

**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
CAMEROON**

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**AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU  
CAMEROUN**

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**ENTRY VISA TO CAMEROON**

**I. WHO NEEDS A VISA TO TRAVEL TO CAMEROON?**

All non-Cameroonian nationals residing in the United States or abroad are required to obtain a visa to travel to Cameroon. Cameroon-born U.S. citizens who are naturalized Americans and hold an American passport must also obtain a visa to travel to Cameroon.

**II. WHO CAN OBTAIN A VISA FROM THE EMBASSY OF CAMEROON IN WASHINGTON, D.C.?**

The Embassy of Cameroon in Washington D.C. has territorial jurisdiction over the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, MEXICO, COSTA RICA, the COMMONWEALTH of the BAHAMAS.

Travelers who may request for an entry visa at the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C., include nationals of the countries mentioned above and:

- U.S. permanent residents (green card holders), regardless of their citizenship,
- U.S. legal residents regardless of their citizenship: for example, non-U.S. citizens residing in the United States on an F-1 student visa, or J-1 exchange visitor status, or holders of H1B work visas, persons who are dependents under the aforementioned categories, etc.

**Non-U.S. citizens currently in the United States on a visitor's (B1 or B2) visa must be aware that they are not eligible to obtain a Cameroonian visa at the Embassy in Washington, D.C.**

**III. PROCESSING TIMES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

**A. Processing Times**

- The processing time **FOR ALL VISA APPLICATIONS** is approximately **SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS, EXCEPT for Diplomatic and Courtesy visas (Diplomatic and Official Passports)**. Travelers should plan their trip accordingly and are advised to apply for visas early, as the Embassy will not be able to accommodate travelers who fail to submit their visa applications in time due to their lack of planning.
- The processing time for **Diplomatic and Courtesy visas (DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS ONLY)** is approximately **THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS. PLEASE NOTE THAT FOR THESE TRAVELERS, APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED IN-PERSON ON A WALK-IN BASIS BETWEEN 10:00AM AND 12:30PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY (NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED), OR BY MAIL AS OUTLINED IN THE "APPLICATION PROCEDURE" SECTION BELOW.**

**B. Application Procedure**

**Visa applications may be submitted to the Embassy in Washington, D.C., IN-PERSON BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, or BY MAIL.**

**(1) IN-PERSON**

Complete visa applications can be submitted **IN-PERSON BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** at the Cameroon Embassy. Applicants or their agents must print from the Embassy Website, and fill out an "**Application Submission Sheet**", cut it along the line and staple the half page to the visa application file. If visa applications are submitted for a group of travelers, each individual application must bear the application submission sheet. When dropping-off the visa application file, one part of the application submission sheet will remain on the file, and the other will be given as a receipt to the person dropping off the application.

**HOW TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE CONSULAR SECTION**

In order to submit a visa application in-person, it is **PRIMORDIAL** and **MANDATORY FOR ALL APPLICANTS** to schedule an appointment with the Consular Section prior to coming to the Embassy. **Note that access will systematically be DENIED to any visa applicant who comes to the Embassy without having scheduled an appointment.**

- 01. Scheduling an appointment:** In order to schedule an appointment with the Consular Section of the Embassy, please call the appointment line: **(202) 286-0984**. Someone from the Consular Section will inform you about available appointment dates and times, and you will be asked to choose an open slot that is convenient for you;

- 02. Preparing for your appointment:** Please, carefully review the visa requirements contained in this document, so as to be fully prepared with complete documentation when you come to your appointment. **Note that failure to submit a complete application may result in the rejection of said application, and in your having to reschedule another appointment at a later time, which could result in significant delays in the processing of your request;**
- 03. Coming to your appointment:** On the day of your appointment, and at the confirmed time, please bring the complete visa application file to the Consular Section of the Embassy located at

**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON  
CONSULAR SECTION – SUITE 5M  
3007 TILDEN STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20008**

