

Washington, DC 20005
Tel: 202-735-6578
Fax: 202-595-8251
Toll-free: 888-745-3243
Email: info@consulateofthebahamasdc.com

New York

Mr. Forrester Carrol, Consul-General

Consulate General of The Bahamas
Bahamas House
231 East 46th Street
New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 421-6420
Facsimile: (212) 688-5926

Miami

Mr. Ricardo Treco, Consul General

Consulate General of The Bahamas
Ingraham Building Suite 818
25 South East Second Avenue
Miami, Florida 33131
Telephone: (305) 373-6295
Facsimile: (305) 373-6312
E-mail: bcgmia@bellsouth.net

Atlanta

Mr. Randy Rolle, Consul General

Consulate General of The Bahamas
Park Central Building
2970 Clairmont Road, NE
Suites 690
Atlanta, Georgia, 3302
Telephone: (404) 214-0492

Purpose Statement

To protect and advance the national interests of The Bahamas through the proactive coordination and management of foreign relations with partner national ministries, international organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Vision Statement

We are an established Foreign Service of trained professionals equipped with human, physical and technological resources whose hallmark is providing responsive, quality service.

Mission Statement

We enhance The Bahamas' engagement with its regional and international partners while fostering national dialogue and to lead regional and international initiatives that impact The Bahamas.

Consular Division Ministry of Foreign Affairs

P O Box N-3746
East Street South
Nassau, THE BAHAMAS
Phone: (242) 397-9300
Fax: (242) 392-5081

E-mail: mofaconsular@bahamas.gov.bs

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONSULAR DIVISION



INFORMATION BROCHURE

Providing Professional Consular
Services and Information

ABOUT US:

CONSULAR DIVISION

Overview of the Division

Common consular functions which should be carried out by an Embassy or Consulate. These functions include, but are not limited to:

- Authentication of legal documents for use in or outside The Bahamas.
- Issuance of visas for persons requiring visas to travel to The Bahamas.
- Assistance to Bahamians who are in need of travel documents or in distress.
- Requests for information on The Bahamas.
- Facilitating procuring foreign visas for Diplomats, Government Officials and Bahamians

LEGALIZATION

Legal documents for use in The Bahamas

Legal documents for use in The Bahamas must be authenticated by the Embassy or a Bahamian Consulate, or by means of an Apostille issued by the Secretary of State. (This only applies to countries which have signed the Hague Convention on Documents). If the document has an Apostille attached, no action is required by the Embassy and the document may be returned to sender. In the absence of an Apostille, the document requires notarization by a Consular Officer. These documents must have a notarial certificate issued by the County or Circuit Court Clerk of the administering county. The signature of the County or Circuit Court Clerk certifies the signature of the Notary Public who notarizes the document. If the notarial certificate is not attached, the document must be returned to sender to obtain the certificate.

Legal Documents for use outside The Bahamas

Legal documents for use outside The Bahamas also require authentication by the Embassy. These documents usually include among others, Powers of Attorney, Certificates of Incorporation, Articles of Associations and Marriage and Birth Certificates. An Apostille issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should accompany these documents. The Apostille certifies the signature of the local attorney or Notary Public in The Bahamas. The Apostille should be signed by an Officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Specimen signatures of Officers so designated should be found on file. For those countries which have signed the Hague Convention the Apostille issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be sufficient. Where this is not the case, the document must be authenticated by the Embassy.

Authentication Fees

A fee of \$20.00 per document is charged to process a document. If the main document is done in duplicate, the second and subsequent copies are \$20.00 each. If several copies make up a whole, the main document is \$20.00 and the others are \$20.00 each. If more than one signature is required on a single document, i.e. there are several certificates attached to the same document, certification of the first signature is \$20.00 and each subsequent signature is \$10.00.

DIPLOMATIC DESK

The Diplomatic Desk is mandated to ensure that Bahamian Diplomatic, Official and Regular passport holders are

issued the appropriate visas for travel abroad for work or governmental business.

As a service to the Bahamian public requiring visas to travel to foreign destinations which require them to have a visa, the Desk facilitates the couriering of the passports to its various embassies and/or directly to the foreign embassy when so designated for the issuance of the visa.

On a daily basis, the Diplomatic Desk is inundated with calls from the Bahamian public regarding visas which have been denied by the United States Embassy. The principal reasons for denial are "not having sufficient ties to their home country and previous court cases which in some cases have been dismissed.

The Desk is also responsible for the issuance of Bahamian visas to foreign diplomats, embassy officials, staff, immediate family members and domestic staff members who will accompany principal diplomats employed at embassies and consulates located in the Bahamas. Visas are granted after residency status has been granted by the Bahamas Immigration Department.

