

November 2021



Consular Newsletter

Hello everyone. I'm Cedra Eaton, the Chief of the American Citizen Services Unit here at the U.S. Embassy in Port au Prince.

The welfare and safety of U.S. citizens abroad is the highest priority of the Department of State. The general environment of insecurity in Haiti is the reason why the U.S. Government's [travel advisory for Haiti](#) remains at "Level 4: Do Not Travel" due to kidnapping, crime, civil unrest, and COVID-19.

The U.S. Embassy in Port au Prince encourages U.S. citizens to avoid travel to Haiti at this time and urges U.S. citizens currently in Haiti to depart Haiti now via commercial means. Please carefully read our [November 10 Security Alert](#) and sign up for STEP, our [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#). Please also review [what the State Department can and can't do during a crisis](#).

Despite the evolving security situation, we are working diligently each day to continue providing services to our clients. We thank consular customers for their patience as we continually work to serve the public.

For passport renewals, notarial services, and citizenship claims for children of U.S. citizens born in Haiti, please book an appointment as early as



*Pictured: Cedra Eaton,
Chief, American Citizen Services*

possible through our [online portal](#). If at first you cannot find an available appointment, please check back frequently. As your appointment date nears, please be prepared with all necessary forms and documentation so we can limit wait times and serve clients more efficiently. Requirements for passports can be found [on the passport page of our website](#), and for Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, you can find all relevant application instructions [on the child and family matters/birth page of our website](#).

President Biden recently announced the United States' global air travel policy. Effective November 8, all non-citizen, nonimmigrant airline passengers traveling to the U.S. must demonstrate proof of COVID vaccination as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) Director Order prior to boarding a U.S.-bound aircraft. More details regarding this new global air policy for both vaccination and pre-travel COVID testing are available in the "Ask the Consul" section of this month's newsletter.

Finally, if you are a current Consular Liaison Volunteer (CLV) or aspire to join our volunteer team to help serve U.S. citizens in Haiti, please see our new CLV Corner with important updates.

Ask the Consul: Vaccine Requirements Travel



Each month we'll be answering some of your frequently asked questions. This month, we're focusing on the new vaccine requirements for traveling by air to the United States.

Q: What is the new vaccine requirement to travel to the United States?

A: A Presidential Proclamation now requires all adult foreign national air travelers to the United States, with very

limited exceptions, will be required to be fully vaccinated and to provide proof of vaccination status prior to boarding an airplane to the United States. Immigrant visa applicants are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 as part of the medical exam they receive prior to visa issuance. Please see the [CDC website](#) for all the requirements.

Q: What are the changes for U.S. citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs)?

A: Previously, all U.S. citizen and LPR travelers were required to produce a negative test result within three days of travel to the United States. This requirement remains the same for U.S. citizens and LPRs who can show they are fully vaccinated. All fully vaccinated U.S. citizens and LPRs traveling to the United States should be prepared to present documentation of their vaccine status alongside their negative test result.

Those U.S. citizens and LPRs who cannot demonstrate proof of full vaccination will now have to show documentation of a negative test from a sample taken within one day of departure to the United States.

Q: I'm an American citizen and fully vaccinated – what do I need?

A: If you are fully vaccinated, you will need to show proof of vaccination and a negative COVID-19 test result taken no more than three days before travel.

Q: I'm an American citizen and not fully vaccinated – what do I need?

A: If you are an American citizen but are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19, then you are required to show a negative COVID-19 test result taken no more than one day before travel, or documentation of recovery from COVID-10 before you board your flight to the United States. The CDC warns, "do not travel internationally until you are fully vaccinated."

Q: Which vaccines will be accepted?

A: The CDC determined that for purposes of travel to the United States, accepted vaccines include FDA approved or authorized vaccines and WHO emergency use listed (EUL) vaccines. See the list of [accepted vaccines here](#).

Q: What are the testing requirements for children?

A: Children between the ages of 2 and 17 are required to take a pre-departure test. While children under two years of age are exempted from the testing requirement, CDC recommends a pre-departure test whenever possible.