**04. IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- a. Each person coming to the Embassy in-person to submit a visa application for themselves or for a third party must schedule an appointment with the Consular Section. In the case of under-aged applicants, a parent, a legal guardian, or an agent must contact the Consular Section to schedule an appointment for the minor visa applicant.**
- b. In the case of families,** only one person needs to contact the Consular Section to schedule the appointment for the whole family. When doing so, it will be required to indicate the number and the names of all persons coming to the appointment, whether they are submitting a visa application or not. *For example, if an under-aged applicant is accompanied by his father who will not be submitting a visa application, when contacting the Consular Section to schedule an appointment, the father will need to give both names (his and the child's) – this is necessary in order to ensure that access will be granted to both the father and the child.*
- c. Note that the presence of an under-aged person is not required for a visa application to be accepted by the Consular Section.**
- d. Once again, service/access will ONLY be granted to those persons whose names are registered when scheduling the appointment. This implies that failure to register one's name when scheduling the appointment will result in denial of service/access.**

**(2) BY MAIL**

Complete visa applications can be submitted by mail. They should be forwarded to the Consular Section of the Embassy of Cameroon at

**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON  
CONSULAR SECTION – SUITE 5M  
3007 TILDEN STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20008**

For the return of their passport(s) once the visa application process is complete, applicants must include a prepaid envelop bearing a shipping label filled out with their address as both sender and recipient (they will basically be sending themselves a package). They may use FedEx, UPS, or Express Mail from the United States Postal Service (USPS). All shipping costs must be covered by having the return costs paid upfront at a FedEx or UPS location, or by ensuring that an account number or a credit card number is available on the shipping label for FedEx or UPS to charge for the service; Express Mail envelopes (from USPS) will have to bear stamps amounting to the fee corresponding to that service.

**NOTES: Senders of dossiers by mail must take note of the following:**

- REFER TO FEDEX, UPS, OR THE POST OFFICE'S WEBSITES, OR VISIT ONE OF THEIR LOCATIONS TO GET TRANSIT RATES FOR RETURN PACKAGES. THE CONSULAR SECTION DOES NOT HAVE THAT INFORMATION!
- It is primordial to give oneself the ability to monitor the progress of one's return mail by making sure that a tracking number is available.
- A return package **MAY NOT** be mailed if the sender of the dossier fails to include a traceable return envelop; in this case, the applicant will have to contact the Consular Section in order to make arrangements to get their passport back.
- Senders of dossiers must retain for their records the tracking numbers for the package sent to the Embassy and the return package, so as to enable themselves to monitor the progress of both shipping operations; It is not the Embassy duty to provide that information whether by phone or by email, but rather the responsibility of the visa applicants to ensure that they retain this information in the first place.
- If some tracking information confirms that a package has been delivered to the Embassy, the sender of that package should rely on that tracking information and refrain from calling or emailing the Consular Section of the Embassy to verify the information.

#### IV. TYPES OF VISAS

The table below includes all types of visas that may be granted by the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C.:

VISA TYPE	FEES			VISA DURATION	REMARK
	Application Fee	Visa Fee	TOTAL		
Tourism	\$2.00	\$91.00	\$93.00	One (1) day to Thirty (30) days	For tourists
Short Stay	\$2.00	\$91.00	\$93.00	One (1) day to Three (3) months	For visitors* (including private visitors, interns, volunteers), travelers on business, and students
Long Stay	\$2.00	\$182.00	\$184.00	Three (3) months to Six (6) months	
Transit	\$2.00	\$91.00	\$93.00	One (1) day to Five (5) days	For travelers transiting through Cameroon to their destination
Courtesy Visa: Short Stay or Long Stay	Free of charge			Depends on the nature of the assignment	For diplomats, government officials and members of international organizations bearing Laissez-Passers, diplomatic or official passports
Diplomatic					

\* Included in the “Visitors” category of travelers are U.S. citizens born in Cameroon or of Cameroonian origin

#### V. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY VISA

Visa applicants must submit the following documentation:

