



PRESS RELEASE

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Non-Immigrant Visa Fees to Increase World-wide on January 1, 2008

Damascus, December 16, 2007 – On January 1, 2008, the fee to apply for any non-immigrant visa to enter the United States, including tourist, business, student and other visas, will increase from \$100 to \$131 dollars world-wide.

Applicants who paid the prior \$100 application fee before January 1 will be processed only if they are scheduled and appear for a visa interview before January 31. Applicants who paid the prior \$100 application fee and appear for visa interviews after January 31, 2008 must pay the difference -- \$31 -- before they can be interviewed.

The Department of State must periodically adjust fees, whether for visas or other services provided, to comply with U.S. federal legislation requiring it to recuperate the costs of services through fees charged directly to the users of those services. Advances in security and information processing systems have increased processing costs for both immigrant and non-immigrant visas, as well as for certain services provided to U.S. citizens.