

## **VISA: DIVERSITY VISA PROGRAM – DV-2015 Exhaustion of DV Numbers**

- The congressionally mandated Diversity Immigrant Visa Program (DV) makes available up to 50,000 diversity visas each year, drawn from random selection among all entries to persons who meet strict eligibility requirements from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States.
- Some of the first 50,000 selectees do not qualify for visas or pursue their cases to visa issuance. To ensure all of the available DVs are issued, more than 50,000 entries are selected. However, this also means there will not be a sufficient number of visas for all those who are initially selected.
- Only the first 50,000 selected applicants to qualify will be issued visas. Once all of the 50,000 DVs have been issued, the program will end.
- Selected applicants who wish to receive visas must be prepared to act promptly on their cases. Individuals who miss or reschedule their appointments, or come unprepared without all required documents, risk the possibility that a visa will not be available.
- Each year's DV instructions explain there is no guarantee numbers will be available for all selectees.
- Being randomly chosen as a selectee does not guarantee you will receive a visa. Selection means you are eligible to apply for a Diversity Visa. If you are qualified, you will be issued a Diversity Visa.
- DV applicants must pay all application fees and costs, including costs for medical examinations for themselves and qualifying immediate relatives. Immigrants under the DV program must also prove they will be able to financially support themselves in the United States.
- If an applicant is found ineligible, or there are insufficient numbers to issue a visa, applicants are not entitled to any refund of application fees paid.
- The DV-2015 annual limits for all regions have been reached based on the determination of the September DV-2015 rank cut-offs. September is the last month of the DV-2015 program, and rank cut-offs govern applicant eligibility for final action on their case.
- Only those applicants with rank numbers which are within the September rank cut-offs will be eligible for final processing.
- Numbers are available for those applicants who have been scheduled for their initial interview at an overseas post during July, August, or September, and who are awaiting final action on adjustment of status cases during those months.
- Applicants who request that a post reschedule their initially scheduled DV appointment seriously risk unavailability of a visa number, as do applicants whose visas are refused and return to post in a later month to try to overcome the refusal.
- Except where specified above, this notice only applies to the processing of overseas cases.