

## IMMIGRATION UPDATE®

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## **NEW ONLINE VISA STATUS CHECK SERVICE**

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) recently introduced an online "Visa Status Check" service, which allows both immigrant and nonimmigrant visa applicants to check the status of their cases at the Consular Electronic Application Center (CEAC).

The web-based "Visa Status Check" tool allows users to check the status of pending Consular visa applications, as well as the delivery status of approved visas.

- To check the status of an Immigrant Visa Application, enter the Case number (e.g., MTL1999626025) in the box provided.
- To check the status of a Nonimmigrant Visa Application, enter the location of the U.S. Consulate at which the visa application was made and the Applicant ID or Case Number (e.g., AA0020AKAX or 2012118 345 0001) in the boxes provided.

This new "Visa Status Check" service is a useful tool for obtaining basic information regarding the status of a visa application pending at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad. When applications are subject to "additional administrative processing" that causes a delay in visa issuance, the status appears in the system along with a projected time frame for completion and return of the applicant's passport and visa stamp.

The status of petitions and applications pending with U.S. Citizenship & Immigrant Services (CIS) remains accessible through the separate <u>CIS online case status system</u>. Additional information and resources regarding the status of pending cases are available on our firm's website at <a href="http://www.fosterquan.com/Case\_Status/">http://www.fosterquan.com/Case\_Status/</a>, and both case status systems are readily accessible via the case status tab at the top of the page.

For more information about the various immigrant and nonimmigrant visa categories, or for assistance with the visa petition or application process, please contact your <u>FosterQuan immigration</u> <u>attorney</u>. As always FosterQuan will continue to monitor changes in visa application procedures and will provide additional information in future Immigration Updates<sup>©</sup>, and on our firm's website.