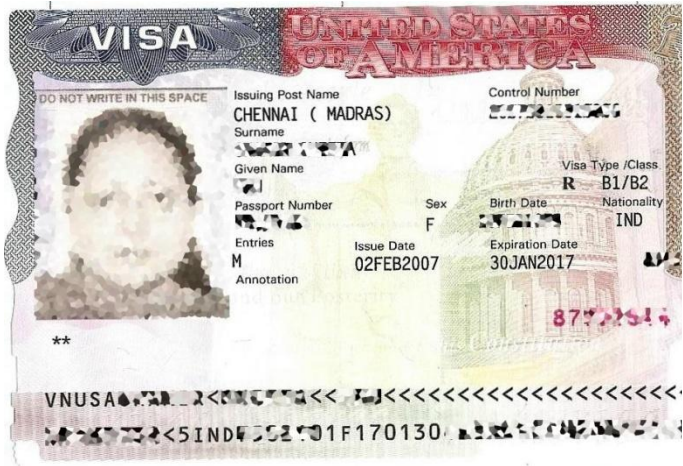


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Getting a US visa for a Thai Girl

Save this document to your local computer so you can open it and reference it again.

The information contained in this document is not intended to be legal advice and I do not present it as being all inclusive of the information you will need. Each person's requirements are different and you may need additional information, documents, etc based on your specific needs. I encourage you to obtain legal advice from a qualified attorney to discuss your specific needs.

It is not easy to get a US visa for a Thai girl, but it is not impossible, and I'm going to tell you what I learned about the process.

You have probably been to Thailand and fell in love with one of the many beauties that Thailand has to offer. I encourage you to read my eBook about Relationships with Thai Girls. I offer this information about Thai girls to assure you are

completely aware of the pitfalls and advantages. I have nothing against Thai girls, **I married one and I'm very happy.**

I'm sure you have seen many places advertising their visa services. Most of these companies are focused on getting a visa for countries like the UK, Sweden, Germany, etc. Some do not even offer to help with USA visas since they are so hard to get. They all over promise and attempt to make you believe the process is very simple, and it is if you are dealing with any country other than the USA.

These companies will charge you anywhere between 50,000 to over 100,000 baht for their services. But, the application cannot be applied for in Thailand, the application must go to a processing center in the US. So they will fill out the forms and send them to you at your home in America, and you sign the papers, include your required documents, then mail to the appropriate processing center based on what State you live in.

These companies will also tell you the process takes 6 to 8 months. This is possible if all the stars are aligned properly, you don't live in a State that uses the California processing center (by far the slowest); and all your paper work is perfect. The USCIS National goal for processing a Fiancé visa is 5 months, however, as of this writing; the USCIS National Average is **11.7 months**. For a Family visa (already married) the goal is also 5 months, however the current average is **17.5 months**. Remember, we are talking about government workers here.

I'm not trying to discourage you from getting a visa for your love. I'm just attempting to set your expectations properly. Having a loving

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devoted Thai wife is worth the effort, and the time required will allow you time to get to know each other more while waiting for the visa.

So, what are your options for getting a visa?

Tourist visa - Forget about this option. The only way a Thai girl can get a Tourist visa is if she owns land and a house, has been working in a professional job (nurse, doctor, etc) for several years, owns a business for several years, owns a car and other significant assets. and can show that she has enough money in savings to pay for the trip and all her expenses while in the US AND the money must have a trail of being saved over several months. Basically, the USA wants to make sure the girl has more reason to return to Thailand than stay in the US.

I have an American friend who lives in Thailand and is married to a Thai woman. In Thailand, they own a house, have a business, two cars, and they have been married for a few years. He wanted to bring her to the US to meet and visit his family. It took several months and a couple of interviews before she was granted a tourist visa, and she was almost denied.

Student visa - This is possible if she is already a student in college or has recently graduated from college, and can show she has schools in the US she can attend, and can show she has money saved up to pay for tuition and all living expenses, or at least a source of money. Usually, the girl must be from a known wealthy family to have the influence to get a student visa. Of the single Thai girls I have met in the US, this is the most common visa gained.

Fiancé visa - Many visa companies will tell you it is faster to get a Fiancé visa (I129F K1/K2), and then marry her in the US. This is true if all the requirements of the visa can be met perfectly. The problem with the fiancé visa is that it is just a 90 day visa, and then you must apply for an Adjustment in Status (I-485) to convert it to a green card, or Permanent Residency Card. The Adjustment in Status process will involve an interview at a USCIS office so they can verify your marriage is real. The initial application is expensive \$455.00, and then the Adjustment of Status application is \$1,010.00. Each of these are time consuming and stressful.

If you have any type of a criminal record, then do not apply for a fiancé visa. The application specifically asks if you have a criminal conviction for any sex crime, domestic violence, assault, etc. If so, they want all the details. You cannot lie about the convictions since for the I129F, the USCIS will do extensive background checks on you and you must prove that you are rehabilitated and no longer a threat to the beneficiary of the application (your Thai girl). Plus the criminal record will add several months or years to the application process. You should use the Family visa (I130) process since it does not ask the question about criminal background, nor do they automatically do background checks.

