

****UPDATED: NOVEMBER 2021****

P2 WORK PERMITS FOR PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF CANADA

All Permanent Residents applying for P2 work permits must go through an additional screening process conducted at a U.S. embassy or consulate. Before physically crossing the border, each such resident is required to meet with a consulate officer to obtain their non-immigrant work status. That officer will issue an I-94 Departure of Record (i.e. the Visa), facilitating entry into the U.S. This document describes the process of making such an appointment.

Appointments can be booked with the consulate prior to receiving the P2/P2S approval, but only after USCIS has issued a Receipt Number on that file. If the artist/band applies for the P2/P2S under Regular Processing, the AFM will usually have this number in two to three weeks and under Premium Processing, within one week.

Please note: As of late 2021, most U.S. consulates and embassies continue to be severely hampered in their ability to accommodate appointment requests due to staffing issues and a backlog of requests built up during the pandemic.

It is possible to request an expedited appointment, as follows:

1. Schedule a regular appointment on the closest available date using the instructions below.
2. To sign in to your account, click “Continue,” then “Request Expedite” and follow the online instructions.
3. Expedited appointments will be granted at the consulate’s discretion. Each office operates on its own timeline.
4. Circumstances that may be considered for expedited appointments include urgent travel with significant cultural and economic bearing on a U.S. venue.
5. You must do your best to prove that the musician’s inability to enter in the U.S. will have a significant financial impact on the venue--i.e., that the venue stands to lose a lot of money if the musician is not able to enter the US as scheduled. We suggest you contact the U.S. promoter or the venue in an effort to obtain a breakdown of the financial and/or other losses that will severely impact the venue— e.g.: tickets already sold at what price; employees already hired for the show, money spent on advertising, anticipated food and beverage sales, etc. You may also factor in money you have already spent on a hotel including any potential cancellation fees.

Consular processing delays will not affect the processing time for the band overall. The P2/P2S petition(s) will still be assessed normally. The delay in making an appointment will only impact that one Permanent Resident’s ability to activate their visa and thus facilitate their ability to enter the U.S. as an essential worker. At this point in time, be somewhat prepared: It could take months for a Permanent Resident to be able to get processed.

HOW TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A U.S. CONSULATE:

STEP ONE	Visit: https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/ and click on your location (e.g. "Canada, Toronto") and fill in the security "captcha." Don't hit return! Continue down on the same page and click on "Start An Application."
STEP TWO	Fill out the DS-160 form. You will need your receipt number (in the top-left corner of your I-797B approval notice). You'll receive a DS-160 number.
STEP THREE	Visit: https://ais.usvisa-info.com/en-CA/niv and set up a personal account.
STEP FOUR	Once you have an account, use your DS-160 number to make an appointment on this site with the U.S. consulate closest to your city. An appointment will cost \$190US. Schedule an appointment online for the earliest available date. If the U.S. Embassy/Consulate approves your request then you will receive an email alerting you to schedule your appointment online. You will have the option to request an expedited appointment.

NOTE: If you hit a snag and/or have specific questions about the process, please use the numbers below to speak with an officer. For each number, use the following path: Press 1 for English or 3 for French. Wait for the prompt and press 2 to "request non-immigrant visa information." Wait for the prompt and press 2 to make a visa appointment. When asked if you have a D-S 160 number, press 2 for yes.

Calgary: 587.315.9052	Ottawa: 613.701.0404	Vancouver: 778.807.9660
Halifax: 902.702.0292	Quebec: 418.478.1369	Winnipeg: 204.800.4091
Montreal: 438.793.1947	Toronto: 437.887.1448	

ADDRESSES FOR U.S EMBASSIES/CONSULATES IN CANADA

CALGARY	U.S. Consulate General Calgary 615 Macleod Trail S.E., 10th Floor Calgary, Alberta
HALIFAX	U.S. Consulate General Halifax Purdy's Wharf Tower II 1969 Upper Water Street, Suite 904 Halifax, Nova Scotia
MONTREAL	U.S. Consulate General Montreal 1155 rue St-Alexandre (just north of René- Lévesque Boulevard) Montréal, Québec
OTTAWA	The Embassy of the United States of America 207 Bank Street, Suite 418 Ottawa, Ontario
QUEBEC CITY	U.S. Consulate General Quebec City 2 Place Terrasse Dufferin (Vieux Quebec, behind Chateau Frontenac) Quebec City, Quebec
TORONTO	U.S. Consulate General Toronto 225 Simcoe Street Toronto, Ontario
VANCOUVER	U.S. Consulate General Vancouver 1075 West Pender Street Vancouver, British Columbia
WINNIPEG	U.S. Consulate General Winnipeg 201 Portage Avenue, Suite 860 Winnipeg, Manitoba <i>Handles emergency services only. For visa and other services, you will need to go through the Calgary office.</i>