



World Institute of Pain

## **Instructions for Attendees Requiring Visas for Travel to the USA**

WIP has prepared these instructions as a courtesy to assist attendees of WIP-sponsored activities with the acquisition of the appropriate visa to permit entry into the United States for purposes of business travel. The attendee is ultimately responsible for verifying the requirements and completing the proper procedures necessary for securing the required business traveler visa. WIP also welcomes your feedback if your actual experience varies from these instructions, so we may improve these guidelines and expectations for future participants of WIP-sponsored activities. Thank you! - WIP Secretariat

WIP Conference attendees from outside the USA should review these guidelines to determine if they need to obtain a visa prior to their visit to the US. Please note that these guidelines are intended for those pursuing non-immigrant visas (B-1 [Business Travelers]) only.

Attendees to the US from Canada or Bermuda generally do not require visas.<sup>1</sup>

Attendees to the US from the following countries may enter the US as part of the Visa Waiver Program,<sup>2</sup> provided they have a machine-readable passport, a valid authorization through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) prior to travel, are screened at the port of entry into the United States, and are enrolled in the Department of Homeland Security's [US-VISIT](#) program:

Andorra	Hungary	New Zealand
Australia	Iceland	Norway
Austria	Ireland	Portugal
Belgium	Italy	San Marino
Brunei	Japan	Singapore
Czech Republic	Latvia	Slovakia
Denmark	Liechtenstein	Slovenia
Estonia	Lithuania	South Korea
Finland	Luxembourg	Spain
France	Malta	Sweden
Germany	Monaco	Switzerland
Greece	the Netherlands	United Kingdom

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<sup>1</sup> See [http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without\\_1260.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1260.html) for more detailed information.

<sup>2</sup> See [http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without\\_1990.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1990.html) for more detailed information.

Attendees from other countries must obtain a Business Visitor Visa (B-1)<sup>3</sup> prior to their travel to the US. According to the US State Department website,<sup>4</sup>

“There are specific requirements which must be met by applicants to qualify for a visitor visa under provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The consular officer at the embassy or consulate will determine whether you qualify for the visa.

**The presumption in the law is that every visitor visa applicant is an intending immigrant. Therefore, applicants for visitor visas must overcome this presumption by demonstrating that:**

1. The purpose of their trip is to enter the U.S. for business, pleasure, or medical treatment;
2. That they plan to remain for a specific, limited period;
3. Evidence of funds to cover expenses in the United States;
4. Evidence of compelling social and economic ties abroad; and
5. That they have a residence outside the U.S. as well as other binding ties that will insure their return abroad at the end of the visit.”

Attendees seeking B-1 visas should review the application process and additional guidelines on the US State Department’s website ([http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types\\_1262.html#4](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1262.html#4)). A major factor in the decision to grant a visa is the interview with the US Consulate/Embassy personnel. During these interviews, attendees should stress and provide documentation that items 1-5 above apply to them.

The World Institute of Pain will provide a letter of invitation to the conference to attendees upon request.<sup>5</sup> If this is necessary, please provide the following information:

- Name as it appears on your passport
- Home address, telephone number, fax number, e-mail (if applicable)
- Passport number
- Intended dates of your visit

Please send this information to Mark Tolliver, WIP Administrative Coordinator, via e-mail ([mark.tolliver@worldinstituteofpain.org](mailto:mark.tolliver@worldinstituteofpain.org)). In most cases, US Embassy/Consular staff require original copies of these letters, so Mr. Tolliver will mail the original copy to the attendee upon receipt of the information above.

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<sup>3</sup> Please review the B-1 visa description at <http://travel.state.gov/pdf/BusinessVisa.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types\\_1262.html#3](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1262.html#3)

<sup>5</sup> See [http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types\\_1262.html#7](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1262.html#7) for details regarding this supporting documentation.