

A PRIMER
FOR APPLICANTS TO EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAMS
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

An Honors Research Project

by

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Submitted

to



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Muncie, Indiana

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I. Selection

The International Communication Agency is the department of the United States government which sets the criteria followed by American agencies that select foreign students to study in America on exchange programs. One of the most prominent government agencies in charge of choosing these foreign students is the United States Agency for International Development. The goal of this organization is to help Third World countries to help themselves by providing students with the opportunity to obtain a post-secondary education and to learn skills necessary for the development of their countries.

In the Central American country of Belize, for example, the United States Agency for International Development (U.S.A.I.D.) chooses students for exchange study programs on the basis of academic performance, financial status, and relevance of study area to the development of Belize.¹ The Belizian student desirous of winning a scholarship to study in America should have obtained at least an associate degree from a junior college. Since these scholarships are competitive, applicants with a grade point average above 3.0 on a four point scale are at an advantage.

Another factor which influences whether or not a student is selected by the United States Agency for International Development is the financial status of the student's parents. Since the agency is seeking to help outstanding students with insufficient capital to attend college, financial background forms an important part of the criteria. In Belize, students whose parents earn below \$5,000 U.S. 2 per annum are likely to be more eligible to receive a scholarship.

The third major factor which narrows down the selection of students is the need for the applicant's field of study in the home country. The Agency examines the conditions of the developing country to see which jobs and skills are most deficient. In Belize, the need for qualified teachers, accountants, and government administrators make these fields a few of the most frequently selected.

Through this two-year scholarship award, foreign students are able to achieve a bachelor's degree in a specific field. Once the student has completed his program, the Agency also helps him to apply the training and skills acquired in the United States to the situation in the home country. Students on these foreign student exchange programs are bound by a contract, signed with the Agency for International Development, to return to help their country with their much needed skills.

II. United States Immigration

Before a foreign student can come to the United States on an exchange program, he must satisfy the requirements of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice in the United States. Students must have the three following documents: a passport, a visa, and an I-94 form. A passport is defined by the Immigration and Naturalization Act as "any travel document issued by a competent authority showing the bearer's origin, identity and nationality, if any, which is valid for entry of the bearer into a foreign country" [Act 101 A 30]³. The passport is issued by the student's home country (for example, by the Belizian Immigration Department), and allows the student to re-enter his country upon completion of his program in the United States. The student is responsible for maintaining the validity of his passport during his program.

A visa is a "stamped entry on a page of the passport which shows that the student has non-immigrant status to enter the United States. It (the visa) enables the passport bearer to request the immigration officer at the port of entry to grant him admission to the United States under the conditions of the type of visa he (the bearer) holds."⁴ Foreign students on Exchange Visitor Programs must obtain a J-1 visa. The student's sponsor must first send an IAP-66

form to be filled out by the student. An IAP-66 form "identifies the participant and the sponsor, specifies the nature of the program for which the Exchange Visitor is coming to the United States, states the inclusive dates of the program sponsorship up to one year, and indicates the amount of financing for the Exchange Visitor's stay in the United States."⁵

Once the IAP-66 has been filled out, the student must apply for a J-1 visa from the American embassy in his country. A J-1 visa is characterized by the following restrictions: 1) An Exchange Visitor may be employed only if the program sponsor approves and employment is integrated for the program of study, 2) Exchange Visitors who are financed of whose skills are needed in their home country must return home and remain home for at least two years upon completion of training. Belizian students on Exchange Visitors Programs sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development are subject to this two-year home residency requirement.⁶

The third form which the foreign student must acquire is the I-94. This form is an Arrival/Departure Record which shows the "student's non-immigrant status, the date and place of entry into the United States, the proposed length of stay, and finally, the date and place of departure from the United States."⁷

III. Special Considerations

Before, after and during foreign students' stays in the United States, Exchange Visitor Sponsors and Foreign Student Advisors make these students aware of the consequences of illegal behavior which might jeopardize their program. The Immigration and Naturalization Service can deport a foreign exchange student who "does not maintain a full class load at the institution of learning, who allows his J-1 visa to expire without knowing it, or who fails to leave the United States upon completion of the degree objective."⁸ Other grounds for deportation include being convicted for illegal drug offenses, accepting employment without consult of sponsor, and being convicted for a crime of violence which results in a one-year or more term of imprisonment. Also, students who are members of the Communist Party before and after entry in America, or who are connected with helping aliens to enter America illegally are risking deportation.⁹ These are a few of the causes of deportation which might prompt the sponsoring agency to forcefully send an Exchange Visitor to his home country before he has achieved his study goal.

