

Special Visa Processing Procedures Pursuant to Section 306

There are special procedures related to the issuance of visas to foreign citizens from countries designated as [State Sponsors of Terrorism](#), under provisions of the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Reform Act of 2002 (EBSVRA). Four countries, including Cuba, Syria, Sudan and Iran are impacted by these procedures.

Special Visa Processing Procedures

All applicants from State Sponsors of Terrorism countries age 16 and over, irrespective of gender, appear for an interview with a consular officer. An exception to the requirement for an interview may be made at the discretion of the consular officer in cases of A and G visa applicants (except for A-3 and G-5 applicants, who must be interviewed).

The Law - Enhanced Border Security and Visa Reform Act

No nonimmigrant visa under Section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) shall be issued to any alien from a country that is a state sponsor of international terrorism unless the Secretary of State determines, in consultation with the Attorney General and the heads of other appropriate United States agencies, that such alien does not pose a threat to the safety or national security of the United States. In making a determination under this sub-section, the Secretary of State shall apply standards developed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Attorney General and the heads of other appropriate United States agencies, that are applicable to the nationals of such states.

http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/info/info_1300.html (Accessed 10/17/2012)