

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Dominic Mancini
Deputy Administrator,
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget

FROM:

John L Armstrong
Senior Bureau Official
Bureau of Consular Affairs
Department of State

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) Approval of a New Information Collection for the Gold Visa Application.

The Department of State (“the Department”) requests immediate emergency approval for a new collection of information, the DS-260G, Gold Visa Application. This collection will be used to collect information necessary for issuance of a gold immigrant visa in accordance with the following legal authorities: Executive Order (EO) 14351, which mandates the creation of the Gold Card program; the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. § 1101 et seq., which mandates the application and eligibility requirements for individuals seeking to obtain an immigrant visa and alien registration in the United States; and INA 221(a), 8 U.S.C. § 1201(a), which provides that a consular officer may issue an immigrant visa to an alien who has made a proper application. The Department is seeking approval for this collection under 5 CFR 1320.13, Emergency processing.

On September 19, 2025, President Trump signed EO 14351 announcing the Gold Card visa program. The EO directs the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security, to establish the “Gold Card” program authorizing an alien who makes a gift to the Department of Commerce under 15 U.S.C. 1522 (or for whom a corporation or similar entity makes such a gift) to establish eligibility for an immigrant visa using an expedited process. The EO states that in adjudicating visa applications, the Secretary of State shall, consistent with applicable law, treat this gift as evidence of eligibility as either an EB-1 alien under INA 203(b)(1)(A), 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(1)(A), of exceptional business ability or an EB-2 alien of national benefit under INA section 203(b)(2)(A), 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(2)(A), and of eligibility for a national-interest waiver under INA section 203(b)(2)(B), 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(2)(B).

The Department, the Department of Commerce (Commerce), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have determined a proper application for a Gold Visa shall require a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)-approved I-140G, Immigrant Petition for the Gold

Card Program, and that the alien provide detailed background information for national security vetting purposes in accordance with EO 14161.

The Department will use the DS-260G to ensure aliens applying for a Gold Card meet eligibility requirements for an EB-1 or EB-2 immigrant visa. This new form mirrors the proposed DS-260, Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, which is currently undergoing the 30-day notice-and-comment period required under the PRA, 44 U.S.C.A. § 3507(j)(2). The two forms are nearly identical, but a separate information collection instrument is necessary because the DS-260 platform does not have the technical capacity and/or interagency interoperability necessary to process Gold Card applicants, who are required to provide a substantial donation to the U.S. Government of \$1 million to \$2 million in accordance with EO 14351. The Department intends to submit a non-substantive change request to merge the DS-260G and the DS-260 information collections under OMB Control Number 1405-0185. This will be done after OMB has approved the proposed DS-260 through the standard PRA process and within 180 days of the emergency PRA approval for the DS-260G information collection.

EO 14351 requires the Department, Commerce, and DHS to take all necessary and appropriate steps to implement the Gold Card program within 90 days of the order. Utilizing the normal clearance procedures for this collection under the PRA would prevent the Department from complying with the EO's December 18, 2025, deadline.

The Department concludes it is necessary to seek emergency review and approval for this information collection in accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13 and certifies that the requirements of 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13(a) are met because:

- The DS-260G is needed prior to the expiration of time periods established under the PRA and its implementing regulations;
- The DS-260G is essential to the mission of the Department; and
- An unanticipated event has occurred.

The unanticipated, adverse event began on October 1, 2025, and continued until November 13, 2025; specifically, the most recent federal government shutdown. Across the nation, this shutdown placed 650,000 federal workers on furlough, while 600,000 more were working without pay. The Federal government shutdown impacted essential partners, including colleagues at DHS, Commerce, and the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. Because of the shutdown, personnel and resources were not available to undertake the PRA's ordinary public process. The Department completed all feasible measures during the shutdown, but it was not possible to move forward with the process until furloughed colleagues resumed their critical roles in this collaborative federal effort.

Therefore, the Department requests OMB formal emergency review and approval of this information collection under 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13. as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John L. Armstrong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

John L Armstrong