For more information, visit:

- [Vaccination Requirements](#)
- [U.S. Embassy COVID Page](#)

Q: Where can I get vaccinated in Haiti?

A: There are vaccines available in Haiti for U.S. citizens to receive. Currently, the Moderna vaccine is available in Haiti. Please visit the [U.S. Embassy COVID-19 Information page](#) for a list of vaccine facilities in Haiti.

Citizen Liaison Volunteer (CLV) Corner

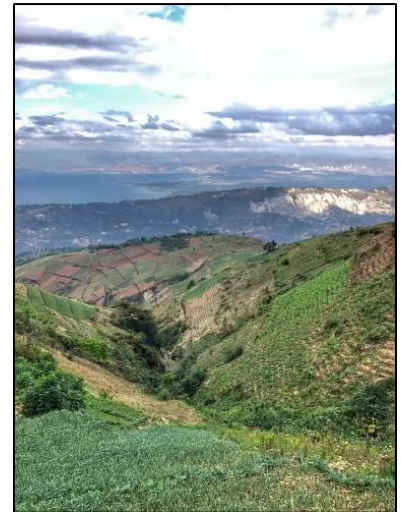
Citizen Liaison Volunteers Town Hall Summary

Thank you to all the Citizen Liaison Volunteers (CLVs) who attended the November 19 virtual Town Hall. Our CLVs help liaise between the Embassy and U.S. citizens residing throughout Haiti, especially during times of crisis and emergency.

The Town Hall's primary focus was to discuss what services the [State Department can and cannot provide during a crisis](#). For example, the U.S. Embassy cannot help with in-country transportation, provide personal protection, nor pay citizens' travel or medical bills.

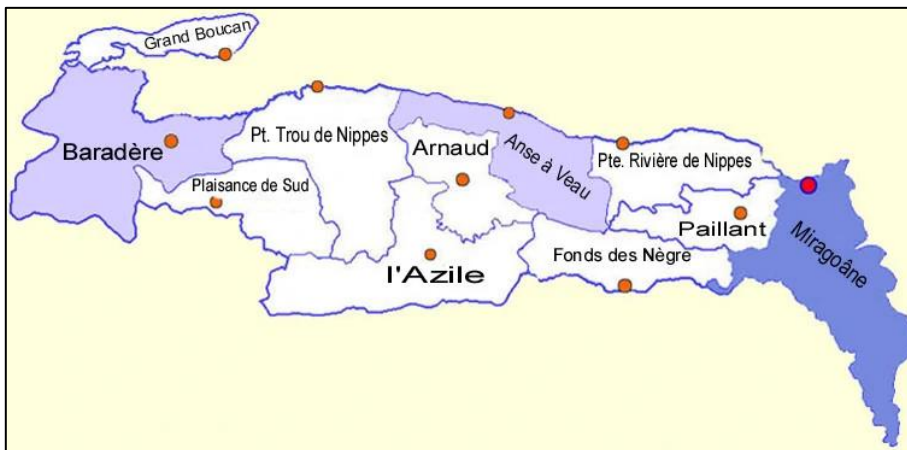
We also reiterated that if U.S. citizens choose to remain in Haiti, they should have an evacuation plan that does not rely on the services of the U.S. government. We recommend those citizens who choose to remain in Haiti ensure they have up-to-date travel and legal documents, purchase travel insurance, and discuss a plan with loved ones in case of emergencies.

For CLV-related inquiries, please contact: CLVpap@state.gov.



Opportunity for American Citizens in Nippes & Les Cayes

The U.S. Embassy's Citizen Liaison Volunteer (CLV) program is looking for U.S. citizen volunteers residing in Nippes Department and Les Cayes to help us cover these areas of Haiti. CLVs are responsible for alerting citizens in their area of any important security updates and assisting the Embassy in communicating with citizens during crisis situations.



We currently do not have any volunteers in the Nippes Department and are looking for U.S. citizens residing in this area. If interested, please email CLVpap@state.gov at your earliest convenience. Thank you for considering joining the CLV team!