VISA

Foreigners wishing to travel to The Bahamas for vacation and/or for business may require a visa for entry into the country. Be sure to check the Visa Requirements for Foreign Visitors to The Bahamas to determine the visa requirements for your country at www.bahamas.gov.bs.

VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE BAHAMAS

This section applies to persons who wish to visit The Bahamas for tourism purposes. Persons who wish to visit The Bahamas for employment purposes or to attend school must apply to the Department of Immigration. NOTE: Given the size of the USA and the cost to travel (e.g. from Alaska to Washington, DC) visa applications may be submitted and processed by mail.

CONSULAR SERVICES

Applying for a Visitor's Visa

Foreigners wishing to travel to The Bahamas for vacation and/or for business may require a visa for entry into the country. Be sure to check the Visa Requirements for Foreign Visitors to The Bahamas to determine the visa requirements for your country.

1. Eligibility

Any foreigner wishing to travel to The Bahamas

2. Process

- Application form needs to be completed in BLOCK letters (e.g. DOE, JOHN) and in black or blue ink only.
- Submit the completed Bahamian Visa Application form along with supporting documentation.
- All applicants must appear in person at the nearest Bahamas Consulate or Embassy.
- See www.mfabahamas.org for address and contact information of Bahamas Missions.
- Bahamian citizens who wish to sponsor a foreigner to visit with them in The Bahamas must apply for a Bahamian visa in person at the Bahamas Consular Division, Nassau, The Bahamas.

3. Application Form(s) ([Visa Application Form](#))

<http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/foreignaffairs>

4. Supporting Documents

Contact the nearest Bahamas Consulate or Embassy for required supporting documents to be submitted with application form supporting documents vary from Mission to Mission.

- Valid Passport - All visa applicants must be in possession of a valid passport, with more than 6 months remaining, and a return ticket.

- passport photos on white background

- A job letter/business licence

- An original bank reference letter/statement

- Police report

- Hotel/Cruise itinerary

- Flight itinerary/ticket copy

- Copy of conference/invitation letter

- Copies of previously held visas

- Copy of Children's Birth Certificate to prove parental relations

- Copy of a valid work permit (for Companies applying for a foreigner to take up employment in The Bahamas)

- All foreign marriage, birth, and death certificate submitted in support of a visa application must be legalized

Apostilled in the country of origin before submission

- Valid US visa (for Foreigners who wish to visit The

Bahamas via cruise ship from the USA)

5. Turn-around time

The Visa is usually processed in two weeks.

6. Deadline

Visa applications should be submitted at least two weeks before travel. Applicants applying for a visa at a British Embassy must submit the application at least four weeks prior to travel.

7. Related Fee(s)

The following fees apply for visas obtained at The Bahamas' Embassies and Consulates. Prices may vary for Bahamian visas obtained at the British Embassies.

- BS\$55 for single entry Bahamian visas (one entry only)

- BS\$65 for multiple entry Bahamian visa

Visa processing fees are non-refundable and Bahamian visas are not guaranteed.

DEPORTATION/DISTRESS

One of the most important functions of The Bahamas Overseas Mission is to ensure that the rights of nationals are fully respected. Bahamian nationals, or relatives of Bahamian nationals, who are in distress in a foreign country may seek guidance from the Overseas Mission.

Bahamian nationals and/or relatives of Bahamian nationals who are detained abroad may seek guidance for Bahamian nationals and/or relatives of Bahamian nationals who are detained abroad.

Bahamian nationals, or relatives of Bahamian nationals, who are in distress in a foreign country may seek information in regards to nationals in distress in a foreign country.

CONSULAR SERVICES

Registration of Bahamian Nationals/Students Travelling or Residing Abroad

Bahamian nationals travelling or residing abroad should register at the nearest Bahamian Overseas Mission. Registration is particularly important in countries with a

risk of natural disaster, political unrest or criminal violence. It allows Consular staff to be located and assist Bahamian nationals in cases of emergency.

In the event of political unrest, criminal violence, natural disaster or other emergencies, please contact the nearest Bahamian Overseas Mission. The consular staff can keep you informed of developments, help you contact your relatives at home and give you information on emergency evacuation procedures, if necessary. Please follow the link below for a list of Overseas Missions.

1. Eligibility

Any Bahamian Citizen

2. Process

a. Visit the nearest Bahamas Overseas Mission to register.

b. Complete a form with your contact information.

c. You will be required to show proof of identity and citizenship and provide a photograph

d. Inform the Mission if you change your address so that your registration can be updated.

Follow the link at the bottom of this page to find your nearest Overseas Mission.

3. Application Form(s)

Contact Information form may vary from Mission to Mission.

4. Supporting Documents

Passport

1 Photograph

Contact nearest Bahamas Consulate or Embassy for required supporting documents to be submitted with application form as supporting documents vary from Mission to Mission.

