## eVisa Application Instructions

https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/

All international travelers will need to obtain a visa to enter India. Residents of most countries are able to apply for their visa using the Government of India's eVisa site. You can confirm your country's eligibility on the eVisa <u>site</u>. Furthermore, the visa will be part of the security documents that you will need to send to Mind & Life for the processing of your security badge, as required by the Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

The Visa will be valid from the date of approval, approximately 48 hours after submission of the application. If you apply for a one-year visa, the visa will be valid from the date of approval for one year. Multiple entries are allowed on the visa and the visa does not show your anticipated travel dates. There is no disadvantage to applying for your visa now for travel scheduled months away. The application will ask for your anticipated travel dates, limited to the next several months. As the visa is valid for one year and the anticipated travel dates are not listed on your approved visa, the dates of travel are not relevant, clearing the way for you to select any dates that are available on the portal. If you feel that a five year visa would be more efficient for you, that is also an option.

Why do we apply now when the turnaround time can be so quick? Unexpected delays have happened. For no apparent reason, attendee visas have been denied, pending additional information. This process of submitting additional documents and gaining approval can be challenging. Applying early puts that worry aside as there is plenty of time to navigate through it. Also, with world dynamics changing and countries being removed from the system in the past (Canada and UK as a previous example), it's better to secure now while the system is available to you. If your country is not available through the eVisa site, please consult your local government information sites for guidance.

E-Visa Application Instructions: Allow 30 minutes to complete your application.

- 1. Recommended browser: Google Chrome
- You will need a JPG file of a recent color photo (2 in x 2 in, 350 pixels width & height, max file size 1 MB) with white background (passport-style photo). *Tip: Using Adobe or other image application, you can reduce the size of a JPG file through the Tools menu option.*
- 3. You will need a PDF of your passport photo page (max file size 300 KB).
- 4. Click the second tile at the bottom of the main page "Apply here for e-visa"
- All dates should be written as DD/MM/YYYY; Your Date of Arrival will not be printed on your visa. Select the date furthest out/closest to our October 2025 date as possible; Port of Arrival: Delhi Airport
- 6. Apply for a "Tourist Visa 1-year" > Recreation/Sight-Seeing (do not choose conference or any other option)
- 7. Be sure to "Save and Temporarily Exit" the application at each stage to avoid loss of information.
- 8. Record your Temporary Application ID number to retrieve your saved application.
- 9. Citizenship/National ID Number: This is NOT a U.S. social security number, you can type "NA"
- 10. "Visible Identification marks": this is only if there are visible marks such as birthmarks on your face. If you do not have any, please enter "none"

- 11. "Have you lived for at least two years in the country where you are applying visa?": Click Yes (meaning you have lived in the country that is reflected in your address for the last two years)
- 12. "Have you booked any room in Hotel/Resort etc. through any tour operator?": Click No
- 13. Places to be visited in India: Delhi and Dharamsala
- 14. You will need to list a name and address in India: Wangdue Tsewang, at Norbu House, Temple Road, Mcleod Ganj, Dharamshala, (Kangra District) Himachal Pradesh; phone: 973-648-2887
- 15. There is a non-refundable processing fee of approximately \$40, which can be paid with select credit cards or PayPal. Take a screenshot of the fee to submit as proof of payment for reimbursement. Not all credit cards are accepted and this step can be frustrating. If payment is rejected, you can return to the home page and select "Verify Payment/Pay e-visa fee" to try another method of payment.
- 16. When you are finished, you'll receive a new Application ID number. Record this number you will use that to check on the status of your visa, and to download your visa.
- 17. Expect an email response within 24-48 hours regarding the status of your visa. You will need to log back into the system to download your visa. The official visa will show your photo. You will need to carry a printed copy of your visa when you travel.
- 18. A copy of your approved visa will need to be sent to Mind & Life through the secure upload.

## Need additional help? Ellen Kellner | <u>ekellner@mindandlife.org</u>