"An alien who is deported is ineligible for readmission into the United States unless he first secures permission from the Immigration and Naturalization Service to return."¹⁰ Deportation is a serious measure with long-

long-lasting consequences, and therefore it is enforced only in the last resort. The concept of deportation is used more as a measure of control by which Exchange Visitors are kept in order during their stay in America. Quite often, if a student is able to buy his ticket to go home, Immigration Judges would allow the student the option of voluntary departure from the United States, rather than deportation.

IV. State Schools

The agencies who sponsor Exchange Student Programs generally send students to institutions which possess strong foreign student organizations on campus. The purpose of this is to ensure that these students have the opportunity not only to get a degree, but also to take part in a culture-sharing experience with Americans and with other foreign students. There is no single set of rigid guidelines followed by all state schools which engage in the Exchange Visitors Program and the criteria set for accepting international students varies with each college.

An organization does exist, however, which provides a broad set of guidelines designed to help Foreign Student Advisors throughout the United States. "The National Association of Foreign Student Affairs is a non-profit membership association that provides training, information, and other educational services to professionals in the field

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORATE FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXCHANGE VISITOR (J - 1) STATUS

Control No **148245**

PART I - IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT:

1. **ARANA** (FAMILY NAME OF EXCHANGE VISITOR) **Michelle** (FIRST NAME) **Agnes** (MIDDLE NAME) () Male (X) Female
 born **07 22 69** in **Belize City** (City) **Belize** (Country)
 a legal permanent resident of **Belize** (Country) **BU** (Code), whose position in
 that country is **Student** **215** (Pos Code)
 U.S. address **c/o Kirk Robey, International House**
Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306

- THE PURPOSE OF THIS FORM IS TO:
- () Begin a new program
 - (X) Extend an on going program
 - () Transfer to a different program
 - () Replace a lost form
 - () Permit visitor's immediate family to enter U.S. separately.

2. which will be sponsored by the AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, U.S. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY to participate in the EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM NO. G-2-0263 which is still valid and is officially described as follows:

A program of the Agency for International Development, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency to bring participants to the United States for training, academic study, observation or consultation in keeping with the objectives of human resource development as contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 as amended.

PIO/P No. **505-0001-1-60041**

DTS No. **ID386**

Contractor **Partners for International Education and Training**

3. This form covers the period from **08 06 88** to **07 31 89** (one year maximum.) Person No. **055116**
(Mo.) (Day) (Yr.) (Mo.) (Day) (Yr.)

If this form is for family travel or replaces a lost form, the expiration date on the exchange visitor's I-94 is _____

4. The category of this visitor is 1 (X) Student, 2 () Trainee, 3 () Teacher, 4 () Professor, 5 () Research Scholar or Specialist, 6 () International Visitor, 7 () Professional Trainee, and the specific educational field or non-study activity to be engaged in is Code No. **0130**, verbally described as follows:
(Subj/Field Code)

English, Ball State University, Muncie, IN

5. During the period covered by this form, it is estimated that the following financial support (in U.S. \$) will be provided to this exchange visitor by:

- a. () This Program Sponsor in Item 2 above \$ **12,000**
 Financial support from organizations other than the sponsor will be provided by one or more of the following:
- b1. () U.S. Government Agency(ies): _____ (Agency Code), \$ _____ ; b2. _____ (Agency Code), \$ _____
 c1. () International Organization(s): _____ (Int. Org. Codg), \$ _____ ; c2. _____ (Int. Org. Code), \$ _____
 d. () The Exchange Visitor's Government \$ _____ (If necessary, use above spaces for funding by multiple U.S. Agencies or Intl. Organizations)
 e. () The binational Commission of the visitor's Country \$ _____
 f. () All other organizations providing support \$ _____

APPROVED
 INSPECTOR DIRECTOR
 NOV 26 1988
 ALC/INP
 CHU 2088

7. **Ronald E. Springwater** Executive Director
 (Name of Official Preparing Form)
FIET, 1707 L St., NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036
 (Address)
 _____ (Date)
 (Signature of Responsible Officer or Alternate R.O.)

PART II - ENDORSEMENT OF CONSULAR OR IMMIGRATION OFFICER REGARDING SECTION 212(e) OF THE I.N.A.