01. ORIGINAL PASSPORT with validity period of at least Six (6) months beyond the projected expiration date of the visa;
02. Two (02) visa application forms to be completed and signed by the applicant; In the case of under-aged persons, the application must be signed by the legal guardian;
03. Two (02) passport-size color photographs with white background (BOTH EARS MUST BE SEEN) that must be either glued or stapled to each of the two application forms;
04. Copy of document from airline or travel agency (COPY OF FLIGHT TICKETS/RESERVATION) for the trip to Cameroon; **Note that failure to include this document may lead to the rejection of the visa application!**
05. COPY of the vaccination certificate showing proof of yellow fever immunization. **DO NOT SEND THE ORIGINAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATE!** The Consular Section will not be responsible for lost or missing vaccination certificates.
06. SURRENDER THE FORMER CAMEROONIAN PASSPORT, FOR ALL NATURALIZED U.S. CITIZENS BORN IN CAMEROON WHEN APPLYING FOR A VISA FOR THE FIRST TIME.
07. RECENT BANK STATEMENT OR LEGALIZED INVITATION LETTER FOR ALL PROSPECTIVE TRAVELERS WHO ARE NOT OF CAMEROONIAN ORIGIN.
08. **Application Fee + Visa Fee** paid in Cash (ONLY for applications submitted in person at the Embassy) or in the form of a money order, certified check, or cashier’s check made payable to “Embassy of Cameroon” (for applications submitted in person or by mail). Please refer to the table above for the correct TOTAL FEES corresponding to the type and duration of the visa requested. **Payments with personal checks, checks drawn from a business bank account, or credit cards WILL NOT be accepted, and will result in delays or in the rejection of the visa application as a whole;**  
**NOTE:** The Embassy will not be responsible for refunding or completing fees of applications that are submitted with the incorrect fee amount (e.g. Money Orders of an amount that is either lower or higher than the fees indicated above); applicants are advised to submit their documentation with the correct fees.
09. All eligible non-U.S. citizens (as defined in Section “II – WHO CAN OBTAIN A VISA FROM THE EMBASSY OF CAMEROON IN WASHINGTON, D.C.?”) residing in the United States and applying for a Cameroonian visa at the Embassy in Washington, D.C., are required to submit, in addition to previously mentioned application documents, the following documents:
  - For permanent residents: a COPY of the green card,
  - For applicants whose case is awaiting a final decision, or about to start: provide any set of documents justifying that a procedure of adjustment of status is in progress or about to start,
  - For international students in American schools: COPY of the most recent form I-20, along with a letter from the International Students Office of the school confirming a current enrollment under the F-1 student status.
  - For other cases: provide a copy of any available and relevant immigration documents.

10. Applicants submitting their request in person to the Embassy must prepare an “**Application Submission Sheet**”, and those submitting their request by mail must follow the guidelines previously enunciated in Section “III - PROCESSING TIMES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE”;

**11. MINORS TRAVELING TO CAMEROON:**

For minors, in addition to all previously mentioned requirements, the following documents are also needed:

- a) A copy of the child’s birth certificate;
- b) Notarized letter of support jointly signed by both parents or legal guardians agreeing with the trip and specifying who will be traveling with the child; if only the mother’s name appears on the birth certificate, only her may submit the required documentation;
- c) If parents or guardians are Cameroonians, provide **photocopies** of passports identification and validity page, accompanied by the photocopies of their most recent U.S. visa, or **photocopies** of immigration document(s) attesting of their residency status in the U.S. (e.g. green card, I-20 form for students, any set of documents justifying that a procedure of adjustment of status is in progress...);
- d) If parents or guardians are not Cameroonians, provide photocopies of passport pages bearing photo and validity information;
- e) Items b), c) and d) also apply to any third party taking a child to Cameroon on behalf of the parents, meaning that the third party must comply with requirements to provide:
  - a notarized letter of acknowledgement where they confirm their agreement to accompany an under-aged traveler to Cameroon, on behalf of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s),
  - their identification documentation and proof of status as previously stipulated.

**Notes regarding minors traveling to Cameroon:**

- f) When it is in fact legal guardians submitting the required authorizations, instead of the birth parents (whose names are mentioned on the child’s birth certificate), photocopies of any available official documents assigning guardianship must be attached to the child’s visa application; failure to comply with this requirement will result in the rejection of the visa application.
- g) If one or both parents or legal guardians are **NOT** physically present in the United States at the time when the child’s visa application is submitted, then the following instructions must be followed instead of items a) and c):
  - If parents or legal guardians are in Cameroon: provide: **(a)** a legalized letter of authorization to obtain a Cameroonian visa for the child and travel to Cameroon with whomever is authorized to travel with the child; the letter should be signed by the parents or legal guardians and legalized by Cameroonian Immigration, Police or competent Administrative Authorities; **(b)** certified true copies of the parents or legal guardians Cameroonian National Identity Cards;
  - If parents or legal guardians are neither in the United States nor in Cameroon: the documents mentioned in the previous section (namely “if parents or legal guardians are in Cameroon”) including the authorization letter and the passport copies must be legalized at the nearest Cameroonian Embassy or Consulate.

