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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. NONIMMIGRANT VISA FEES TO INCREASE ON JUNE 4, 2010

Effective June 4, 2010, the application fee for most U.S. nonimmigrant visas (NIV) categories will increase. For tourist, student and exchange visas (B1/B2, F, J) the increase will be from US\$131 to US\$140. For petition-related visas (H, L, O, P, Q, and R), the increase will be from US\$131 to US\$150. The fee for nonimmigrant K visas (fiancé visas) will increase from US\$131 to US\$350, and E visas will increase from US\$131 to US\$390 on the same date.

NONIMMIGRANT VISA FEE INCREASE FOR B1/B2, F, AND J VISAS

Individuals who apply for non-immigrant visas on or after June 4, 2010, will need to pay the new visa fees. In Senegal, visa processing fees are accepted at certain Ecobank locations. A list of these Ecobank locations is listed on the U.S. Embassy Dakar website at http://dakar.usembassy.gov/non-immigrant_visas.html.

Applicants who have already paid the \$131 application fee, and have a valid receipt, but who will appear for a visa interview after June 4, 2010 will need to pay the difference of \$9 before being interviewed. This \$9 payment can be made either at Ecobank or directly to the Embassy cashier on the day of the interview.

NONIMMIGRANT VISA FEE INCREASE FOR OTHER VISA CATEGORIES

Ecobank will only issue receipts valued at \$140, and, in the limited cases discussed above, at \$9. Those applicants applying for visas which require higher application fees (H, L, O, P, Q, R, K, E), will need to pay \$140 at Ecobank, and pay the difference at the Embassy cashier on the day of their interview.

BACKGROUND

These fee increases allow the U.S. Department of State to recover the costs of security and other enhancements to its non-immigrant and immigrant visa application processes. New security-related measures have caused the cost of providing NIVs and IVs to rise significantly. The fees for U.S. consular services are based on the actual costs of providing services to individuals. These costs have risen since the visa application fee was last increased in 2008. Additional information on both U.S. nonimmigrant and immigrant visas is available on the U.S. Embassy Dakar website at <http://dakar.usembassy.gov> or by purchasing a calling card and contacting the U.S. Visa Information Service in Senegal at 33-869-6300. Please do not call the U.S. Embassy directly.

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