

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING DISCONTINUATION OF ISSUANCE OF NONIMMIGRANT VISAS:

The Secretary of Homeland Security has notified the Secretary of State that Burundi denies or unreasonably delays accepting the return of its citizens, subjects, nationals or residents subject to final orders of removal from the United States, and the Secretary of State has ordered consular officers in Burundi to discontinue granting all nonimmigrant visas for Burundian citizens and nationals applying in Bujumbura, with limited exceptions.

As of June 12, 2020, the United States has discontinued issuance of all nonimmigrant visas (NIVs) for Burundian citizens and nationals applying in Burundi, except for A1, A2, C2, G1, G2, G3, G4, NATO1, NATO2, NATO3, NATO4, NATO5, and NATO6 visas, and others whose travel is covered by Section 11 of the UN Headquarters Agreement, subject to limited exceptions. This action was taken pursuant to section 243(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Visa applications submitted before June 12, 2020, but not yet issued, will be subject to the discontinuation. Should an individual subject to the Secretary's order submit a visa application after June 12, 2020, the consular section will proceed with an interview. However, a consular officer will not be able to issue a visa to applicants subject to the Secretary's order until visa issuance is resumed.

Visa issuance covered by the Secretary's order for Burundi will resume once the Secretary of Homeland Security sends the Secretary of State the notice required by U.S. law, relating to the country's acceptance of its nationals.

Once these sanctions have been lifted, the Embassy may issue nonimmigrant visas to eligible visa applicants. The U.S. Department of State will provide information on how to continue with discontinued visa applications. Nonimmigrant visa applicants who were previously found ineligible for a visa and whose visa applications were refused on such basis, such as under INA 212(a), will not be reconsidered.

Consular operations in Burundi will continue to provide services not subject to restriction. This visa restriction does not affect other consular services provided, including American citizen services and adjudication of visa applications from individuals and visa categories not covered by the sanction.

Applicants with an urgent matter and who need to travel immediately should follow the guidance provided at the Embassy's website to request an emergency appointment.

Visas that have not expired will continue to be valid.