# New U.S. Visa Application Process – Beginning September 28, 2024

The U.S. Embassy in the Philippines will open a new Visa Application Center (VAC) in Parañaque City, Metro Manila on September 28, 2024. U.S. immigrant and nonimmigrant visa applicants will make an appointment at the VAC to have fingerprints and a photo taken prior to making a separate interview appointment at the U.S. Embassy. Visa applicants will first need to create an online profile in the user portal. The system will then help you make appointments at the VAC and at the U.S. Embassy.

**Interview Waiver**: Some non-immigrant visa applicants may qualify for an interview waiver. To check if you qualify, please see here.

## Your Appointment at the Visa Application Center

The portal will display available VAC appointment dates and times.



# What do I need to bring for my appointment?

- A passport valid for travel to the United States with a validity date at least six months beyond your intended period of stay in the United States (unless <u>country-specific</u> <u>agreements</u> provide exemptions). If more than one person is included in your passport, each person desiring a visa must submit an application, individually.
- 2 Your printed DS-160 confirmation page.
- 3 Your printed appointment confirmation page.
- 4 Children under 5 years applying for visas do not need to come to the VAC, but you must bring their acceptable photo, per the US Visa specifications and guidelines. For more details, please <u>select here</u>.

Please note that details on items prohibited at the Visa Application Center are included in your appointment confirmation and be <u>found here</u>.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

What is a VAC? The Visa Application Center (VAC) is run by a contractor for fingerprint and photo collection. The VAC may also collect documents for delivery to the U.S. Embassy, passports for interview waiver cases, and may be the pickup location for passports. The VAC is not the U.S. Embassy. Visa interviews happen only at the U.S. Embassy.

I booked a visa appointment before September 28 for a visa interview at the embassy in November. Do I need to visit the VAC? No, you do not need to visit the VAC. All visa applicants who have scheduled their visa interview before September 28 can proceed directly to their scheduled interview appointment at the embassy

I have already paid the visa application fee but have not scheduled an interview. Can I use this payment after September 28? Yes. If you have paid your visa fee before September 28 in the old system but have not associated your payment receipt to your profile to schedule an interview, you need to sign-up in the new system and claim your receipt by entering the payment receipt number and payment date into the new system.

If I schedule a visa appointment on or after September 28, will I need two appointments? Yes. Our visa application system will help guide you to schedule an appointment at the VAC and a later appointment at the U.S. Embassy.

**How can I change my appointment after September 28?** You may access the new scheduling system starting September 28. Please monitor this website for additional information.

#### <u>I need to reschedule my appointment which I scheduled</u> prior to September 28. Will I need to make an appointment at the VAC?

Yes, you will need to schedule an appointment at the VAC before you can proceed to your new interview appointment.

# The Visa Application Center (VAC) Opening September 28, 2024



### Address:

Parqal Pres. Macapagal Blvd. cor. Cabrera Drive Aseana City, Parañaque, Philippines

# Hours of Operation:

**Days** - Monday through Friday **Time** - 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. local time **Services** – Fingerprint and photo, submission of interview waiver visa applications, 221(g) document submissions, and passport collection appointments available.

Day - Saturday

**Time** - 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. local time **Services** – Fingerprint and photo appointments only