**12. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED AS RELATED TO TYPE OF VISA REQUESTED:**

In addition to the requirements 01-08 (where applicable), the following type-specific documentation must accompany each visa application:

• **TOURISM:**

- (1)** Copy of document(s) from airline or travel agency confirming the trip itinerary to and from Cameroon;
- (2)** Recent bank statement from prospective traveler or proof of sufficient resources to be used during the stay in Cameroon;

• **SHORT STAY:**

- (1)** Copy of document(s) from airline or travel agency confirming the trip itinerary to and from Cameroon, for a stay in Cameroon not exceeding **Three (3) months**;
- (2)** For the following categories of travelers, documents needed are listed below:

**For visitors:** Justification of the purpose of the visit and evidence of the **means** and **conditions** of subsistence for the expected duration of stay in Cameroon. **ONE or MORE** of the following items may be requested by the Embassy:

- Legalized letter of invitation from the inviting party, or invitation to an event organized on the National territory
- Bank statement / proof of sufficient resources to be used during the stay in Cameroon
- Proof that a hotel reservation, valid for the expected duration of stay (**Three (3) months or less**), has been made
- Certificate of Accommodation (**valid for Three (3) months or less**) issued by the inviting party, and undersigned by territorially competent Administrative, Immigration or Police Authorities
- Legalized acceptance letter for an internship program for interns, or legalized confirmation letter for a volunteering opportunity in Cameroon for volunteers, not to exceed a period of **Three (3) months** in both cases

- Proof of marital or parental relationship respectively for a spouse or a child of a Cameroonian citizen, or a U.S. citizen of Cameroonian origin (examples: copy of marriage license or birth certificate, copy of spouse or parent's passport or birth certificate, any combination of documents permitting to establish the relationship)

**Notes regarding U.S. citizens of Cameroonian origin:**

U.S. citizens **born in Cameroon or of Cameroonian origin applying for a SHORT STAY visa** **DO NOT NEED** to provide a justification of the purpose of the visit, or evidence of the means and conditions of subsistence during their stay in Cameroon, BUT THEY DO NEED to submit documentation confirming the trip itinerary to and from Cameroon, for a period not exceeding Three (3) months.

**For travelers on business:** For travelers on business, **ONE or MORE** of the following items may be requested by the Embassy:

- Company letter guaranteeing financial and legal responsibilities for the traveler for the duration of stay (**Three (3) months or less**) in Cameroon
- Legalized letter of introduction from thoroughly identified business partner(s) in Cameroon, undersigned by Immigration or Police Authorities
- Business contract between traveler(s) and partner(s) in Cameroon, undersigned by Administrative or Immigration Authorities
- An authorization, when required, issued by competent Authorities to practice a liberal profession or to promote farming, pastoral, industrial, commercial, artisanal, or other activities

**For Students:** For students, the following items may be requested by the Embassy:

- Letter from the student's American school acknowledging the student's trip to Cameroon
- Acceptation letter or admission certificate issued by school officials in Cameroon
- Bank statement or letter from the student or the student sponsor's bank confirming that sufficient resources are available to be used by the student during his/her stay in Cameroon

• **LONG STAY:**

**(1)** Copy of document(s) from airline or travel agency confirming that a ticket is available or that a flight reservation has been made for the trip leading to Cameroon;

**(2)** For the following categories of travelers, documents needed are listed below:

**For visitors:** Justification of the purpose of the visit and evidence of the **means** and **conditions** of subsistence for the expected duration of stay in Cameroon. **ONE or MORE** of the following items may be requested by the Embassy:

- Legalized letter of invitation from the inviting party, or invitation to an event organized on the National territory; the **exact duration of stay** should be explicitly mentioned on the invitation
- Bank statement / proof of sufficient resources to be used during the stay in Cameroon
- Certificate of Accommodation (**valid for a period comprised between Three (3) and Six (6) months**) issued by the inviting party, and undersigned by territorially competent Administrative, Immigration or Police Authorities
- Legalized acceptance letter for an internship program for interns, or Legalized confirmation letter for a volunteering opportunity in Cameroon for volunteers, for a period **exceeding Three (3) months** in both cases; the **exact duration of stay** should be explicitly mentioned on the acceptance or confirmation letters
- Proof of marital or parental relationship respectively for a spouse or a child of a Cameroonian citizen, or a U.S. citizen of Cameroonian origin (examples: copy of marriage license or birth certificate, copy of spouse or parent's passport or birth certificate, any combination of documents permitting to establish the relationship)

**Note regarding U.S. citizens of Cameroonian origin:**

U.S. citizens **born in Cameroon or of Cameroonian origin applying for a LONG STAY visa** **MUST COMPLY** with the requirements set out above for visitors who request a LONG STAY visa.

