

# AMERICAN CITIZENS SERVICES NEWSLETTER

**The Consular Section wishes All a Happy New 2011 Year!**



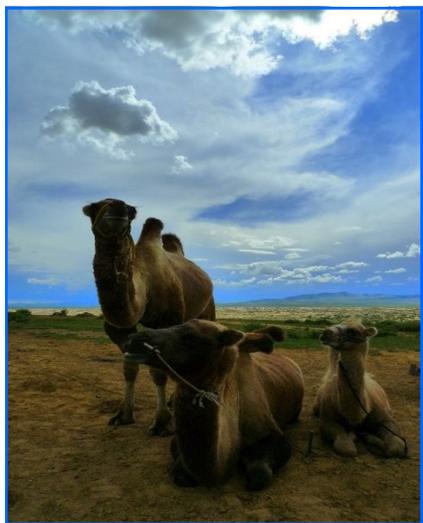
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Greetings from the Consular Section and best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous 2011 to all Americans and their families in Mongolia.

We are proud to represent the United States in Mongolia and look forward to working with the American community here to make all our lives safer and to keep us all connected to our culture back home. I hope any American who needs help will contact us to see if there is anything we can do to assist. While we cannot solve all problems, we can and will make every effort to help all Americans with their difficulties. We can be particularly helpful on issues related to passports and registrations of births abroad and can give advice on voting and US federal benefits. We can also provide any American victims of crime, accidents or serious illness with help obtaining appropriate local legal and medical expertise and can offer guidance on obtaining funds from abroad for those in financial need.

We have regularly scheduled American Citizens' hours at the Embassy on Mondays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 PM and will respond to real emergencies at any time. Please contact us if you need our help.



Best regards for the New Year,

Phil Cargile,  
Consul



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## NEW CRBA APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Department of State is pleased to announce the introduction of a redesigned Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA, or Form FS-240). The redesigned CRBA, which is an official record confirming that a child born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or parents acquired U.S. Citizenship at birth and serves as proof of citizenship, has been updated with a variety of state-of-the-art security features to help prevent fraud and identity theft.

Beginning January 18, 2011, overseas posts will still document the citizenship of children born overseas to U.S.-citizen parents, but the CRBAs will be printed at our passport agencies in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and New Orleans, Louisiana, using the information provided by overseas posts. By centralizing production and eliminating the distribution of controlled blank stock throughout the world, we will help ensure uniform quality and lessen the possibility of fraud.

Additionally, the Department will no longer issue the DS-1350 Certification of Report of Birth Abroad. Instead, the Department will simply provide new FS-240s in response to requests for additional, replacement, or amended CRBAs.

In order to upgrade our systems for this change, the U.S. Embassy Ulaanbaatar is suspending CRBA adjudication from January 1 through January 18, 2011.

CRBA applications submitted during that time will be adjudicated after January 18.

### Implementation of SMS System for Future Announcements

### Americans Encouraged to Take the Foreign Service Test in Mongolia

U.S. Embassy Ulaanbaatar will be administering the **Foreign Service Officer Test** in Mongolia On 5-6 February 2011.

American citizens interested in careers in the Foreign Service are encouraged to visit <http://careers.state.gov> to learn more about what the Foreign Service does and to register online for the test.

**The deadline for registering for the test is January 24, 2011.**



The Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy Ulaanbaatar has set up a new bulk SMS communication system for all American Citizens residing in Mongolia. This system will be used to send out **ONLY time-sensitive messages via text message to your cell phone**. We will not use this service for each and every warden message. Instead, the SMS program will allow us to quickly reach you in the event of an emergency, or when other modes of communication are down.

Please be aware that an independent telecom company will be providing the service, not the U.S. Embassy itself. This service is completely free of charge for you.

**If you have not already replied to this message**, and are interested in getting our text-messages in addition to the emails we send, please send us a short email with your valid cell phone numbers to be included in our SMS program to [UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov](mailto:UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov).

We will appreciate it greatly if you inform us of any changes in your cell phone numbers at [UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov](mailto:UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov). This might be a good chance to send us any other updates on your contact information (new emails, mailing addresses).

If you no longer reside in Mongolia, and would like to remove your email from the distribution list, let us know as well.

**TAX INFORMATION**

Income tax season is fast approaching. We recommend that you obtain your tax forms online at <http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html>.

