

Sundance Film Festival 2023

International Travel Information

U.S. Travel Guidelines and Restrictions:

If anyone from your team is traveling internationally, they need to follow all [CDC guidelines](#) and [U.S. travel restrictions](#) and ensure they have secured any necessary visas.

Visa Application Timing

- The U.S. is seeing heavy delays with visa processing. If you do not already have a visa or waiver, visit [this website](#) or contact your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to find out estimated interview wait times and assess your ability to receive the proper documentation before your travel dates.

COVID-19 Vaccines approved for U.S. travel

- [World Health Organization Vaccines](#)
 - Please note that the US requires all non-US citizens to be vaccinated with a WHO approved vaccine in order to enter the country.
 - The Sundance Institute requests that attendees wear masks in Sundance Film Festival spaces to keep themselves and other community members safe, and encourages all attendees to be current on all COVID-19 vaccinations and to test before attending and during the Festival. We will not require vaccination status to attend the Festival.

Typical Visitor Visa Application Process:

Overview for applying for a U.S. visitor visa may be found [HERE](#)

- (1) Attending artists may apply for a [B-1 Visa](#), which is relevant to travelers who will be attending “a scientific, educational, professional, or business convention or conference.”
- (2) Complete the online visa application
 - Complete the online non-immigrant visa application | [Form DS-160](#)
 - Upload a photo | [read here for photograph requirements](#)
 - Pay any fees associated with application

- Print the application form confirmation page to bring to your interview
- (3) Schedule an appointment for your visa interview
- Schedule an appointment at your nearest US consulate or embassy in your home country. Locate your embassy here: <https://www.usembassy.gov/>
 - Wait times vary widely across embassies, ranging anywhere from two days to two years. Contact your embassy directly to find out the appointment wait time.
 - You may schedule your interview at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate outside your home country if the wait time(s) in your home country is/are prohibitively long, but it may be more difficult to qualify for a visa outside of the country where you live.
- (4) Gather the necessary documentation before your visa interview (varies by country, contact your embassy directly)
- Passport (generally must be valid at least 6 months beyond stay in the U.S.)
 - Printed form DS-160 confirmation page
 - Application fee payment receipt (if you are required to pay before your interview)
 - Photo (if the online upload failed)
 - Documentation of travel plans with exit date from U.S. (optional)
 - Our Festival provided Visa/Acceptance Letter (**Ask your Artist Relations Liaison for this letter**)
- (5) Visit the consulate on the date and time of your interview and bring with you supporting documents. If your visa is approved, you may need to pay a visa issuance fee and make arrangements for the return of your passport and visa to you.

***If you have any questions, need additional assistance or a Visa/Acceptance Letter, reach out to your Artist Relations Liaison directly.**

How to Request an Expedited Visa Appointment:

- (1) Each individual should apply for a B1 visa and complete the DS-160 forms on their local embassy's website.
- (2) It's important to schedule the earliest available visa appointment at each individual's local embassy, whenever that might be (even if it is long past the date of the Festival). Even if the visa appointment cannot be scheduled in time, individuals should accept the earliest available appointment, since having a scheduled appointment is required to request an expedited visa appointment.
- (3) After an appointment is scheduled, individuals may request an expedited appointment by following the steps on their local embassy's site. When asked for supporting documents, provide the Festival visa

letter that we have provided which outlines that we feel that the artists who we invite to be a part of the Festival program are eligible for an expedited visa.

We also suggest individuals use the below language for the reason why they are requesting an expedited appointment:

I believe I qualify for an emergency visa interview. I was invited to participate with my film {FILM TITLE}, in the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, a high-profile public event of economic significance located in the State of Utah, in January 2023. The Sundance Film Festival is world-renowned, widely covered in the press, and the last in-person Festival drew an estimated 116,800 attendees and contributed an estimated \$167.5 million in Utah gross domestic product. Artist participation is a critical component of the Festival, and Sundance Institute has expressed a strong desire to have me attend to promote independent cinema, discuss my film, and connect with attendees. I will only be able to participate in the Festival if I am able to secure an emergency visa interview.

Please note that we cannot guarantee that the Festival letter or the suggested language will have any impact or influence on an embassy's decision to grant your request for an expedited visa appointment.

(4) Please keep your Artist Relations Liaison updated with your progress in securing an emergency/expedited appointment, and let us know when that appointment is scheduled for.