**For travelers on business:** For travelers on business, **ONE or MORE** of the following items may be requested by the Embassy:

- Company letter guaranteeing financial and legal responsibilities for the traveler for the duration of stay in Cameroon; the **exact duration of stay** should be explicitly mentioned on the company letter
- Warranty of repatriation
- Legalized letter of introduction from thoroughly identified business partner(s) in Cameroon, undersigned by Immigration or Police Authorities
- Business contract between traveler(s) and partner(s) in Cameroon, undersigned by Administrative or Immigration Authorities
- An employment contract duly legalized by the Minister of Labor and Social Security in Cameroon, for any person intending to engage in a salaried activity

- An authorization, when required, issued by competent Authorities to practice a liberal profession or to promote farming, pastoral, industrial, commercial, artisanal, or other activities

**For Students:** For students, the following items may be requested by the Embassy:

- Letter from the student's American school acknowledging the student's trip to Cameroon
- Acceptation letter or admission certificate issued by school officials in Cameroon
- Bank statement or letter from the student or the student sponsor's bank confirming that sufficient resources are available to be used by the student during his/her stay in Cameroon

- **TRANSIT:**

Travelers transiting through Cameroon must provide the following:

**(1)** Copy of document(s) from airline or travel agency confirming that a ticket for continuing the trip to the final destination is available;

**(2)** The visa from the country of destination must be obtained prior to submitting a Transit visa request at the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C.;

- **COURTESY (Short Stay or Long Stay) and DIPLOMATIC:**

In this case, one or more of the following may be needed:

Diplomatic Note / Note Verbale, official request from Government, International or Governmental Organization, Warrant for mission or mission order, as applicable;

## **VI. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CAMEROONIAN VISA**

- SINGLE vs. MUTIPLE ENTRIES:** SINGLE-entry and MULTIPLE-entry visas for all visa types may be granted by the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C. The decision to grant SINGLE-entry or MULTIPLE-entry visas to travelers going to Cameroon will be made **as deemed appropriate** by the Embassy of Cameroon.
- Visa duration:** The duration of a visa will be granted as deemed appropriate by the Embassy of Cameroon.
- Validity of the Cameroonian visa:** The following applies with regards to the Cameroonian visa:
  - Once any visa is issued by the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C., its recipient must enter Cameroon within **ninety (90)** days of the date of issuance; the granted visa will start counting, or will be valid for the duration (up to 30 days, 3 months, or 6 months) printed in the traveler's passport **as of the date of entry in Cameroon.**
  - After 90 days, a visa becomes void if it has not been used within that timeframe. Travelers finding themselves with a void visa and desiring to travel to Cameroon at a later time have to submit a whole new visa application including all the required documentation.
  - For MULTIPLE-entry visas, a traveler is allowed to re-enter, after exiting Cameroon the first time, **ONLY DURING** the validity period remaining on the visa.

## **IMPORTANT GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 01.** For all types of visa applications, the Consular Section at the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C., will request any additional documentation or information deemed necessary for the completion of the visa issuance process.
- 02.** Visa applicants must be mindful of the fact that producing all the documents required when submitting a visa application **DOES NOT GUARANTEE** that a visa will be granted. Ultimately, the decision to grant or deny a visa request is the sole competency of the Embassy of Cameroon in Washington, D.C.
- 03.** Visa Application forms and Visa Application Submission Sheets can be downloaded from the Consular Services page on the Embassy website: [www.cameroonembassyusa.org](http://www.cameroonembassyusa.org)
- 04.** For any questions related to the visa application process or requirements, please send an email to [cs@cameroonembassyusa.org](mailto:cs@cameroonembassyusa.org). The title of your email should give an idea about the problem/issue/question that you would like the Consular Section to address. You may expect a response within 2 to 3 business days. Please be advised that a response may be delayed depending on the volume of emails that the Consular Section must respond to.