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USA

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USA

Visa processing times in the USA

This page explains how long you can expect to wait for your UK visa application to be processed if you have applied in the USA.

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Service standards

We have service standards for processing UK visa applications in the USA. Our standards say that we will process:

90 per cent of non-settlement applications within **3 weeks**, 98% within 6 weeks and 100% within 12 weeks of the application date; and

95 per cent of settlement applications within **12 weeks** and 100% within 24 weeks of the application date.

If our visa processing service is experiencing delays, we will publish a news story on this website to explain what is happening. You can find recent news stories on the right side of this page.

If we have taken more than 3 weeks (for non-settlement visas) or 3 months (for settlement visas), from the day your application was received at the UK Border Agency in New York, to process your application, and we have not

News & updates

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[Changes to the Immigration Rules - July 2013](#)

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[London Metropolitan University granted new licence for a probationary period](#)

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published a news story to explain the delay, you can contact our dedicated information partner WorldBridge to find out what is happening. You can find their contact details on the [WorldBridge in USA](#) website. They will forward your query to us for a reply.

Please **do not** contact WorldBridge unless you have been waiting longer than the time stated above for a decision. We will not respond to your enquiry unless this time has passed.

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Our recent performance

Our guide to visa processing times contains up-to-date information on the time taken to process UK visa applications in every visa application centre, by visa category. We update this information each month.

You can find out our recent processing times from the table below.

The processing time begins when the UK Border Agency, New York has received your completed application form, application fee, passport and supporting documents, and you have enrolled your biometric information. It ends when we have made a decision on your application and your passport is available for collection.

You can use this information as a **guide** to how long it **may** take to process your application, but we cannot guarantee that your application will be processed within that time. This is because of the unique circumstances of each case.

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United States

Visits Visas	2 days	3 days	5 days	10 days	15 days	40 days	60 days	90 days	120 days	Total decisions made
Long Term Visit (more than 6 months)	2%	39%	49%	91%	94%	97%	99%	100%	100%	557
General Visit (6 months or less)	1%	19%	32%	91%	97%	99%	100%	100%	100%	2419
Business Visit (6 months or less)	2%	47%	52%	93%	98%	99%	100%	100%	100%	569

Family Visit (6 months or less)	1%	12%	28%	90%	97%	99%	99%	100%	100%	680
Transit (6 months or less)	0%	14%	36%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	181
Other Visit (6 months or less)	1%	20%	31%	84%	96%	99%	100%	100%	100%	492

Points Based System Visas	2 days	3 days	5 days	10 days	15 days	40 days	60 days	90 days	120 days	Total decisions made
PBS Tier 1	0%	44%	44%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	9
PBS Tier 2	2%	65%	69%	93%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	526
PBS Tier 4	2%	30%	54%	93%	95%	99%	100%	100%	100%	542
PBS Tier 5	3%	50%	60%	93%	97%	99%	100%	100%	100%	496

Other Non Settlement Visas	2 days	3 days	5 days	10 days	15 days	40 days	60 days	90 days	120 days	Total decisions made
Student	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	2
EEA Family Permits	2%	78%	84%	96%	96%	98%	100%	100%	100%	50
Other Non-Settlement	2%	26%	46%	88%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67

Settlement Visas	2 days	3 days	5 days	10 days	15 days	40 days	60 days	90 days	120 days	Total decisions made
Settlement	0%	11%	31%	66%	80%	91%	98%	100%	100%	114

The above data is for all decisions made in June 2013