



**United States Department of State**

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

December 14, 2021

Sharon Block, Acting Administrator  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget

Dear Administrator Block,

The Department of State requests OMB emergency processing of proposed revisions to the DS-3025, Vaccine Documentation Worksheet, and DS-7794, Electronic Medical Examination for Visa Applicant, pursuant to the process established in 5 CFR 1320.13.

Under Section 212(a)(1)(A)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), individuals are ineligible for immigrant visas unless they have been inoculated for vaccine-preventable diseases recommended by the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices. Refugees, immigrant visa applicants and certain nonimmigrant visa applicants must complete a medical examination before a panel physician before a consular officer may issue the visa. The Department of State (the Department) implements this through various forms that make up two information collections: DS-2054, DS-3030, DS-3025, DS-3026 (OMB Control No. 1405-0113) and DS-7794 (OMB Control No. 1405-0230): Electronic Medical Examination for Visa Applicant.

On August 16, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated the Technical Instructions for Panel Physicians (TIs) to include SARS-CoV-2 (“COVID-19”) on the list of vaccinations required for noncitizens subject to medical examinations effective October 1, 2021. During a medical examination, the panel physician verifies inoculation, provides additional required vaccines at cost to the applicant, or may waive a vaccine for various reasons including when the required vaccine is not routinely available in the country. In response to this requirement, the Department is proposing amending the DS-3025, Vaccination Documentation Worksheet and DS-7794, Electronic Medical Examination for Visa Applicant, to allow implementation of these TIs by instructing panel physicians to ask whether an applicant has received a COVID-19 vaccine in accordance with CDC guidelines. The applicant’s vaccination status will be recorded under a new “COVID-19” box on the respective forms. In the event that the eMedical portal cannot be amended by December 23, 2021, panel physicians will temporarily record COVID-19 vaccine status in the existing “other” field on DS-7794.

Vaccination requirements for immigrant visa applicants is governed by INA 212(a)(1)(A)(ii). Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.13, the Department of State has determined that this collection is needed prior to the expiration of periods normally associated with a routine submission for review under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, that this information collection is essential to the mission of the Department of State, and that public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Revising the DS-3025 and DS-7794 to collect COVID-19 vaccine information is necessary to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to the United States. The

current pandemic of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been determined by the World Health Organization (WHO) to be a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) under the International Health Regulations. COVID-19 meets the definition of a quarantinable communicable disease under 42 USC 264 and Executive Order 13295, as amended by Executive Order 13375 and 13674. Specifically, COVID-19 meets the definition of severe acute respiratory syndromes as specified by Presidential Executive Order 13674 (issued July 31, 2014), thus making it a Class A Inadmissible Condition.

Were the Department of not to collect this information, it could result in the granting of visas to individuals who would be inadmissible under INA 212(a)(1)(A)(ii). By collecting COVID-19 vaccination information in accordance with the amended CDC TIs, and providing it where available, the Department will be able to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission and this harm will be minimized.

Therefore, the Department requests emergency OMB processing and approval for this revised information collection as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DM', with a small blue mark to the right.

Douglass R. Benning  
Acting Assistant Secretary,  
Bureau of Consular Affairs,  
Department of State