

An **E2 Visa** is a non-immigrant visa reserved for investors from countries that have commerce and navigation treaties or bi-lateral investment treaties with the United States who have invested substantial capital in a U.S. company and who wish to come to the United States to develop and direct business operations of the enterprise.

The applicant is required to come to the *United States* to develop and manage the operations of an enterprise in which the applicant has invested or is actively in the process of investing a substantial amount of capital. In addition to the investment in a business enterprise, the investor must be coming to the United States to develop and direct the operations of the enterprise in which he or she has made the investment.

Eligibility For An E2 Visa

- You must be a national of a treaty country
- Your investment must be substantial
- Your investment must be in a real operating commercial enterprise
- Your investment may not be marginal
- You must have Control of Funds and Bear the Risk of Investment

Benefits of E2 Visa

- You can work legally in the U.S. for a U.S. company that is the subject of the investment
- You can travel freely in and out of the U.S. while on a valid E2 visa
- You can stay on a prolonged basis with unlimited two year extensions as long as you maintain valid E2 status
- You may bring your dependents (spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21) to live with you in the U.S.
- Your spouse may seek employment by applying for an employment authorization document

Validation of E2 Visa

- An E-2 visa is presently usually issued for a period of two years, although it can be granted for up to five years. The visa can, however, be extended indefinitely, each time for a further two to five years.
- The E-2 visa can never lead directly to Permanent Residency ("Green Card"). It should be noted that children of E-2 visa holders can only remain in the United States under the father's or mother's E-2 visa until they reach the age of twenty-one. At that time, they will have to return to their country of origin or obtain a visa for themselves.

E2 Visa Guides

- E-2 Treaty Investor Visa Overview
- E-2 Visa Eligibility Information
- E-2 Visa Application Requirements
- E-2 Visa Application Instructions

- E-2 Visa Renewal Requirements
- E-2 Visa Renewal Instructions
- E2 Benefits and Drawbacks
- How to complete the E2 Visa Application Forms
- E2 Treaty Investor visa extension information
- E2 Visa document checklist
- List of all USCIS (formerly INS) offices nationwide
- List of United States Embassies and Consulates

Countries that Maintain Treaties of Navigation and Commerce with the United States for E-2 Visa Purposes

Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Grenada, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Congo, Romania, Senegal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia.

Obtaining a non-immigrant visa can be a complicated process and may not always end with the desired result. While it is possible to obtain such visas successfully on your own, you may wish to save time and effort by hiring a qualified and experienced immigration lawyer. Our Find-a-Lawyer feature can put you in touch with an experienced attorney right now.