



EMAIL BULLETIN

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO BEGIN ACCEPTING ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS UNDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 DIVERSITY VISA “LOTTERY” PROGRAM**

**Application Period Extends from October 4, 2006 through December 3, 2006**

*26 September 2006*

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) will begin accepting electronic applications under the Fiscal Year 2008 Diversity Visa “Lottery” Program on October 4, 2006. The Diversity Program is open to applicants from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. Each Fiscal Year, a maximum of 55,000 Diversity Visas are made available. Applications under the Diversity Visa Program are accepted via the U.S. DOS Diversity Visa web site at [www.dvlottery.state.gov](http://www.dvlottery.state.gov).

Applicants from countries sending more than 50,000 immigrants to the United States during the previous five-year period are not eligible. Historically, and continuing to date, persons born in India or China have not been eligible to apply under the Diversity Visa Program. The following table lists those countries whose natives are *not* eligible to apply under the FY 2008 Diversity Visa program:

Brazil	Canada
China	Colombia
Dominican Republic	El Salvador
Haiti	India
Jamaica	Mexico
Pakistan	Philippines
Peru	Poland
Russia	South Korea
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	Vietnam

Applicants born in Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR and Taiwan are eligible, as are persons born in other countries not listed above. If your company would be interested in providing more information to the company’s workforce on the availability and application procedures of the Diversity Visa “Lottery” Program, your Tindall & Foster immigration attorney will be happy to assist in the preparation of an appropriate communication for dissemination to your foreign national workforce. For more information, contact your Tindall & Foster immigration attorney today.