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## Department of State to Increase Nonimmigrant Visa Application Fees Effective June 4, 2010

On May 20, 2010, the Department of State (DOS) published an Interim Final Rule advising that it is increasing nonimmigrant visa application fees effective June 4, 2010. The current nonimmigrant visa application fee of \$131 will increase to \$140 for most Machine-Readable Visa (MRV) non-petition-based visa application categories. The rule provides new tiers of fees for certain categories of petition-based MRV nonimmigrant visas, as well as treaty trader and investor visas.

If a foreign national employee traveling abroad is required to apply for a new nonimmigrant visa in order to return to the United States, he or she will be impacted by the new fee schedule. With respect to pending visa applications or future visa appointments, the fee in effect on the date of the interview at the Consulate will be the fee that is required. It is anticipated that United States Consulates will publish procedures next week addressing the payment of supplemental fees in cases in which interviews have been scheduled on or after June 4, 2010.

### New MRV Fee Schedule

Effective June 4, 2010, the following fee schedule will apply to nonimmigrant visa applications filed at United States Consulates:

- **\$140 MRV fee for B1/B2 tourist and business visitor visas and all student and exchange visitor visas (F, M and J)**
- **\$150 MRV fee for the following nonimmigrant classifications:**
  - **H visa for temporary workers and trainees**
  - **L visa for intra-company transferees**
  - **O visa for aliens with extraordinary ability**
  - **P visa for athletes, artists and entertainers**
  - **Q visa for international cultural exchange visitors**
  - **R visa for religious occupations**
- **\$390 MRV fee for E treaty trader (E-1), treaty investor (E-2) or Australian specialty (E-3) visas.**

The new fees do not eliminate or otherwise impact existing visa reciprocity fees and may result in some countries raising visa fees charged to United States visa applicants. DOS will accept written comments to the Interim Final Rule until July 19, 2010. The Interim Final Rule can be viewed at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-12125.pdf> and comments may be submitted by e-mail to [fees@state.gov](mailto:fees@state.gov) with the subject of the message as RIN (1400-AC57).

### Contact Us

If you have any questions regarding the nonimmigrant visa application process or any other business immigration matters, please contact Honigman's Business Immigration Attorneys.

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