

## Traveling to the United States

All visa applicants are advised to apply for their visa as soon as travel to the United States is contemplated, and not later than 3-4 months in advance. This means that international attendees should **begin the visa process during October-November for the Spring Meeting.**

- Do you require a visa?  
[http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/visa\\_1750.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html)
- How do you apply for a visa?  
<http://www.unitedstatesvisas.gov/obtainingvisa/index.html>

## US Customs and Border Patrol

This government site providing information to increase travelers knowledge on customs, travel alerts and airport and border wait times can be located online at <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/>

## US-Visit Program

The US-Visit Program was launched in January 2004 to enhance security for U.S. citizens and international visitors. Beginning September 30, 2004, foreign visitors (including the 27 countries from the Visa Waiver Program) will be photographed and fingerprinted upon arrival to a U.S. airport or seaport. These processes are taking less than a few minutes in most cases. For more information, visit [www.dhs.gov/us-visit](http://www.dhs.gov/us-visit).

## Visa Waiver Nations **Updated July 30, 2004**

### **Extension Granted Until 2005**

Although the U.S. government has approved the extension of the deadline for passports including biometric technology until October 2005, machine-readable passports are still required by October 26, 2004. If the passport is not machine-readable, a traveler under the Visa Waiver program must also obtain a visa.

As of October 26, 2004, visa waiver travelers from all 27 Visa Waiver Program countries must present a machine-readable passport or a U.S. Visa upon arrival at a U.S. airport or seaport. Details at: [http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/tempvisitors\\_novisa\\_waiver.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/tempvisitors_novisa_waiver.html).