

How to apply for step 2 CS exam visa

- Applying for the step 2 cs exam visa was an obstacle in the way of USMLE takers; this is no longer the case.
- This simple guide should take you step by step through the process of applying to US visa so you can take your cs exam.
- If you are a graduate then it is better to time your observership with your step 2 cs exam.
- Apply for B1/B2 visa i.e. business and pleasure visa.
- This is a non immigrant visa, so you need to have a sufficient proof of ties, in other words, you need to provide documents as evidences that you have strong ties, commitments and reasons to come back to your current residence in Sudan. Another important requirement is to provide a proof of financial ability to pay for the expenses of your US trip.
- If you successfully fulfill these criteria, it will be easier to get the visa.
- **Ties and financial ability :**
 - If you are employed, get a certificate of employment, an annual leave and a salary certificate.
 - If you are doing some post graduate studies then get a document to state that together with an annual leave for a specified period of time.
 - As a rule try always to prove that you have some sort of commitments back home and that you have an obligation to come back.
 - Remember most b1/b2 visas application if rejected it is based on insufficient ties, so try to work on this part of your application by providing sufficient documents.
 - Also you`ll need to provide documents for your ability to pay for your US trip. Bring a bank statement (you can get it from any bank you have an account in). If you do not have an account in your name then you can get the bank statement of a relative along with a sponsorship letter in which this relative would state that he or she is willing to pay for your US trip. Do it in a lawyer office.

-You can bring a certificate of ownership of a property like a house or a car, in your name or a relative's name along with a sponsorship letter.

- The b1/b2 visa application is composed of two parts :

An online part:

-Go <http://sudan.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmigrant-visas/> for this link:

<http://sudan.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmigrant-visas/> .Then fill in a DS-160 application form. It is an electronic form that you should fill online .it is fairly long so you might be unable to finish it all in one day .So just make sure to press save after every step you finish. Then keep the application code they provide you and use it to retrieve your application along with a security question whenever you want. However the application will be valid only for 30 days. Afterwards you have to start a new application!

- When filling the online part try to be honest, precise and consistent throughout the application .This is very crucial.
- Your name on the application should match your name on the passport.
- You have to upload a digital photo (same lottery requirements and most studios are familiar with).Take a soft copy of the photo and make sure to validate the photo using the photo validator they give you in the application.
- Make sure to prepare a clear travel plan i.e. Know where are you going, where are you staying...etc.
- Also when asked about the duration you want to stay, try to be reasonable and do not over do it.
- It is all about showing no intent to migrate. That is why having no clear travel plan would show an intention to migrate.
- Revise your visa application and print it out. Then electronically sign and submit the application. After doing that you will not be able to change any part of your application.
- Print out the confirmation of the ds-160 form .You can use a colored laser printer or a plain black and white printer; just make sure that the code bar is printed out clearly.

- Then using the application code, book an appointment for the visa interview at the US embassy through their website provided in the link above.
- Again print out the NIV confirmation appointment with the US embassy. Take note of the exact date and time, and make sure that all of your documents will be ready before your appointment.
- **Documents you will need:**
 - Your passport
 - DS-160 confirmation,
 - NIV visa interview appointment confirmation,
 - Two photos (lottery's photo size),
 - Step 2 CS exam scheduling permit,
 - ECFMG visa letter and appointment confirmation
 - An employment or enrollment letter (if a postgraduate student)
 - Salary certificate
 - Annual leave certificate
 - Bank statements, sponsorship letters , property ownership's certificate
 - A copy of a medical course program or the schedule of a conference.
- It depends on the purpose of your US trip **BUT never mention that you are going for an observership** unless you have a clear invitation or a letter that states very clearly the fact that you will be only observing and not actually working. In my personal opinion avoid mentioning the observer ship and stick to taking an exam, attending a course or a conference kind of excuses.

The Visa Interview:

- Arrive half an hour before your appointment .Just in case.
- US embassy in Sudan is located in :
شارع سوبا مقابل مكتب ادارة المرور
- At the reception-front desk you will be required to check in, state the date, time and sign in. Same goes when you check out.
- Then you will go through a short security check.

- Pay for your visa's application processing which is 140 US dollars or its equivalent in Sudanese currency.
- They might call you to complete any missing information in your online visa application.
- Then they will call you for the interview.
- The interviewer / visa officer will take your 10 digits electronic finger prints.
- Usually the interview is pretty relaxed and simple. Just be confident, precise and consistent. And be honest .In my personal opinion and experience it is always the best way out 😊
- Always try to back up whatever you say with a document.
- Have a clear plan and be organized.
- Do not get all shaky if the interviewer/visa officer surprised you with a non predictable question; if so then just answer him or her confidently and again honestly.
- The interviewer/visa officer will ask you to tell him more about your purpose for going to the US, whether you are working or not and how much you get paid, if you got an annual leave for the period of your travel, to tell him more about your family (**to inquire if you have any family in the US which might imply an intention to migrate so be clever when answering this question**). If you have applied to the lottery, for how long would you like to stay in the US? (It is a trap question, lol...so again be reasonable).
- Finally Insha'Allah when you issued your entry visa, the interviewer will let you know and ask you to go pay an additional 19 US dollars or its equivalent in Sudanese currency.
- The interviewer/visa officer will keep the passport so they can stamp the US entry visa.
- You should enter the US within 3 months from the date of its issuance. So plan the time of your visa application and your US trip accordingly.
- The date of your exit from the US will be determined later in a second interview at the airport through which you are going to enter the US.JFK airport in new York is a good option if you want to stay in the US for a longer period of time as they are more open

minded, however this is just an observation but no solid statistics to back this up. At the end enter from wherever it is more convenient for you.

- You will get the passport back within 2 days from the date of the interview, usually on Monday and Tuesday from 2 p.m to 3 p.m.
- Good luck with everything.