



# A.C.S. ACTIVITY

American Citizens Services Newsletter

We all love to get away and explore the countryside. After all, Mongolian winters can be beautiful. However, even a short trip out of town can be risky if you aren't prepared. Winter can be dangerous without the proper gear or knowledge. That's why we're focusing on some safety points this month. Please be sure to travel safely this winter.

## Here are some things to do **BEFORE** you head out of town:

- \* Change your tires with winter tires
- \* Fill the gas tank and change the oil
- \* Check/change car battery
- \* Put a roadside triangle in your car
- \* Travel with friends who follow you in a second car
- \* Tell someone else before you leave town
- \* Remember the country gets more snow than the city, so give more room to the driver ahead of you

## *Auto Awareness on the go*

### **Pack these things BEFORE you go:**

- \* Matches, small candles, and a fire starter kit, such as dryer lint wrapped in aluminum foil
- \* Pack a tow rope and know how to use it
- \* Extra water and snacks (nuts, dried fruit)
- \* Extra money to pay for a tow truck, the phone number of a tow truck
- \* Ice scraper and shovel
- \* Extra blankets, clothes, and hats
- \* Flashlight and extra batteries
- \* Jumper cables
- \* Cell phone and charger, plus a satellite phone, if you have one
- \* Basic first-aid kit and medicine
- \* Cat litter to sprinkle for traction

# Contact your Embassy

U.S. Embassy  
Denver Street #3  
11th Micro District  
Ulaanbaatar, 14190 Mongolia

Hours: **Monday to Friday, 8:30am-5pm**

24/7 Phone: **+976 7007-6001**

Fax: +976 7007-6014

American Citizens' Services Time:  
**Every Tuesday 1-3pm** (except on U.S.  
& local holidays. Appointments needed.)

E-mail: [ulaanbaatarACS@state.gov](mailto:ulaanbaatarACS@state.gov)

Web: [https://](https://mn.usembassy.gov)

[mn.usembassy.gov](https://mn.usembassy.gov)

Facebook: [USEmbMongolia](#)

Twitter: [USEmbMongolia](#)



## Air Quality

What can you do to reduce the harmful effects of air pollution? Seal up your home. Use an Indoor Air Purifier. Limit time outdoors, and decrease exertion during poor air quality. Wear a certified Air Pollution Mask if you must be outdoors. Know your health risk-factors. Encourage your community to use clean fuel. Support law-makers pushing for change.

## Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving brings to mind family gatherings, board games, football games, parades, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, and roasted or deep fried turkey. Whatever you eat and whoever you spend your day with, you can keep the spirit of Thanksgiving alive by being... thankful.



### Two ways to make pumpkin puree for a pie:

*Use 1.5 lbs of skin-on, raw pumpkin to yield 2 cups of mashed. Cut pumpkin in half and remove seeds.*

*1. Cut pumpkin into chunks and put in saucepan with 1" of water. Bring to boil over medium heat. Reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer for 30 min or until tender. Drain, cool and remove the peel.*

*2. Place cut side down on a cookie sheet lined with lightly oiled aluminum foil. Bake at 325° F (165° C) for 30-40 minutes, or until the flesh is tender when poked with a fork. Cool until just warm. Scrape the pumpkin flesh from the peel.*

*Then mash the pumpkin or puree in a blender. You can now continue with your normal Pumpkin Pie recipe.*

## TIP: Flu Vaccine

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every season. You should get your vaccine two weeks before the flu starts spreading in your community so antibodies have time to develop. Flu hits Mongolia from October to March. You can show this to a local medical facility to ask for a flu shot:

“Би томуугийн вакцин хийлгэх гэсэн юм.”

# Travel Responsibly: Students

Every year, several thousand Mongolian students apply for a visa to study in America. Not all of these students end up with a degree or even studying at all. Both the United States and Mongolian governments want to see more responsible travel. We all have a part to play in reaching this goal.

Some of you may be teachers and have the opportunity to share with your students important information that could save them time and money. First of all, students should not use visa brokers. A broker may promise a visa for a fee, but they cannot make this promise. For better advice, students should link up with EducationUSA for assistance in finding a school and financial aid. EducationUSA works with prospective students through 5 steps to study in the U.S.:

1. Research your options
2. Finance your studies
3. Complete your application
4. Apply for your student visa
5. Prepare for your departure

Once a student is ready for step 4, they will come to the U.S. Embassy and see us here in the Consular Section. