# U.S. Mission to France

Protecting the Lives and Interests of Americans in France





### Topics We'll Cover

- Introductions
- What Does an Embassy Do?
- Consular Services: Lost Passport, Support, Where to Find Us, etc.
- Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)
- Making the Most of Your Time Here: By Staying Safe
- Careers in the Foreign Service





### What Does an Embassy Do?

- U.S. embassies abroad play a critical role in advancing the interests of the United States and its citizens.
- Their functions encompass a wide range of diplomatic, economic, consular, and protective activities.
- Interagency collaboration

### ... and What is Consular Affairs??

- Consular Affairs primarily aims to protect the lives and serve the interests of U.S. citizens abroad.
- Across the globe, we serve our fellow citizens during some of their most important moments – births, adoptions, medical emergencies, deaths, arrests, and disasters.



### Consular Team France:

### Where Are We Located?



Embassy



Consulate General



Consulate



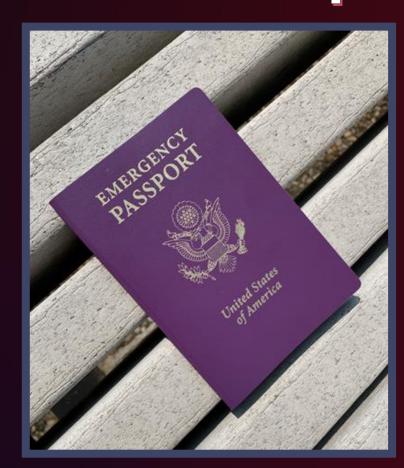


### Passport Services:

### My Passport is Lost/was Stolen and I Have Urgent Travel

- Request an emergency passport appointment through the American Citizen Services navigator
  - No walk-ins permitted
- Passport team will schedule an appointment
  - Typically, same or next business day
- No reentry to France on emergency passport absent other proof of status
  - Belgium, France, and the Netherlands do not accept emergency passports
- Note: Travel to the UK requires enrollment in the UK's Electronic Travel Authorization: www.gov.uk/eta

### We can help!





### Passports Continued

- Take note of your passport's expiration date and apply early!
  - Some countries require 2+ blank pages to travel
- Most adult renewals can be sent via mail; whereas first-time passports (adult and minor) must be done in person
- Anticipate approximately 4-6 weeks to receive your new passport
- A U.S. passport is a VALUABLE identity document, keep it safe!



travel.state.gov





## Resources and Best Practices for U.S. Citizens in France



**American Citizen Services Navigator** 



### Making the Most out of Your Stay: By Staying Safe

- Stay aware in crowded, tourist frequented areas:
   Petty Crimes and Street Scams are rampant
- Exercise increased caution due to frequent demonstrations and potential terrorist threats



Calling Emergency Services
In France, Dial 112 or 17 in a crisis, or
for a medical emergency call 15

Confirm coverage with your insurance



### Enroll in STEP

The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service for U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad to receive safety and security alerts and other local updates by email from the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.



- Receive live safety and security alerts
  Help the embassy contact you to inform you in case of demonstrations or other scenarios
- Plan ahead with accessible information from the embassy

Learn more and enroll at: STEP.state.gov



### Safety Trivia

### True or False?

You should always keep your passport on you.

### True or False?

When walking on the streets, keep your bag facing the road.

#### True or False?

Avoid using open hotspots in public areas.

### True or False?

In an emergency, call the Embassy's American Citizen Services before the police.

#### True or False?

You should avoid public parks after dark.

#### True or False?

The embassy can provide you a list of Englishspeaking doctors and lawyers.



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\*\*Can be found on the Embassy's website!\*\*



### Safety Tips to Keep in Mind

#### Common Theft Scenarios and Street Scams

- Pickpockets in airports, train stations, subways, tourist areas, and sidewalk cafes
- Can be any gender, race, or age but are commonly children under 16 who are less likely to be prosecuted or arrested
- Given a free bracelet, followed by conartists demanding payment
- Street Shows
- Distractions (dropped money ie)

#### Reminders

- As much as possible, DO NOT carry your passport on your person.
- Keep photocopies of travel documents and credit cards separate from originals.
- DO NOT put your jacket with wallet in it or purse on the back of the chair at restaurants. Keep your bag in your lap where you can see it.
- Pedestrians are encouraged to walk as far from the street side as possible, and to keep bags slung across the body facing away from the street.
- Embassy Paris' website has an updated list of English-speaking doctors and hospitals.



