



Botschaft
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Beirut

August 2008

Hinweis für deutsche Staatsangehörige zur Einreise in die USA im Rahmen des „Visa Waiver“-Programms

Die Botschaft der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika in Beirut teilt folgendes mit:

“Changes to the Visa Waiver Program to implement the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA)

Beginning August 1, 2008, visitors eligible to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) may use the new Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). ESTA will become mandatory on January 12, 2009. All foreign nationals traveling to the U.S. under the VWP program, even if their point of origin is not a VWP country, will be required to obtain an ESTA authorization. Once ESTA is mandatory, all travelers from VWP countries will be required to obtain an ESTA approval prior to boarding a carrier to travel by air or sea to the United States under the VWP.

After ESTA becomes mandatory, travelers who have not received approved travel authorization via ESTA may be denied boarding, experience delayed processing, or be denied admission at a U.S. port of entry. Travelers are encouraged to apply for their travel authorization via ESTA as soon as they make travel arrangements to ensure they are able to travel on time.

ESTA is a web-based system. In order to apply for an ESTA authorization on or after August 1, 2008, travelers should go to <http://cbp.dhs.gov/>, follow the instructions to answer all the required questions, and submit an application for a travel authorization. Travelers cannot submit ESTA applications at a U.S. port of entry (POE) or a U.S. Embassy or consulate. Each traveler must have an approved travel authorization obtained via ESTA for the passport he/she plans to use for travel. Approved ESTAs are valid for two years or until the applicant's passport expires, whichever comes first, and may be used for multiple trips to the U.S. under the VWP for the duration of validity.

Information on ESTA is also available at www.travel.state.gov or www.lebanon.usembassy.gov.”