

## IMMIGRATION UPDATE®

July 31, 2014



## IMPORTANT CHANGE IN NONIMMIGRANT VISA APPLICATION PROCEDURES IN PARIS

Effective today, the U.S. Embassy in Paris will accept nonimmigrant visa application fees paid by debit card (online or by phone) or through Electronic Bank Transfer (online). In addition, applicants will no longer be required to purchase a pre-paid Chronopost envelope for the return of their passport and visa. Rather, passports will be returned with no additional charge via courier and may be tracked online.

Applicants who scheduled an appointment and paid the visa fees prior to July 31 will retain their appointment date and must still present at the interview the Mandat-Compte fee receipt from the French post office and a pre-paid Chronopost envelope. Applicants who are in the process of scheduling an appointment or paying the visa fees during this transition should contact FosterQuan for specific instructions for <u>Transition Applicants</u>.

The U.S. Embassy advises that there may be some temporary delays in the appointment scheduling and visa issuance process as these new procedures are implemented. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their appointments as soon as practical and expect slight delays in visa issuance in the coming weeks. Additionally, applicants should be aware that the Department of State continues to experience technical issues with their visa/passport systems which has delayed the issuance of visas world-wide.

FosterQuan will continue to monitor and report changes in visa application procedures at U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad, and will make updates available as appropriate on our firm's website at <a href="https://www.fosterquan.com">www.fosterquan.com</a>.