes" to the above question) Additional Phone Number [Instruction: Enter the additional phone number that you have used in the last five years. If you have more than one, click on the "Add Another" button to add more] Email Address Email Address [Instruction: Enter your email address where the consulate can email you if needed] Have you used any other email addresses in the last five years? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if you have used any other email addresses in the last five years. Select "No" if you didn't] (If you have answered "Yes" to the above question) Additional Email Address[Instruction: Enter the additional email address that you have used in the last five years. If you have more than one, click on the "Add Another" button to add more] Social Media Social Media Provider/Platform [Instruction: Select a social media platform that you currently use or used in the last 5 years. If you don't use/used any social media, leave it unselected] [Dropdown Options] ASK.FM DOUBAN FACEBOOK FLICKER GOOGLE+ INSTAGRAM LINKEDIN MYSPACE PINTEREST QZONE (QQ) REDITT SINA WEIBO TENCENT WEIBO TUMBLER TWITTER TWOO VINE VKONTAKTE (VK) YOUKU YOUTUBE NONE Social Media Identifier [Instruction: Enter the username or handle of the social media platform] Add Another [Instruction: If you use or have used more than one social media platform, click the "Add Another" button to add more] Do you wish to provide information about your presence on any other websites or applications you have used within the last five years to create or share content (photos, videos, status updates, etc.)? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if you use a social media platform that was not listed in the above question, ex: TikTok. Otherwise, select "No". Messaging services such as WhatsApp do not count as social media, so DO NOT enter such services here] (If answered "Yes" to the above question) Additional Social Media Platform [Instruction: Enter the social media platform name, ex: TikTok] Additional Social Media Handle [Instruction: Enter the social media platform username or handle, ex: @myhandle] Add Another [Instruction: If you use or have used more than one social media platform, click the "Add Another" button to add more] DS-160 – Passport Information page Passport/Travel Document Type [Instruction: Select "REGULAR" from the options] [Dropdown Options] REGULAR OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC OTHER Passport/Travel Document Number [Instruction: Enter your passport number] Passport Book Number [Instruction: Just check "Does Not Apply"] Country/Authority that Issued Passport/Travel Document [Instruction: Select your country of passport] Where was the Passport/Travel Document Issued? City [Instruction: Enter the place of issue from your passport. If you can't find the place of issue on your passport, just enter the city where your passport was issued] State/Province *If shown on passport [Instruction: Enter state/province of issue from your passport. If the state/province of issue is not on your passport, leave this field blank] Country/Region [Instruction: Select the country where your passport was issued] Issuance Date [Instruction: Select the date of issue from your passport] Expiration Date [Instruction: Select the date of expiration from your passport] Have you ever lost a passport or had one stolen? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you have ever lost your passport or stolen] (If you have answered "Yes" to the above question) Provide the following information: Passport/Travel Document Number [Instruction: Enter the passport number of the passport that was lost or stolen] Country/Authority that Issued Passport/Travel Document [Instruction: Enter the country of the passport that was lost or stolen] Explain [Instruction: Explain how your passport was lost or stolen] Add Another [Instruction: If you had multiple incidents of lost or stolen passports, click on the "Add Another" button to enter more] DS-160 – U.S. Point of Contact Information page Contact Person or Organization in the United States Contact Person [Instruction: Enter the details of the person you know or will be visiting in the US below. If you don't know anyone, check "Do Not Know"] Surnames [Instruction: Enter the surname of your contact person in the US] Given Names [Instruction: Enter the given name of your contact person in the US] Organization Name [Instruction: Enter the name of the organization you know or will be visiting in the US. If you will not be visiting any, you can enter your hotel name or just check "Do Not Know"] Relationship to You [Instruction: Enter your contact person's relationship to you from these options] [Dropdown Options] RELATIVE SPOUSE FRIEND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE EMPLOYER SCHOOL OFFICIAL OTHER Address and Phone Number of Point of Contact [Instruction: Enter the address and phone details for your US contact] U.S. Street Address (Line 1) U.S. Street Address (Line 2) *Optional City State Zip Code (if known) Phone Number Email Address NOTEFor "Contact Person or Organization in the United States", you would need to enter AT LEAST one, either a "Contact Person" or an "Organization". If you don't know anyone who can vouch for you, I recommend entering the hotel where you will be staying. DS-160 – Family Information: Relatives page Father's Full Name and Date of Birth Surnames [Instruction: Enter your father's surname. If you don't know, check "Do Not Know"] Given Names [Instruction: Enter your father's given name. If you don't know, check "Do Not Know"] Date of Birth [Instruction: Enter your father's date of birth. If you don't know, check "Do Not Know"] Is your father in the U.S.? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" if your father is currently in the US] (If you have selected "Yes" to the above question) Father's Status [Instruction: Select your father's current status in the US] [Dropdown Options] U.S. Citizen [Instruction: Use this option if your father is a US citizen, meaning holding a US passport] U.S. LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT (LPR) [Instruction: Use this option if your father holds a US Green card] NONIMMIGRANT [Instruction: Use this option if your father is on a nonimmigrant visa such as B, H, L, F, J] OTHER/I DON'T KNOW [Instruction: Use this option if you don't know his status in the US] Mother's Full Name and Date of Birth Surnames [Instruction: Enter your mother's surname. If you don't know, check "Do Not Know"] Given Names [Instruction: Enter your mother's given name. If you don't know, check "Do Not Know"] Date of Birth [Instruction: Enter your mother's date of birth. If you don't know, check "Do Not Know"] Is your mother in the U.S.? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" if your mother is currently in the US] (If you have selected "Yes" to the above question) Mother's Status [Instruction: Select your mother's current status in the US] [Dropdown Options] U.S. Citizen [Instruction: Use this option if your mother is a US citizen, meaning holding a US passport] U.S. LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT (LPR) [Instruction: Use this option if your mother holds a US Green card] NONIMMIGRANT [Instruction: Use this option if your mother is on a nonimmigrant visa such as B, H, L, F, J] OTHER/I DON'T KNOW [Instruction: Use this option if you don't know her status in the US] Do you have any immediate relatives, not including parents, in the United States? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if you have any immediate relatives such as spouse, children or siblings in the US and enter their details below. Otherwise, select "No"] (If you have answered "Yes" to the above question) Provide the following information: Surnames [Instruction: Enter your immediate relative's (spouse, son, daughter or sibling) surname] Given Names [Instruction: Enter your immediate relative's (spouse, son, daughter or sibling) given names] Relationship to You [Instruction: Select your immediate relative's relationship with you from the options] [Dropdown Options] SPOUSE FIANCÉ/FIANCÉÉ CHILD SIBLING Relative's Status [Instruction: Select your immediate relative's current status in the US from the options below] [Dropdown Options] U.S. Citizen [Instruction: Use this option if they are a US citizen, meaning holding a US passport] U.S. LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT (LPR) [Instruction: Use this option if they hold US Green card] NONIMMIGRANT [Instruction: Use this option if they are on a nonimmigrant visa such as B, H, L, F, J] OTHER/I DON'T KNOW [Instruction: Use this option if you don't know their status] Do you have any other relatives in the United States? [Comment: Select "No". Select "Yes" if you have any relatives such as grandparents, in-laws, uncles, aunts, cousins, etc. in the US and enter their details below] NOTEFor "Other Relatives", select "Yes" only if you have relatives that you keep in touch with regularly and they know that you will be visiting the US soon. Spouse's Full Name and Date of Birth (include Maiden Name) Spouse's Surnames [Instruction: Enter your spouse's surname] Spouse's Given Names [Instruction: Enter your spouse's given name] Spouse's Date of Birth [Instruction: Select your spouse's date of birth] Spouse's Country/Region of Origin (Nationality) [Instruction: Select your spouse's country of nationality] Spouse's Place of Birth City [Instruction: Enter your spouse's city of birth] Country/Region [Instruction: Enter your spouse's country of birth] Spouse's Address [Instruction: Select your spouse's address from the options or enter a new one] [Dropdown Options] SAME AS HOME ADDRESS SAME AS MAILING ADDRESS SAME AS U.S. CONTACT ADDRESS DO NOT KNOW OTHER (SPECIFY ADDRESS) NOTEThe "Spouse" section is only available if you have selected "MARRIED" as the "Marital Status" in "02. Personal" above. DS-160 – Present work/Education/Training Information page Primary Occupation [Instruction: Select your primary occupation from the options] [Dropdown Options] AGRICULTURE ARTIST/PERFORMER BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS COMPUTER SCIENCE CULINARY/FOOD SERVICES EDUCATION ENGINEERING GOVERNMENT HOMEMAKER LEGAL PROFESSION MEDICAL/HEALTH MILITARY NATURAL SCIENCE NOT EMPLOYED PHYSICAL SCIENCES RELIGIOUS VACATION RESEARCH RETIRED SOCIAL SERVICES STUDENT OTHER (If you select an option other than "HOMEMAKER" or "RETIRED" for the above question, you must answer the following questions) Explain [Instruction: This "Explain" box is shown only if you select "UNEMPLOYED" or "OTHER" for