Please note that all U.S. citizens or resident aliens must report and pay federal tax on their worldwide income, even if they live abroad. For your convenience, attached is an electronic copy of the [Publication 4732](#) and it is also available on the internet at <http://www.irs.gov>

For more information on U.S. taxes, please consult the list of websites and telephone numbers below to help find the forms and answers you need.

STATE TAX RETURNS: For individual state income tax information, visit <http://www.taxadmin.org/>. The Embassy does not have state tax forms or state tax information

Main IRS website: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

Tax guidance for U.S. citizens abroad: <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/international/article/0,,id=97324,00.html>

Tax guidance for persons in the military: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/military/index.html>

Electronic payment website: <http://www.eftps.gov/>

Refund information: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=96596,00.html?portlet=4>

Phone Services:

- Individuals 1-800-829-1040
- Businesses 1-800-829-4933
- Customer Service Phone Number 1-215-516-2000
- Refund Inquiries 1-800-829-4477
- TeleTax 1-800-829-4477
- ITINs after 6 weeks 1-800-829-1040
- Exempt Organization Help Desk 1-877-829-5500
- E-Services Help Desk 1-512-416-7750

Please note that calling the above 1-800 U.S. numbers from an overseas location will usually not be toll-free.

**SMART TRAVELER ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (STEP)**

**Stay Informed.** Sign up for our free [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (formerly known as “Travel Registration” or “Registration with Embassies”) to receive the latest travel updates and information! You only need to sign up once, and then you can add and delete trips from your account based on your current travel plans!

**Stay Connected.** By connecting with us on the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#), we will be able to assist you better in the case of an emergency, such as if you lose your passport or it is stolen while you are abroad. We also assist U.S. citizens in other emergencies, such as in natural disasters.

**Stay Safe.** We believe that a well-informed traveler is a safer traveler. Our consular officers around the world compile [country-specific information](#), [travel alerts](#), [travel warnings](#), fact sheets and warden messages to provide you with timely and accurate travel information about every country where you may travel. Stay informed by connecting with us via our [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) so you can have safe and enjoyable travels!

**“It’s better to go naked than to sin to get rich.” - Mongolian proverb**



**A Message to American Communities and Organizations in Mongolia**

The Embassy encourages all business groups, churches, private companies, and other organizations with a nucleus of American citizens to make sure that the Embassy has a point of contact for your group.

To receive Embassy announcements and advisories via e-mail, please join the Embassy Newslist. Your membership in the Embassy Newslist will assure you of receiving Embassy issued announcements and advisories in a timely manner. Your private information will be kept strictly confidential.

Send an email to the Embassy at [UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov](mailto:UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov) giving the name of your organization, a point of contact (POC), email address, phone number, and any other contact information. It is not necessary that your POC be an American citizen. The Embassy will use this information to contact your group in an emergency. Please type "Group Contact Info" on the subject line of your email.

**Upcoming Holidays**

December 31—New Year’s Day (observed)  
January 17 —Martin Luther King Day

**Embassy Contact Information**

American Citizen Services  
Embassy of the United States  
11<sup>th</sup> Micro District  
Big Ring Road  
Ulaanbaatar 13, Mongolia  
Tel: 976-11329-095  
Fax: 976-11320-776  
After-hours  
or emergency number: 9911-4168  
E-mail: [UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov](mailto:UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov)  
- or -  
American Embassy Ulaanbaatar  
4410 Ulaan Baatar  
Place  
Washington, DC,  
20521-4410



**Travel Warnings and Alerts**

- [Saudi Arabia](#) 12/23/2010
- [Cote d'Ivoire](#) 12/19/2010
- [Haiti](#) 12/09/2010
- [Mauritania](#) 12/08/2010
- [Chad](#) 12/08/2010
- [Central African Republic](#) 12/06/2010
- [Guinea](#) 12/03/2010

[Europe - Terrorism](#) 10/03/2010

For additional information about these travel warnings and alerts, please go to this site: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/tw/tw\\_1764.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html)

**WONDERING IF THE FLIGHT IS ON TIME?**

This website has virtually every flight in the world and is updated regularly. It has been used for MIAT and Korean Air flights and it has been accurate every time. <http://www.flightstats.com/>

