



US Embassy Buenos Aires  
Consular Section (Immigration)  
Av. Colombia 4300  
1425 Buenos Aires, Argentina  
[buenosaires-iv@state.gov](mailto:buenosaires-iv@state.gov)  
<http://buenosaires.usembassy.gov>

## K1/ K3 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

This office is pleased to announce that we have received your petition for a non-immigrant visa "K1/ K3" so that you may travel to the US to get married with your fiance(e) (K1 visa), or to live with your spouse (K3 visa). In order to have the final interview before the US Consul, please read the instructions below and follow them carefully.

**FIRST:** Complete and send us form DS-230 Part I. (Application for Immigrant Visa and Foreign Registration).

**SECOND:** Gather all the documents mentioned below that apply to your case. Please check the box on the left once you have gathered the document and send us by mail a copy of each of the documents requested together with this form. Once we have received and checked your copies, we will schedule your appointment with the Immigrant Visa Consul. On the day of the interview with the Consul, you will have to present ALL the ORIGINAL documents

**IMPORTANT:** THE APPOINTMENT WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED UNTIL YOU SEND US THE COPIES OF ALL THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW:

**1. EVIDENCE OF RELATIONSHIP:** We prefer to see many photos of the petitioner and the beneficiary at varying times throughout their life or relationship. Receipts of money sent from the petitioner to the beneficiary is also good proof of relationship, as well as cards and letters with the original post marked envelopes, and phone records.

**2. DS-156:** Complete TWO (2) forms DS-156 (Non Immigrant Visa Application) on line at <http://evisaforms.state.gov/>. Answer every question. If a question does not apply to you, you must reply with 'not applicable'. If your children are applying for the visas with you, they must also complete the forms.

**3. DS-157:** All male applicants between 16 and 46 years must complete TWO (2) forms DS-157. Answer every question. If a question does not apply to you, you must reply with 'not applicable'. If your children are applying for the visas with you, they must also complete the forms.

**4. DS-156K:** Complete ONE form DS-156K (Non Immigrant Fiance(e) visa application). Do not sign it. Answer every question. If a question does not apply to you, you must reply with 'not applicable'

**5. PASSPORT:** it must be valid to travel to the United States and must have at least six months validity beyond the issuance date of the visa.

**PREVIOUS PASSPORTS:** You must send us a copy of all previous passports and present the originals at the time of the visa application interview.

**6. BIRTH CERTIFICATE:** Birth certificate for each applicant. You must present birth certificates for all your unmarried children under 21 years even if they are not applying for the visa at the moment. Date and place of birth as well as parents' name must be included in the birth certificate. Certificates of birth in the U.S. **MUST** be original certified long-form copies from the Office of Vital Records from the state where the birth took place. No other birth certificate will be accepted as proof of birth in the U.S. If you or any children were adopted, you must submit a certified copy of the final adoption decree.

**UNOBTAINABLE birth certificate:** Under exceptional cases it may impossible to present the birth certificate. Therefore, in such cases, you should obtain a statement to that effect from the civil registrar's office and proceed to obtain secondary evidence of birth. In such cases, please bring any secondary evidence you might have concerning your birth.

Under these circumstances, the Consular Officer may request a DNA test.

**7. MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE:** All married persons or previously married people are required to present a certified copy of their marriage certificate. Certificates of marriage from the U.S. **MUST** be original certified long-form copies from the Office of Vital Records from the state where the marriage took place. No other marriage certificate will be accepted as proof of marriage in the U.S.

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( ) **8. DIVORCE DECREE:** Proof of the termination of any previous marriage must also be submitted. You must present the Divorce Decree; the marginal annotation entered in the Marriage certificate is not accepted.

( ) **9. DEATH CERTIFICATE OF SPOUSE.**

( ) **10. POLICE CERTIFICATE:** Each visa applicant aged 16 years or over is required to submit a police certificate from the police authorities of each locality in which the applicant has resided. The term "police certificate" as used in this paragraph means a certification by appropriate police authorities stating what their records show concerning each applicant, including all arrests, the reasons for the arrests, and the disposition of each case of which there is a record. If there is a judicial judgment, you must present it too. For further information, please read the instructions attached and/ or consult this office.

( ) **11. COURT AND PRISON RECORDS:** Persons who have been convicted of a crime must obtain a certified copy of each court record and any prison or criminal record, regardless of the fact that they may have benefited subsequently from an amnesty, pardon, or other act of clemency.

( ) **12. MILITARY RECORD:** A certified copy of any military record, if applicable, is required. Submit your "Libreta de Enrolamiento" or the ORIGINAL DNI (National Identity Document) showing your name, photo, and the military stamps stating the period and place served. If you do not have your "Libreta de Enrolamiento" or your ORIGINAL DNI, please contact the appropriate Military authority in order to request a letter from them stating that your military situation is regularized. The duplicate, triplicate DNI is not accepted as it does not have the ORIGINAL military stamp stating whether the military service was done or not.

( ) **13. PHOTOGRAPHS:** Please bring **FOUR (4)** identical recent photographs 2x2 inches (5x5 centimeters), **FRONT VIEW**, light white/ off-white background, on glossy paper, unretouched, and unmounted. No head covering or dark glasses should be worn. Photos are required of all applicants, regardless of age. Please see instructions attached.

( ) **14. EVIDENCE OF SUPPORT:** You must submit any evidence which will show that you and members of your family who will accompany you are not likely to become public charges while in the United States. Visa petitioner (US Citizen) will have to complete form I-134. If the petitioner does not qualify as a sponsor, a Joint-Sponsor should ALSO be presented (any US Citizen living in the US or Legal Permanent Resident), who will also have to complete form I-134. Both, the Sponsor (Petitioner) as well as the Joint-Sponsor, will have to present last year's income tax return and proof of current and sustainable income (e.g letter of employment on letterhead including salary and start date, most recent salary receipts, bank accounts, value of properties, etc.)

( ) **15. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:** Please make all necessary arrangements to undergo a medical examination with one of the physicians authorized and included in the instructions attached. You must pay the corresponding fee. All visa applicants (minor children also) require it. Bring the sealed envelope as the physician gave it to you. If that envelope shows signs of tampering or has been opened it will not be accepted.

( ) **16. COURT ORDER:** If a minor is applying for an Immigrant Visa, a Court Order or Authorization before a Notary Public MUST be submitted to demonstrate the minor's non-accompanying parent's consent for the minor applicant to live in the US. Please read instructions attached.

( ) **17. FEE:** You will have to pay the visa process fee which is US\$131, payable at any Branch of the [Banco de la Ciudad](#) or at any [Red Link](#) ATM.

( ) **18. TRANSLATIONS:** All documents not in English or Spanish must be accompanied by a certified English translation. Translations done in the US, must be certified by a competent translator and sworn to before a Notary Public. If the translation is done in Argentina, it must be translated by a Sworn English Translator registered at the School of Translators, and the translation must be notarized by the School of Translators.

**THIRD:** As soon as you have obtained all of documents that apply to your case, carefully read the statement at the bottom of this page, sign it and date it, and return the form attached to the copies of the above mentioned documents/ certificates, to this office by regular mail, courier or leave them in a closed envelope addressed to this section at the Embassy entrance.

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Every copy that you submit will be included in the Immigration package that you will have to submit when you enter the US.

**Normal processing time to review your copies and contact you is approximately 7 business days** since the moment we have received your envelope. You will be scheduled for a visa interview at the earliest possible date.

**IMPORTANT: Please note that if you have questions about the instructions or documents requested, either the petitioner or beneficiary may send us an email with all the questions. Please include your case number in the subject line. We will not respond to duplicate emails. Normal response time is 5 business days.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

- DS-230 I - Application for Immigrant Visa and Foreign Registration.
- DS-156 - Non Immigrant Visa Application (two per applicant). This form must be completed on line at [http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms\\_1342.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms_1342.html)
- DS-157 - Supplemental Non Immigrant Visa Application (men between 16 and 45 years; two per applicant) also available at [http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms\\_1342.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms_1342.html)
- DS-156K –Non-Immigrant Fiance(e) visa application also available at:

[http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms\\_1342.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/forms/forms_1342.html)

- Photo requirements
- Police Certificate Instructions
- Military Certificate Instructions
- Medical Exam Instructions
- Court Order Instructions
- I-134 - Affidavit of Support

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**READ CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:** I have in my possession and I am prepared to present all the documents listed above that apply to my case, as indicated by the check mark I have placed in the appropriate boxes. I fully realize that no advance assurance can be given to me as to when or whether a visa will actually be issued and I also understand that I should NOT give up my job, dispose of property, or make any final travel arrangements until a visa is actually issued to me.

**DATE:**

**CASE NUMBER:**

**APPLICANT NAME:**

**SIGNATURE:**

**CURRENT ADDRESS:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

**E-MAIL:**

Notify this office if you change your domicile and/ or civil status. Failure to do so may result in termination of your registration.