

REDUCTION OF VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Athens January 7 and 29, 1949
Entered into force January 29, 1949; operative for Greece February 1,
1949, for the United States February 15, 1949*

63 Stat. 2905; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 2144

The American Embassy to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

No. 11

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honor to refer to its Note Verbale No. 1483 of December 13, 1948, and to the conversation held on October 23, 1948, between Mr. Nicholas Anissas, of the Ministry, and Mr. Oliver S. Crosby, of the Embassy, concerning the desirability of effecting a mutual reduction of certain non-immigrant passport visa fees and an extension of the period of validity of such visas.

The Embassy is pleased to report that on and after the fifteenth day of February, 1949, the Government of the United States will grant non-immigrant passport visas to qualified bearers of valid Greek passports at a fee of \$5.00 for each visa granted (no fee will be charged for the execution of a non-immigrant passport visa application form), if the Government of Greece will accord a similar courtesy to American citizens in a like category desiring to enter Greece or its possessions.

The Ministry is advised further that the aforesaid non-immigrant visas shall be valid for any number of applications for admission into the United States and its possessions within a period of twenty-four (24) months, provided the passports of the bearers remain valid for that period. All other non-immigrant passport visas (except diplomatic, official, and international organization visas, which are of course gratis), granted to qualified Greek nationals, will be at a fee of \$5.00 and valid for any number of applications for admission into the United States during a period of twelve (12) months, provided the passports of the bearers remain valid for that period and provided the Greek Government will accord a similar courtesy to American citizens in a like category.

The period of validity of a visa relates only to the period within which it may be used in connection with an application for admission at a port of

entry into the United States and its possessions, and not to the length of stay in the United States which may be permitted the bearer after he is admitted. The period of time an alien may be permitted to stay in the United States is determined by the Immigration authorities at the time the alien is admitted.

It should be understood that a non-immigrant passport visa becomes invalid if the passport to which it is affixed expires prior to the normal expiry date of the visa. However, should the validity of the passport be extended prior to the expiry date, the visa remains valid for the period for which it was granted.

The fee for an immigration visa and application therefor, to permit an alien to apply for admission into the United States and its possessions with the privilege of residing permanently therein, is \$10.00. The amount of this fee is prescribed by the Immigration Act of 1924,¹ and it may not be changed on the basis of a reciprocal arrangement.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this occasion to renew to the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.

ATHENS, *January 7, 1949.*

RBM

To the

ROYAL HELLENIC MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Athens.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American Embassy

[TRANSLATION]

KINGDOM OF GREECE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
No. 1155 E/9

NOTE-VERBALE

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honor to acknowledge receipt of its note No. 11 of the eleventh instant concerning the reduction and standardization of the visa fees to be collected by the American and Greek consular authorities.

In accordance with the agreement thus concluded, the Greek consular authorities will, beginning February 1, 1949, collect the following fees for visas on American passports:

¹ 43 Stat. 153.

VISA FEES—JANUARY 7 AND 29, 1949

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Emigrant visa, valid for 1 year	\$10.00
Visa valid up to 2 years and for several trips	5.00
Tourist and transient visa	5.00

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this occasion to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

ATHENS, January 29, 1949

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

City