# What Would a Career in the Foreign Service Look Like?

- Foreign Service
  - Generalists:
    - Consular, Economic, Management, Political, and Public Diplomacy
  - Specialists: May work in administrative roles, in defense and security of diplomatic missions, or medical support.
- Civil Service

  - Crafting foreign policy Supporting global operations





#### FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER AND SPECIALIST ATTRIBUTES

What qualities do we seek in Foreign Service candidates? Successful candidates will demonstrate the following dimensions that reflect the skills, abilities, and personal qualities deemed essential to the work of the Foreign Service at the United States Department of State.

#### **CRITICAL THINKING**

To discern what is appropriate, practical, and realistic in a given situation; to weigh relative merits of competing demands using sound judgment; to consider multiple points of view when making recommendations; to formulate creative alternatives or solutions to resolve problems; to show flexible and innovative thinking/problem solving.





#### CULTURAL ADAPTABILITY

To work and communicate effectively and harmoniously with persons of other cultures, value systems, political beliefs, and economic circumstances; to recognize and respect differences in new and different cultural environments.

#### **EXPERIENCE & MOTIVATION**

To demonstrate knowledge, skills or other attributes gained from previous experience of relevance to the Foreign Service; to articulate appropriate motivation for joining the Foreign Service.





### INFORMATION INTEGRATION & ANALYSIS

To evaluate the importance, reliability, and usefulness of information; to distill relevant details from available information; to absorb and retain complex information drawn from a variety of sources; to synthesize and analyze available information; to recognize patterns or trends and draw reasoned conclusions from data.

#### **LEADERSHIP**

To recognize and assume responsibility for work that needs to be done; to persist in the completion of a task; to influence a group's activity or direction significantly; to motivate others to participate in the activity one is leading.



#### **NEGOTIATION**

To recognize divergent and overlapping interests; to recognize advantages and disadvantages of agreement and available options; to advocate, influence and/or persuade others using information, facts, and reasoning rather than emotion; to resolve disagreements; to maintain or develop mutually beneficial working relationships with counterparts in the process.

#### OBJECTIVITY/INTEGRITY

To be fair and honest to all employees and keep an open mind; to present issues frankly; to analyze facts and data effectively, without interjecting bias; to be consistent in words and actions; to be dependable.





#### **PLANNING & ORGANIZING**

To prioritize and order tasks effectively, to employ a systematic approach to achieving objectives, to make appropriate use of limited resources.

#### **PRESENTATION SKILLS**

To present fluently in a concise, grammatically correct, organized, and precise manner; to think on one's feet, adjusting quickly to changing situations; to convey key elements and nuances of meaning accurately; to respond to questions from others effectively; to use appropriate styles of communication to fit the audience and purpose.





#### **TEAMWORK**

To interact in a constructive, cooperative, and harmonious manner toward a common goal; to work effectively as a team player; to establish positive relationships and gain the confidence of others; to ease tension as appropriate.

#### WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

To write concisely yet comprehensively; to use clear arguments and facts; to use correct grammar and syntax; to use appropriate vocabulary to promote understanding.



#### https://careers.state.gov/career-paths/foreign-service/dimensions/

### Becoming a Diplomat



- 1 Take the Foreign Service Officer Test
- 2 Be invited to take the Foreign Service Officer Assessment
- 3 Receive required clearances; including minimum medical qualifications, Top Secret security clearance, and a positive evaluation from a suitability review panel.



### Becoming a Diplomat

### Optional Fellowship Pathways









Note: Applying to work at the State Department can be a long process. Applying to fellowship programs can streamline the process and fund your continued education!

Opportunities to Gain More International Experience



Visit the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs website to learn more

https://www.state.gov/eca-programs/



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# Any Questions?