the above question. If you are unemployed, explain why you are unemployed. If you select "OTHER", specify your occupation, such as Journalism, Marketing, etc.] Present Employer or School Name [Instruction: Enter your current employer name (if employed) or university/college name (if student) or business name (if owns a business)] Present employer or school address: [Instruction: Enter your current employer/school/business address below] Street Address (Line 1) Street Address (Line 2) *Optional City State/Province Postal Zone/Zip Code Phone Number Country/Region Start Date [Instruction: Select the start date of your current job or school curriculum or business] Monthly Income in Local Currency (if employed) [Instruction: Enter the monthly income you make from your current job or business. Check "Does Not Apply" if you are a student or retired] Briefly describe your duties: [Instruction: Write a brief list of duties performed at your current employer or business] DS-160 – Previous Work/Education/Training Information page IMPORTANTSubsections "Previous" (previous work and education) and "Additional" (languages and travel history) are only asked for (1) all male applicants and (2) all applicants (male and female) from countries considered questionable. Therefore, if you are a female applicant and you do not see these sections, it means you are not required to fill those sections. It's normal, no need to worry. Were you previously employed? [Instruction: Select "Yes" if you have a previous employer and enter the details below. Select "No" if your current job is your first job or if you are a student] (If you answer "Yes" to the above question, you must answer the following questions) Employer/Employment Information: Employer Name Employer Street Address (Line1) Employer Street Address (Line 2) *Optional City State/Province Postal Zone/Zip Code Country/Region Job Title Supervisor's Surname [Instruction: If you don't remember or know your supervisor back then, just check "Do Not Know"] Supervisor's Given Names [Instruction: If you don't remember or know your supervisor back then, just check "Do Not Know"] Employment Date From Employment Date To Briefly describe your duties: Add Another [Instruction: If you have more than one previous employment, use this option to add more. You can add up to 2 previous employments] Have you attended any educational institutions at a secondary level or above? [Instruction: Select "Yes" and enter your educational background below] (If you answer "Yes" to the above question, you must answer the following questions) Provide the following information on the educational institution(s) you have attended. Name of Institution Street Address (Line 1) Street Address (Line 2) *Optional City State/Province Postal Zone/Zip Code Country/Region Course of Study [Instruction: Enter your course of study or degree] Date of Attendance From [Instruction: Enter your university/school course start date] Date of Attendance To [Instruction: Enter your university/school course end date] Add Another [Instruction: Use this option to enter details if you have multiple degrees or a master's degree] NOTEEnter your educational background starting from the highest education to high school (or higher secondary). DS-160 – Additional Work/Education/Training Information page Do you belong to a clan or tribe? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" if you belong to a recognized clan or tribe and enter the details] Provide a List of Languages You Speak Language Name [Instruction: Enter the language that you speak] Add Another [Instruction: Use this option to add more languages that you speak] Have you traveled to any countries/regions within the last five years? (If you have answered "Yes" to the above question, you must answer the following questions) Provide a List of Countries/Regions Visited [Instruction: Enter all the names of the countries you have traveled to so far, excluding the US and your home country] Country/Region [Instruction: Enter the name of the country you have traveled to previously] Add Another [Instruction: Use this option to add more countries that you have traveled] Have you belonged to, contributed to, or worked for any professional, social, or charitable organization? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you are affiliated with a professional (IEEE, ACM, Bar Association, etc.) or charitable (Red Cross, MSF) group and enter the names of those organizations] Do you have any specialized skills or training, such as firearms, explosives, nuclear, biological, or chemical experience? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you were trained in using firearms, etc] Have you ever served in the military? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you have served/serving in the military] Have you ever served in, been a member of, or been involved with a paramilitary unit, vigilante unit, rebel group, guerrilla group, or insurgent organization? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you have been involved in any of those groups and enter the details below] Provide a List of Languages You SpeakFor the question "Provide a List of Languages You Speak", enter all languages that you speak, even if you speak at a beginner level. Provide a List of Countries/Regions VisitedFor the question "Provide a List of Countries/Regions Visited", enter all countries you have traveled to so far, including your country of residence (if it's not your country of passport). Exclude the US (if you have traveled to the US before), your country of passport and any country that you have merely passed through on a layover/transit. DS-160 – Security and Background: Part 1 page Do you have a communicable disease of public health significance? (Communicable diseases of public significance include chancroid, gonorrhea, granuloma inguinale, infectious leprosy, lymphogranuloma venereum, infectious stage syphilis, active tuberculosis, and other diseases as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services.) [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you have any of those diseases] Do you have a mental or physical disorder that poses or is likely to pose a threat to the safety or welfare of yourself or others? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you have a mental or physical disorder] Are you or have you ever been a drug abuser or addict? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" only if you were a drug abuser or addict] DS-160 – Security and Background: Part 2 page Have you ever been arrested or convicted for any offense or crime, even though subject of a pardon, amnesty, or other similar action? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever violated, or engaged in a conspiracy to violate, any law relating to controlled substances? [Instruction: Select "No"] Are you coming to the United States to engage in prostitution or unlawful commercialized vice or have you been engaged in prostitution or procuring prostitutes within the past 10 years? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever been involved in, or do you seek to engage in, money laundering? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever committed or conspired to commit a human trafficking offense in the United States or outside the United States? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you knowingly aided, abetted, assisted or colluded with an individual who has committed or conspired to commit a severe human trafficking offense in the United States or outside the United States? [Instruction: Select "No"] Are you the spouse, son, or daughter of an individual who has committed or conspired to commit a human trafficking offense in the United States or outside the United States and have you within the last five years, knowingly benefited from the trafficking activities? [Instruction: Select "No"] DS-160 – Security and Background: Part 3 page Do you seek to engage in espionage, sabotage, export control violations, or any other illegal activity while in the United States? [Instruction: Select "No"] Do you seek to engage in terrorist activities while in the United States or have you ever engaged in terrorist activities? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever or do you intend to provide financial assistance or other support to terrorists or terrorist organizations? [Instruction: Select "No"] Are you a member or representative of a terrorist organization? [Instruction: Select "No"] Are you the spouse, son, or daughter of an individual who has engaged in terrorist activity, including providing financial assistance or other support to terrorists or terrorist organizations, in the last five years? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever ordered, incited, committed, assisted, or otherwise participated in genocide?[Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever committed, ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in torture?[Instruction: Select "No"] Have you committed, ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in extrajudicial killings, political killings, or other acts of violence? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever engaged in the recruitment or the use of child soldiers? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you, while serving as a government official, been responsible for or directly carried out, at any time, particularly severe violations of religious freedom? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever been directly involved in the establishment or enforcement of population controls forcing a woman to undergo an abortion against her free choice or a man or a woman to undergo sterilization against his or her free will? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever been directly involved in the coercive transplantation of human organs or bodily tissue? [Instruction: Select "No"] DS-160 – Security and Background: Part 4 page Have you ever sought to obtain or assist others to obtain a visa, entry into the United States, or any other United States immigration benefit by fraud or willful misrepresentation or other unlawful means? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever been removed or deported from any country? [Instruction: Select "No"] DS-160 – Security and Background: Part 5 page Have you ever withheld custody of a U.S. citizen child outside the United States from a person granted legal custody by a U.S. court? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you voted in the United States in violation of any law or regulation? [Instruction: Select "No"] Have you ever renounced United States citizenship for the purpose of avoiding taxation? [Instruction: Select "No"] This section may not be available if applying from certain countries such as India, Mexico, etc. In such countries, photos are typically captured along with fingerprints by the visa application center or the consulate on the day of the visa interview appointment. DS-160 – Upload Photo page In the "Upload Photo" section, upload a passport-size digital photo. NOTEIf you have uploaded and tested your photo in the "01. Getting Started" section, you will be taken directly to the "Confirm Photo" section. NOTEYou may sometimes see an "Error: There was a missing or invalid parameter in the request" while uploading the photo. If you see this error, try again after a few minutes. If it's a weekend, try again on a weekday, especially during US working hours. This is a technical issue and nothing wrong with your photo. Their technical team will be notified by the system and they will fix it. DS-160 – Confirm Photo page In the "Confirm Photo" section, you will see a preview of the photo you have uploaded. If you are satisfied with your photo, click on "Next: REVIEW". Otherwise, click on "Choose a Different Photo" to upload a different photo. In this section, you will review all the data you have entered so far. You will click on each of the following 7 subsections to review for accuracy and any mistakes in the data you have entered. DS-160 – Review Personal, Address, Phone and Passport Information page Review the entered information in "Personal/Address/Phone/Passport". Personal Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in personal information, click on "Edit Personal Information" to fix the errors] Address and Phone Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in address and phone information, click on "Edit Address and Phone Information" to fix the errors] Passport/Travel Document Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in passport/travel document information, click on "Edit Passport/Travel Document Information" to fix the errors] DS-160 – Review Travel Information page Review the entered information in "Travel". Travel Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in travel information, click on "Edit Travel Information" to fix the errors] Travel Companions Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in travel companions information, click on "Edit Travel Companions Information" to fix the errors] Previous U.S. Travel Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in previous US travel information, click on "Edit Previous U.S. Travel Information" to fix the errors] DS-160 – Review U.S. Contact Information page Review the entered information in "U.S. Contact". U.S. Point of Contact Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in US point of contact information, click on "Edit U.S. Point of Contact Information" to fix the errors] DS-160 – Review Family Information page Review the entered information in "Family". Family Information: Relatives [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in relatives information, click on "Edit Family Information: Relatives" to fix the errors] Family Information: Spouse [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in spouse information, click on "Edit Family Information: Spouse" to fix the errors] DS-160 – Review Work/Education/Training Information page Review the entered information in "Work/Education/Training". Present Work Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in present work information, click on "Edit Present Work Information" to fix the errors] Previous Work Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in previous work information, click on "Edit Previous Work Information" to fix the errors] Additional Information [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in additional information, click on "Edit Additional Information" to fix the errors] DS-160 – Review Security and Background Information page Review the entered information in "Security and Background". Part 1 [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in part 1, click on "Edit Part 1" to fix the errors] Part 2 [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in part 2, click on "Edit Part 2" to fix the errors] Part 3 [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in part 3, click on "Edit Part 3" to fix the errors] Part 4 [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in part 4, click on "Edit Part 4" to fix the errors] Part 5 [Instruction: If you see any mistakes in part 5, click on "Edit Part 5" to fix the errors] DS-160 – Review Location Information page Review the entered information in "Location". Location [Instruction: If you have made a mistake in selecting the location for your visa interview, click on "Edit Location Information" to select a different location] DS-160 – Sign and Submit page Preparer of Application Did anyone assist you in filling out this application? [Instruction: Select "No". Select "Yes" ONLY if a travel agent completed your application on your behalf] E-Signature Enter your Passport/Travel Document Number: [Instruction: Enter your passport number] Enter the code as shown: [Instruction: Enter the code shown in the captcha] After entering the above information, click on "Sign and Submit Application" to electronically sign and submit your DS-160. IMPORTANTOnce you click on "Sign and Submit Application", you cannot make any more changes to your DS-160. If you notice any errors, then you have to fill out a new application altogether. So, make sure all your information is correct and error-free before clicking on "Sign and Submit Application". After you click on "Sign and Submit Application", the following confirmation is displayed. "You have successfully signed and submitted your application. You cannot make any changes to your application at this point. Please click 'Next: Confirmation' to complete the application process." Click on the "Next: Confirmation" button to view and print your DS-160 confirmation. DS-160 – Confirmation page On this page, confirmation of your DS-160 will be displayed. You will see 3 options – Print Confirmation [Instruction: Click this button to print DS-160 confirmation. A print of your DS-160 confirmation is required to attend your US visa interview.] Print Application [Instruction: Click this button to print a copy of DS-160 itself. This is for your records only. You do not need a DS-160 print for your interview.] Email Confirmation [Instruction: Click this button to email DS-160 confirmation. You can also print this DS-160 confirmation from your email later.] Print DS-160 confirmation from this screen on A4 or letter-size paper. If not, at least save it as a PDF so you will have a copy. Email a copy to yourself as well so you can print it later if needed. After printing, keep the confirmation page in your records, as you will need this for your visa interview appointment. Also, print a copy of your DS-160 to PDF so you will have a copy of that too. Later down the line, if you are applying/renewing the visa, you can upload this PDF to pre-populate the DS-160 form for you. It would save a ton of time. *** How to print DS-160 confirmation page? If you have already submitted your DS-160 but did not print your confirmation page, follow the steps below. Step 1: Go to the CEAC website and click on the "Retrieve an Application" button. Step 2: Enter your 10-digit application ID number (DS-160 confirmation number) and click on "Retrieve Application". This will retrieve your submitted DS-160. Step 3: Click on the "Print Application Confirmation" button. A new window will open, displaying your confirmation page. Step 4: Click on the "Print" button to print your DS-160 confirmation. If you do not have access to a printer, save the confirmation page as a PDF so you can print it later. *** Follow the steps below to retrieve a DS-160 form after submission. Step 1: Go to the CEAC website and click on the "Retrieve an Application" button. Step 2: Enter your 10-digit application ID (also called DS-160 confirmation number) and click on "Retrieve Application". This will retrieve your submitted DS-160. You can edit the form or print the confirmation from here. *** Editing an already submitted DS-160 form is not possible. You will have to fill out a new DS-160 form. But you can retrieve your already submitted DS-160 form to pre-populate the information in your new DS-160 form. Follow the steps below. Step 1: Go to the CEAC website and click on the "Retrieve an Application" button. Step 2: Enter your 10-digit application ID (also called DS-160 confirmation number) and click on "Retrieve Application". This will retrieve your submitted DS-160. Step 3: Click on the "Create a New Application" button. This will create a new form DS-160 and auto-populate the information from your old DS-160. Step 4: Make edits where necessary and submit the form. A new DS-160 confirmation will be displayed. Click on the "Print" button to print this new confirmation page. Use this new DS-160 confirmation page for your US visa appointment. Discard the old confirmation page. *** If you are applying for a US nonimmigrant visa as a family, each family member must submit a separate form DS-160. Follow these steps to complete the form for everyone in the family. Step 1: Start your (primary applicant) DS-160 form first. Add your family members as your travel companions. Step 2: After submitting your form, on the "thank you" page, you will be given the option to create DS-160 forms for your family members. Step 3: Follow the on-screen instructions from there, some of the common information (such as travel dates, companions, etc) will be copied over to your family members' forms. This saves time and helps to avoid making mistakes. *** *** That's it, folks! If you have any questions or are stuck at any step, comment below or reach out to me via social media or email. ABOUT THE AUTHOR: THIRUMAL MOTATIThirumal Motati is an expert in tourist visa matters. He has been traveling the world on tourist visas for more than a decade. With his expertise, he has obtained several tourist visas, including the most strenuous ones such as the US, UK, Canada, and Schengen, some of which were granted multiple times. He has also set foot inside US consulates on numerous occasions. Mr. Motati has uncovered the secrets to successful visa applications. His guidance has enabled countless individuals to obtain their visas and fulfill their travel dreams. His statements have been mentioned in publications like Yahoo, BBC, The Hindu, and Travel Zoo.