



CLIENT ALERT
**THE UNITED STATES
INTRODUCES VISA INTEGRITY
FEE FOR NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS**

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INTRODUCTION

The United States Government (“U.S”) recently introduced a new \$250 “Visa Integrity Fee” (“Fee”) for aliens who are issued a non-immigrant U.S. visa. This Fee was established under the One Big Beautiful Bill, signed into law by President Trump on 4th July, 2025^{1,2}

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR U.S VISA APPLICANTS?

Aliens who are issued non-immigrant U.S. visas including B-1/B-2 visas (Tourists & Business Travelers), F-1 visas (International Students), H-1B Visas (Specialty Occupation Workers), L-1 Visas (Intracompany Transferees) and any other non-immigrant visa categories will pay the visa integrity fee at the time of issuance of the visa. Applicants from non-US visa waiver countries like Nigeria will have to pay the visa integrity fee of \$250 in addition to their other required fees while travelers from Visa Waiver Program countries are generally exempt from this fee.

It is important to note that the policy is still being fine-tuned and will take effect from the start of the new fiscal year which is 1st October, 2025. There is provision for refunds to be issued to applicants who fully comply with visa conditions, such as departing the U.S. within five days after the expiration of their authorized stay. However, refunds are not automatic and require documented proof of compliance.³

IMPACT ON TRAVELERS AND BUSINESSES

This new fee will significantly affect travel expenses and individuals planning to travel to the United States of America may need to adjust their budgets for immigration related expenses. While the fee is theoretically refundable, the current lack of clear procedures for claiming reimbursements creates uncertainty for travelers. As this policy is still in motion, it is advisable to pay close attention to future regulatory updates from the U.S. Government.

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¹ The White House – President Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill is Now the Law: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/articles/2025/07/president-trumps-one-big-beautiful-bill-is-now-the-law/>

² H.R.1 – One Big Beautiful Bill Act: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text>

³ Section 100007 (Visa Integrity Fee) One Big Beautiful Bill Act