November: National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month! Intercountry adoption is one of the Department's highest priorities. Each year, thousands of U.S. citizens adopt children from abroad, and families habitually resident in other countries also adopt children from the United States. President Joseph R. Biden Jr. gave the following remarks in the White House [Proclamation on National Adoption Month, 2021](#):



“Every child deserves to grow up with a safe and loving family, with the care and support of their community. During National Adoption Month, we celebrate all of the children and families nurtured, enriched, and made whole by adoption and recommit ourselves to ensuring that every child in America can grow up in a loving and supportive home.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has made it especially challenging for children in the foster care system. For thousands of young people in foster care, navigating the challenges of growing up can be especially difficult without stable family connections. Because of the added difficulties imposed by the pandemic, my Administration has implemented the substantial investments made through the Supporting Foster Youth and Families Through the Pandemic Act to help older adolescents transitioning from the foster care system maintain housing, stay in school, pay the bills, and lay a strong foundation for adulthood. My Administration encourages States to continue using these available funds to support older foster youth in every way they can.

“During this month, we also acknowledge the history of injustices and racial bias in our Nation's child welfare system. To this day, Black and Native American children are more likely to be removed from their homes, more likely to stay in care longer, and less likely to be adopted than white children. To ensure the equal dignity and care of all our children, we must improve our efforts to keep families together, prevent the trauma of unnecessary child removal, and recruit and support new adoptive families — especially kinship caregivers. Finally, we must further support families who have already taken youth into their homes and invest the time and energy needed to ensure that all children — including LGBTQ+ youth whose needs are not always met in the foster care system — can find the happiness and well-being that every child and young person deserves.”

You can mark this month by taking a moment to learn more about [adopting from the United States](#) and [intercountry adoption](#).

Health Resources & COVID-19

COVID-19: For updated information about COVID-19 in Haiti, including **where to get vaccinated**, where to get tested, entry/exit requirements, and quarantine information, [please visit the Embassy website](#). The COVID-19 vaccine is currently available in Haiti at more than 50 locations, in various cities. The [requirements for traveling by air](#) to the United States have recently changed. Please continue to follow host country developments and guidelines for COVID-19 vaccination.

Additional health guidance:

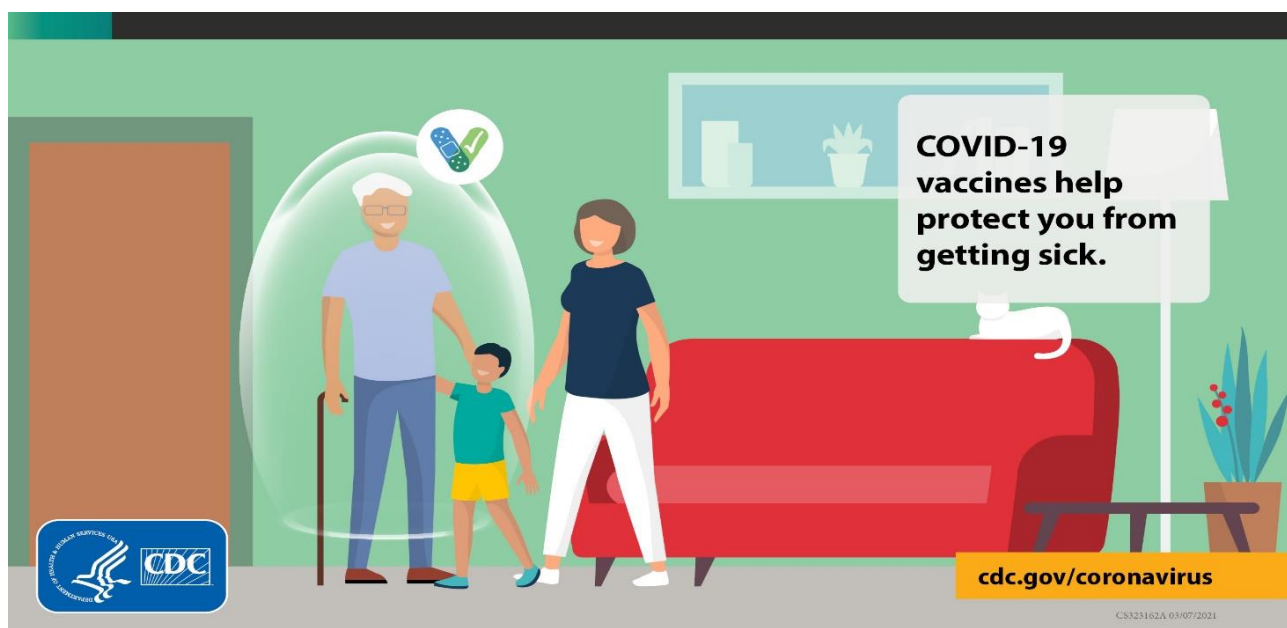
- 👉 Make sure you are current on your vaccines, including tetanus and rabies.
- 👉 Know where doctors and the closest emergency room are in your area. Please visit the [Embassy website](#) for a list of hospitals and medical professionals in Haiti.
- 👉 Always keep basic medications and supplies on hand. Invest in a quality first aid kit and keep one in your car and at home.
- 👉 Always have medical insurance, including medevac insurance. If you need to be medically evacuated out of Haiti, you should contact a medevac company or an air ambulance service. Visit the U.S. Embassy website for a list of [Air Ambulance Services](#).