5. Turn-around Time

Registration is processed the same day.

6. Deadline

No deadline applies; however, it is advised that you register with the nearest mission upon entry into a foreign country.

7. Related Fee(s)

There is no fee associated with this service.

CONSULAR SERVICES

Assistance for Bahamian Nationals Abroad/Bahamians Detained Abroad

One of the most important functions of The Bahamas Overseas Mission is to ensure that the rights of nationals are fully respected. Bahamian nationals, or relatives of Bahamian nationals, who are in distress in a foreign country may seek guidance from the Overseas Mission.

1. Eligibility

Assistance from Overseas Missions is available for all Bahamian Citizens.

2. Process

A. Contact the nearest Bahamian Embassy or Consulate.

Where there is none, please contact the nearest British Embassy for assistance.

3. Application Form(s)

There are no forms associated with this service.

4. Supporting Documents

Proof of Bahamian citizenship in the form of:

A valid passport

A valid driver's licence

5. Turn around Time

Processing time may vary depending on the applicant's circumstances.

6. Deadline

There is no deadline for this process

7. Related Fee(s)

There may be some fees incurred depending on the applicant's circumstances. However, more information can be obtained from the Bahamian Embassy or Consulate.

CONSULAR SERVICES

Information for Bahamian Nationals in Distress

Bahamian nationals, or relatives of Bahamian nationals, who are in distress in a foreign country may seek information in regards to nationals in distress in a foreign country. (Requirements same as Residing Abroad more information can be obtained from the Bahamian Embassy or Consulate.)

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Contact Listing for Overseas Missions

EMBASSIES AND HIGH COMMISSIONS

His Excellency Dr. Eugene Newry, AMBASSADOR

Embassy of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Permanent Mission of the Commonwealth of The

Bahamas to the Organization of American States

2220 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC, 20008

Telephone: 202-319-2660/7

Facsimile: 202-319-2668

E-mail: bahemb@aol.com

His Excellency Eldred Bethel

Bahamas High Commissioner

The Bahamas High Commission

10 Chesterfield Street

London W1A 8AH

England

Telephone: 011-442-07-408-4488

Facsimile: 011-442-07-499-9937

Email: info@bahamashclonodon.net

His Excellency Calsey Johnson

High Commissioner

The Bahamas High Commission

Metropolitan Life Centre

50 O'Conner Suite 1313

Ottawa, Ontario

Canada K1P 6L2

Telephone: (613) 232-1724

Facsimile: (613) 232-0097

Email: ottawa-mission@bahighco.com

Her Excellency Alma Adams

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

Embassy of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

3006 5th Avenue 3/30 y 32

Miramar, Playa

Havana, Republic of Cuba

Telephone: 011-537-206-9918

Facsimile: 011-537-206-9921-23

Email: aaa41emb@gmail.com

Ms. Sheila Carey

Chargé d' Affaires, a. i.

Embassy of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

4th Floor, Tayuan Diplomatic Office Building,

14 Liangmahe Nan Lu,

Chaoyang District

Beijing, People's Republic of China, 100600

Telephone: 011-86-106532-2922

Facsimile: 011-86-6532-2304

Website: www.bahamasembassy.cn

Email: info@bahamasembassy.cn

H.E. Captain Godfrey Rolle, AMBASSADOR

Embassy of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

12 Rue Boyer

Pétion-Ville, Haiti

Telephone: 011-509-257-8782

Facsimile: 011-509-2256-5729

E-mail: bahamasembassy@hainet.com

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Washington

The Organization of American States (OAS)

His Excellency Dr. Eugene Newry

Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the Commonwealth of The

Bahamas to the Organization of American States

1025 Vermont Avenue, NW

Suite #305

Washington, DC, 20005

Telephone: (202) 734-6578 and (888) 745-3243

Facsimile: (202) 595-8251

E-mail: info@consulateofthebahamasdc.com

New York

United Nations

His Excellency Dr. Elliston Rahming

Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the Commonwealth of The

Bahamas to the United Nations

231 East 46th Street

New York, NY 10017

Telephone: (212) 421-6925/6/9

Facsimile: (212) 759-2135

E-mail: mission@bahamasny.com

Geneva, Switzerland

His Excellency Rhoda Jackson

Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the Commonwealth of The

Bahamas to

The United Nations Office and other International

Organizations in Geneva

15b Chemin Louis-Dunant (3rd Floor)

1202 Geneva

Telephone: +41 (0) 22-730-1750

Facsimile: +41 (0) 22-730-1753

E-mail: rmjackson@bahamasmission.ch

CONSULATES GENERAL

Washington

Ms. Paulette Zonicle, Consul General

Consulate General

1025 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 305