



# Foreign Affairs Manual

## VOLUME 9 – Visas

**Change Transmittal:** VISA-1620

**Date:** January 20, 2011

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## 9 FAM 41.53 NOTES

### Changes

1. This Change Transmittal issues updates to **9 FAM 41.53 Notes**.  
In section N4.3 and N4.4, changes were made to reflect the new countries that are now eligible to participate in the H-2A and H-2B programs, as of January 18, 2011.  
In Section N12.1, H-1B Nonimmigrants, was changed and revised again. References were corrected and updated throughout.
2. **Change Transmittal** has replaced the term, Transmittal Letter. Change Transmittal was selected as being more appropriate in this age of electronic information transmission. The FAM volume's transmittal acronym and numerical series remains in place.
3. Revisions since the last update appear in *italic* and *dark magenta*. Other than formal titles, the italic will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italic. Italic provides a historical record of changes.
4. Officers are reminded that Department-issued materials not codified in the Foreign Affairs Manual or its supplemental Foreign Affairs Handbook series generally have no regulatory validity (see 2 FAM 1115.2).

### Filing Instructions (Paper Copies)

1. Remove and discard the old 9 FAM 41.53 Notes (CT:VISA-1606; 12-02-2010, 42 pages) and insert the new 9 FAM 41.53 Notes (CT:VISA-1620; 01-20-2011, 42 pages).
2. After inserting the material in the binder, insert this change transmittal letter immediately following the CT Checklist, then fill in the entry line for CT:VISA-1620, and initial.

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3. Use **KFAM** and **AINF** TAGS on **all** communications on FAM/FAH issues; direct questions concerning issuance, validity, and updating to A/GIS/DIR. Direct questions concerning substance and interpretations to the office indicated at the end of this change transmittal letter.

(CA/VO/L/R)