4 Haiti – Level 4: Very High Level of COVID-19

The CDC has issued a [Level 4 health advisory](#) for Haiti. Avoid travel to Haiti. If you must travel to Haiti, make sure you are fully vaccinated.



cdc.gov/coronavirus



Travel & Security

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Haiti – Level 4: Do Not Travel

The U.S. Department of State has renewed the highest level “[Level 4: Do Not Travel](#)” travel advisory for Haiti due to kidnapping, crime, and civil unrest, and COVID-19.

If you are in Haiti...

- Remember that demonstrations, tire burning, and roadblocks are frequent, unpredictable, and can turn violent at any time. Emergency response, including ambulance service, is limited or non-existent.
- Always carry your cell phone and ensure it is charged before you travel. Ensure you have important numbers programmed into your phone. Consider using code names for family or friends.
- Avoid demonstrations and crowds. If you encounter a roadblock, turn around and get to a safe area.
- Arrange airport transfers and hotels in advance, or have your host meet you upon arrival.
- Travel by vehicle to minimize walking in public, and travel in groups of at least two people, whenever possible.
- Always keep vehicle doors and windows locked, with valuables out of sight.
- Exercise caution and alertness, especially when driving through markets and other traffic-congested areas.
- Do not physically resist any robbery attempt/kidnapping.
- Do not travel in areas unfamiliar to you and be aware that navigation apps are highly unreliable in Haiti.
- Always make sure your vehicle is in good driving condition.
- Travel at times when traffic is expected to be lighter and avoid travel after dark in Port au Prince.
- Ensure adequate spacing between vehicles to provide options for evading a potentially dangerous situation.
- Patronize shops or restaurants that provide secure, enclosed, and well-lit parking.
- Always inform someone, such as a family member or friend, of where you are going and what time you expect to return. Minimize broadly publishing your travel plans on social media.
- **Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)** to receive important information from the Embassy about safety conditions in Haiti, and help the Embassy contact you in the case of emergency. To enroll, visit: step.state.gov, or click the image below.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Embassy Address:

U.S. Embassy Port au Prince
Boulevard du 15 Octobre
Tabarre 41, Route de Tabarre, Port au Prince, Haiti

Online Resources:

- ✓ U.S. Embassy Port au Prince's website: ht.usembassy.gov
- ✓ American Citizen Services (ACS) website: ht.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services
- ✓ U.S. Embassy Port au Prince on Facebook: facebook.com/USEmbassyHaiti
- ✓ ACS on Facebook: facebook.com/ACSPortauPrince
- ✓ Haiti Travel Advisory: travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/haiti-travel-advisory.html

To respond to your inquiry most effectively, we strongly encourage you to write to our topic-specific e-mail addresses as follows:

- ✓ American Citizen Services: acspap@state.gov
- ✓ Visas: support-haiti@ustraveldocs.com

In case of a life or death emergency regarding U.S. citizens in Haiti, please call: +509-2229-8000



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