

STEP 1 - HOW TO GET A GREEN CARD FOR YOUR SPOUSE

Please review the information of the Immigration website: WWW.USCIS.GOV

The process is quite easy and can usually be accomplished without much difficulty. From the main page, click on: Green Card (Permanent Residence)

There will find more detailed information and a link to the forms you will need. You will be the petitioner and your spouse will be the beneficiary.

Here are the instructions for the form you will need:

<http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-130instr.pdf> so you have an overview of the type of documents you will be expected to present to immigration as proof of the validity of your marriage.

As a military member, you are entitled to special processing of your application and you also have a special phone number to call for more information and help. USCIS has established a toll-free "Military Help Line" exclusively for members of the military and their families: 1-877-CIS-4MIL (1-877-247-4645).

Here are the links for the documents necessary for your spouse to obtain her Legal Permanent Resident status, also known as a "Green Card."

<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis>

choose Green Card through Family

On the instructions it explains that you and your wife BOTH need to fill out a G325A. You also need other documents as explained in the instructions.

G325A

<http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/g-325a.pdf>

Get a Green Card While Outside the United States:

If you are currently outside the United States and are an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen, you can become a permanent resident through consular processing. Consular processing is when USCIS works with the Department of State to issue a visa on an approved Form I-130 petition when a visa is available. You may then travel on the visa and will officially become a permanent resident when admitted at a U.S. port of entry.

The Department of State will notify you when you are eligible to apply for an immigrant visa. If you do not apply for an immigrant visa within one year following notification from the Department of State, your petition may be terminated.

Immigrant Visa for Spouse:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_2991.html

You and your spouse can probably complete the forms without the need to travel to our office. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Legal Assistance. If you are a current client of our office, you may e-mail the documents to the attorney for review prior to filing if you wish.

STEP 2 - HOW TO GET A VISA FOR YOUR SPOUSE

Please review the information of the VISA website:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_2991.html

After your I-130 Petition is approved, it is sent to the National Visa Center (NVC). Once received, the NVC will assign a case number for the petition and begin pre-processing the applicant's case by providing the applicant and petitioner with instructions to submit the appropriate fees, after the appropriate fees are paid, you will receive further detailed instructions.

Generally, you will need the following:

Passport valid for the period of time it will take to acquire the Visa and travel to the United States.

Application for Immigrant Visa, Form DS-230, both Part I and Part II, or Online Immigrant Visa Application and Registration, Form DS-260.

Two (2) 2x2 photographs.

Completed Medical Examination Forms: Chest X-ray, blood tests, and immunizations.

Other civil documents such as birth certificates, marriage and divorce certificates, military records, police certificates, etc. as requested.

After you have submitted your documents, an interview will be scheduled for you and your spouse.

When you are issued an immigrant visa, the consular officer will give you your passport containing the immigrant visa and a sealed packet containing the documents which you provided. It is important that you do not open the sealed packet. Only the U.S. immigration official should open this packet when you enter the United States. You are required to enter the U.S. before the expiration date printed on your visa. When traveling, the primary (or principal) applicant must enter the U.S. before or at the same time as family members holding visas.

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If you chose to receive your Social Security Number Card upon admission to the United States, your card will be sent via mail to the U.S. address you indicated. If you did not elect to receive your Social Security Number Card automatically, you will have to apply to be issued a card following your arrival in the United States. See WWW.SSA.GOV