NO endorsement of Consular or Immigration Officer regarding Sec. 212(e) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act is necessary because

ALL AID PARTICIPANTS ARE SUBJECT TO THE TWO YEAR RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Keypunch Information: Col 138=1
Col 139=1
Col 140=1

PART III - STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER FOR RELEASING SPONSOR (FOR TRANSFER OF PROGRAM)

Date _____, Transfer of this exchange visitor from program No. _____ sponsored by _____

to the program specified in item (2) is necessary or highly desirable and is in conformity with the objectives of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

(Signature of Officer) (Date)

WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES

INSTRUCTIONS

- ALL PERSONS EXCEPT U.S. CITIZENS MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM. A SEPARATE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH PERSON IN YOUR GROUP.
- TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY WITH PEN IN ALL CAPITAL LETTERS USE ENGLISH. DO NOT WRITE ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM.
- This form is in two parts, an ARRIVAL RECORD (Items 1 through 7), and a DEPARTURE RECORD (Items 8 through 10). You must complete both parts. Enter exactly the same information in spaces 8, 9, and 10 as you enter in spaces 1, 2, and 3.
- *Item 7.* If you entered the United States by land, enter "LAND" in this space.
- WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED ALL REQUIRED ITEMS, PRESENT THIS FORM TO THE U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION INSPECTOR.

PRIMARY INSPECTION	NAME _____
	II NUMBER _____ DATE/TIME REFERRED _____
	REASON REFERRED _____
SECONDARY INSPECTION	II NUMBER _____ END TIME SECONDARY _____
	DISPOSITION _____

ADMISSION NUMBER 995-01573637		I-94 ARRIVAL RECORD <small>(Rev. 1-1-83)N</small>	
1. FAMILY NAME (SURNAME) <i>(leave one space between names)</i>			
FIRST (GIVEN) NAME <i>(do not enter middle name)</i>			
2. DATE OF BIRTH DAY MO. YR.		3. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
		4. COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE <i>(country where you live)</i>	
5. ADDRESS WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES <i>(Number and Street)</i> City State			
8. CITY WHERE VISA WAS ISSUED		7. AIRLINE & FLIGHT NO. OR SHIP NAME*	
<p>THIS FORM IS REQUIRED BY THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; opacity: 0.5; transform: rotate(-45deg);">SAMPLE FORM I-94</p>			

11. OCCUPATION	
12. SCHOOL	
13. ITINERARY	
14. PETITION NUMBER	15. INS FILE NO. A
16. WAIVERS	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

<p>WARNING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A nonimmigrant who accepts unauthorized employment is subject to deportation. <p>IMPORTANT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain this permit in your possession; you must surrender it when you leave the U.S. Failure to do so may delay your entry into the U.S. in the future. 	
ADMISSION NUMBER 995-01573637	
6. FAMILY NAME (SURNAME) <i>(same as Family Name in Item 1 above)</i>	
FIRST (GIVEN) NAME <i>(same as First Name in Item 1 above)</i>	
9. DATE OF BIRTH <i>(same as Item 2)</i> DAY MO. YR.	
10. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <i>(same as Item 3 above)</i>	
SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION	
<p>U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE I-94 DEPARTURE RECORD <small>(Rev. 1-1-83)N</small></p>	

IMPORTANT NOTICE

- You are authorized to stay in the U.S. only until the date written on this form. To remain past this date, without permission from immigration authorities, is a violation of law.

SURRENDER THIS PERMIT WHEN YOU LEAVE THE UNITED STATES

- By sea or air, to transportation line.
- Over Canadian border, to Canadian Official.
- Over Mexican border, at the designated location.

RECORD OF CHANGES

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DEPARTURE RECORD

Port: _____
Date: _____
Carrier: _____
Flight No./Ship Name _____

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office Washington, D.C. 20462

VISAS

7



THE CATEGORY OF VISA INDICATED HEREIN DOES NOT AUTHORIZE PAID EMPLOYMENT IN THE U. S.

NO 123210



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NONIMMIGRANT VISA

BELIZE

J-1 -4 AUG 1987

CLASSIFICATION

DATE ISSUED

MULTIPLE

VALID FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY UNTIL

03 AUG 1988

Michelle Jones
aaabna



G-2-0263

Bearer is/is not subject to
Section 212 (E) - Two Year Rule
Does/Does not apply.

Acknowledgements

1. Primary Sources

Mr. Kirk Robey, Director of Foreign Student Programs at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Miss Michelle Lindo, Exchange Student sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development. Miss Lindo is an Economics and Business major at Ball State University, and is a citizen of the country of Belize, Central America.

2. Secondary Sources

Malcolm Gillis, Dwight Perkins and others, Economics of Development. (W.W. Norton and Company Incorporated: 500 Fifth Avenue, New York: 1987), pp. 366-68.

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Office of Foreign Student Programs "Introducing Ball State University: Information for Foreign Students," News Bulletin (1988).

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Undergraduate Catalog: Ball State University. (Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana: 1989), pp. 26-7.