Here are some of the requirements for a Fiancé visa:

- You must be a US Citizen;
- Provide a certified birth certificate;
- Statement from you and her saying that you plan to marry within 90 days of her arrival in the US;

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- You must prove that you have been to Thailand at least once and have met and spent time with the girl within the last 2 years. (No more mail order brides);
- If either of you have been married before, you must provide certified copies of divorce papers;
- Two passport type color photos of each of you; and
- Provide proof that you have a regular job and meet the minimum earnings requirements

If you plan to live in Thailand sometime after you get married in the US, you need to take your certified marriage certificate from the US and get it interpreted into Thai by a certified interpreter. Then take the translated copy and the original to a Thai government office and register the marriage in Thailand. This will help you avoid any visa issues when it is time for you to renew your Thai visa.

Here are links to documents related to processing a Fiancé visa on the USCIS website:

- [I-129F Fiancé visa application form](#)
- [I-129F instructions](#)
- [I-485 Adjustment of Status form](#)
- [I-485 instructions](#)

Family visa - The Family visa (Petition for alien relative, I130) is the best option if she cannot qualify for a student visa. Marry her in Thailand including going to the Government Office and doing the paper work (A Thai marriage is considered legal in the US). The ceremony that is done in a village is not considered a legal marriage. The marriage is not legal until the marriage is registered at the

government office. Then apply for a family visa. It is possible that the initial application will take a little longer. But this is a one-step process. When she is approved, she has a green card. No more applications or interviews. Plus the application fee is \$355.00.

If you have been married for less than two years, your spouse will be issued a conditional “green card”. Then after your second wedding anniversary, you must file a Petition to Remove Conditions of Residence (I-751) which has a filing fee of \$545.00.

Submit along with the Petition to Remove Conditions of Residence documentation proving that you are still married such as:

- Joint Tax Returns for the most recent year;
- Recent bank statements with both your names on it;
- Insurance card with both names;
- Etc.

Here are some of the requirements for a Family visa:

- You must be a US Citizen;
- Provide a certified birth certificate;
- Provide 2 passport type color photos of each of you;
- The petition is limited to your spouse, children, parents, brothers or sisters;
- You must agree to be her financial sponsor by filing an Affidavit of Support (I-864);
- Provide proof that your marriage is legally valid and you married in good faith.

Here are links to documents related to processing a Family visa on the USCIS website:

- [I-130 Petition for Alien Relative form](#)
- [I-130 instructions](#)

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- [Detailed information about the I-130](#)
- [I-751 Petition to Remove the Conditions of Residence form](#)
- [I-751 instructions](#)

Biographic Information

All applications (Fiancé, Family, Student, etc.) must be accompanied with a Biographic Information form. This form provided personal information about you including previous marriages and employment. Here is a link to this form: [I-325A](#) instructions are included with the form.

Requirements for your Thai girl

For both the Fiancé and Family visas, your girl must meet these requirements:

- Have a valid passport from her home country;
- Provide a certified copy of Thailand's equivalent to a birth certificate;
- Undergo a health screening by a doctor approved by the USCIS;
- Provide an affidavit from the local police stating that she does not have a criminal record;
- Undergo a background check by the USCIS to verify she is not a terrorist;
- Provide proof that she is eligible to marry including any divorce documents if she has been married before.
- All documents must be interpreted into English by a certified interpreter.

In either case, there are some additional documents that you should be gathering as proof that you have a legitimate relationship:

- Photos of your time together;

- Flight receipts and itineraries of your trips to Thailand;
- Hotel receipts – when you check in, ask the hotel to put both your name and your girl's name on the booking and receipt;
- Phone call bills and logs showing when you call her from your home in the US;
- Emails and/or other correspondence;
- If you are sending money to her, keep all the documentation of each time funds are transferred.
- If you are married, gather documents that show you are living as husband and wife:
- Joint bank statements with both your names;
- Credit cards or other loans with both names;
- Health insurance plans covering both of you;
- Lease or Rental agreements with both names;
- Driver's license and/or passport showing that she changed her surname to yours;
- Etc.

Do you need a lawyer?

If you are resourceful and you do not have an issue reading and deciphering USCIS jargon, there is no reason you cannot download the form, follow the instructions, and submit the application yourself without the help of an immigration lawyer. There are also some paralegals that have good experience with the immigration process and are much less money than a lawyer. Use the links I provided here to download the forms and instructions. The USCIS website also has a lot of helpful information at www.USCIS.gov.

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If you are not comfortable with the do-it-yourself option, I recommend that you use a lawyer in the US to complete and file the application, and then if you need someone to help her through the process in Thailand, hire a company like Siam Legal or Easy visa to just do that. Do not let a Thai company prepare the application for you.

If you have significant assets like property, savings, investments, etc. You must have a prenuptial agreement to protect yourself. There are many instances of Thai girls marrying an American, and then divorcing him as soon as she gets into the US. Don't think that your girl is different. It is better to protect yourself. The Thai people in the US will give you the same warning. There are many horror stories about Thai girls taking advantage of their American husbands. But there are many many more success stories. Be smart, take your time, and make sure she loves you and not just your money.

I hope you find success in this endeavor, and you and your Thai girl have a great life here in the good old USA.

If you have any comments or questions, please send me an email to support@thailandtripadvice.com.