



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Carrier Liaison Program - 2009 CLP Bulletin

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IMPORTANT UPDATE IN ENTRY REQUIREMENTS PAROLE FOR CITIZENS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR THE CNMI ONLY

On October 21, 2009, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that she will exercise her discretionary authority to parole into the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) visitors for business or pleasure who are nationals of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China. Parole will be authorized only for entry into the CNMI and will not extend to other areas of the United States.

What are the requirements for the carriers?

To be eligible to transport eligible nonimmigrant nationals from the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China into the United States, the carrier must:

- Already be signatory to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program*
- Ensure that travelers meet the eligibility requirements for the CNMI-Only Parole

*Carriers that are not currently signatory must complete CBP Form I-760 and initiate the process with CBP no later than November 23, 2009 to be eligible by the November 28, 2009 implementation date.

CBP will not initiate fines against the carrier under Section 273 of the INA for boarding such nonimmigrant aliens without a valid U.S. visa, provided the carrier is signatory to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Agreement and the carrier acknowledges its responsibility for the removal of such aliens if they are determined to be inadmissible to the United States on grounds other than INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(II).

What are the eligibility requirements for visitors from the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China for the CNMI-Only Parole?

To be eligible for the parole provision, prior to embarking on a carrier for travel to the CNMI, each nonimmigrant alien must:

- Be a national of the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation;
- Be solely entering and staying in the CNMI for a period not to exceed forty-five days;
- Be in possession of a round trip ticket that is nonrefundable and nontransferable and bears a confirmed departure date not exceeding forty-five days from the date of entry to the CNMI;
- Be in possession of a completed and signed Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Information form (CBP Form I-736);
- Be in possession of a completed I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (CBP Form I-94); and
- Be in possession of a valid unexpired ICAO-compliant, machine readable passport.