



Consolato Generale d'Italia
Houston

Tel.713-850-7520- Fax 713-850-9113-e-mail: visas.houston@esteri.it – website: <https://conshouston.esteri.it>

RELIGIOUS VISA

Documents check-list

CATHOLIC DENOMINATION

1. **Visa Application Form (91 to 365 days)**

Visa Application Form (1 to 90 days)

Please notice that all the names appearing on the passport must appear on the application form (all data must match those on the passport). In case of appointment, the form must be dated and signed in front of a Visa Officer. In case of mailing, it has to be notarized before a US notary public.

2. **Recent passport-size photograph (2 x 2 inches (51 x 51 mm))**, on white background, full face and front view. Scanned or photocopied photos will NOT be accepted;
3. **Valid passport plus 1 copy** of the page with photograph and expiration date. The passport or travel document must be valid at least three months after the visa expiration date. Please make sure the passport has at least two blank page to affix the visa;
4. **For Non-US citizens: Notarized copy of Permanent Residence Card OR** other US immigration document allowing re-entry into the United States (e.g., valid long-term US visa, Advanced Parole, etc.);
5. **Copy of Driver's License or State ID** as proof of residence in the jurisdiction of this Consulate General. Full-time students may also use original and copy of Student ID. If you recently moved and have not updated your ID, you must submit another proof of current address (e.g., utility bills, bank statements, etc.);
6. **Letter attesting to the religious status** of the applicant issued by the local Religious Institution and stamped by the "Nunziatura Apostolica";

Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See
3339 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008
T. (202) 333-7121

7. **Letter from the Italian Religious Institution** inviting the applicant stating the religious nature of the visit. The letter must bear the seal of the “Segreteria di Stato Vaticano”;
8. **Proof of financial means of support** in the form of the three most recent bank statements
9. **Health insurance verification**, or a declaration of assumption of financial and medical responsibility by the Religious Institution;
10. **Confirmed Flight itinerary**;
11. **Visa fee** (non- refundable) in the form of Cash, Money Order or cashier’s check, payable to the Consulate General of Italy with applicant’s name and address as the remitter;
12. **Return envelope**: required in the event that applicants cannot collect the passport with the visa in person. Please provide envelope of UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICES EXPRESS MAIL or PRIORITY MAIL with a tracking number, pre-paid and self-addressed.

NON CATHOLIC DENOMINATIONS:

In addition to the previous documents applicants will have to provide the following:

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- Visa Application Form (1 to 90 days)**

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2. **Recent passport-size photograph (2 x 2 inches (51 x 51 mm))**, on white background, full face and front view. Scanned or photocopied photos will NOT be accepted;
3. **Valid passport plus 1 copy** of the page with photograph and expiration date. The passport or travel document must be valid at least three months after the visa expiration date. Please make sure the passport has at least two blank page to affix the visa;
4. **For Non-US citizens: Notarized copy of Permanent Residence Card OR** other US immigration document allowing re-entry into the United States (e.g., valid long-term US visa, Advanced Parole, etc.);
5. **Copy of Driver’s License or State ID** as proof of residence in the jurisdiction of this Consulate General. Full-time students may also use original and copy of Student ID. If you recently moved and have not updated your ID, you must submit another proof of current address (e.g., utility bills, bank statements, etc.);
6. **Official documentation** certifying that the applicant is an **Ordained Minister** (ex. Certificate of ordination) of a church/religious institution.
7. **Official letters of the US Religious Institutions** sponsoring the applicant. The letters must state the exact period of stay in Italy, full financial responsibility and medical/hospitalization coverage;
8. **Official letters of the Italian Religious Institutions**. The letters must state the exact period of stay in Italy, lodging accommodation and medical/hospitalization coverage
9. **Copy of the Decree issued by the Italian Ministry of Interior** by which the inviting Religious Institution has been officially recognized and authorized to operate in Italy;

10. **Proof of financial means of support** in the form of the three most recent bank statements
11. **Health insurance verification**, or a declaration of assumption of financial and medical responsibility by the Religious Institution;
12. **Confirmed Flight itinerary**;
13. **Visa fee** (non- refundable) in the form of Money Order or cashier's check, payable to the Consulate General of Italy with applicant's name and address as the remitter;
14. **Return envelope**: required in the event that applicants cannot collect the passport with the visa in person. Please provide envelope of UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICES EXPRESS MAIL or PRIORITY MAIL with a tracking number, pre-paid and self-addressed.

NOTE:

- Religious students and seminarians going to Italy for a period of study/novitiate must apply for a regular "Study Visa".
- Missionaries going to work for a "NON RECOGNIZED" church have to apply for a "Work Visa".