

Special Immigrant Certification (SPIC) - FAQs

1. I am a World Bank staff member on a G4 visa based in the U.S. for more than 15 years, but I am not leaving the Bank yet. Am I eligible for the Special Immigrant Certification (SPIC)?

Even though you have been on a G4 visa for 15 years, you are not yet eligible for the SPIC if you are still active at the Bank. Staff are eligible for the SPIC upon departure from the Bank.

2. I was working as a Consultant on a G4 visa for five years before becoming a staff member for more than 10 years now. Am I eligible for the SPIC if I leave the Bank?

Time spent as a consultant is not counted towards eligibility for your SPIC.

3. Does the requirement of 15 years on a G4 visa mean 15 years in a row?

No. To be eligible, staff should have been on a G4 visa based in U.S. for at least 15 years in total, prior to leaving the Bank.

4. I have been on a G4 visa for more than 15 years, but I was not based in the U.S. for 3 ½ years in the last seven years prior to the end date of my contract. Does this make me ineligible for the SPIC?

Yes. To be eligible, staff must meet the requirement of residing in the U.S. on a G4 visa for at least 3 ½ years during the last seven years prior to leaving the Bank.

5. My child has been on a G4 visa since the age of three. Now s/he is 10 years old, which means that s/he has been on a G4 visa for seven years. Is s/he eligible for the SPIC?

Eligibility begins on the child's fifth birthday. To be eligible, dependent children must be physically present in the U.S. in G4 status for periods that total seven years between the ages of 5 and 21.

6. What else can the Bank do to help us with our application for a Green Card?

The Bank issues the SPIC to staff for themselves and a spouse upon departure from the Bank and/or to dependent children when they meet the eligibility requirements. Staff are advised to seek further advice from an immigration firm. Below are local immigration firms recommended by staff:

- Mr. Andrew Greenfield: 202-349-2183
- Ms. Amy R. Novick: 202-293-3123
- Ms. Linda Hoffman: 202-331-9450
- Ms. Maria Glinsmann: 301-987-0030 (Ext. 3)
- Ms. Palma Yanni: 202-338-1995
- Mr. Richard Bromberg: 202-835-0660
- Mr. Sena Basnayake: 202-872-1600

7. My son is part of my household, and he also has a G4 visa, even though he studies in Canada. He comes to visit us in the U.S. from time to time. Do you count the time he is in Canada when he applies for an SPIC, given that he has a G4 visa?

Time spent outside the U.S. is not counted towards eligibility. Dependent children must reside physically in the U.S. in G4 status. Possessing the G4 visa is not enough.

8. Does the time spent outside the U.S. while on mission or vacation affect my physical presence in the U.S.?

No, time outside of the U.S. on official travel or vacation does not affect your physical presence in the U.S. as you remain assigned to HQ in G4 status.

9. I worked for another international organization on a G4 visa for five years before joining the Bank. I am with the Bank for more than 10 years as a staff member on a G4 visa and plan to leave soon. Does the Bank consider the five years spent with another international organization to issue the SPIC?

We can consider the time spent with another international organization if you provide a proof such as your employment verification from that organization.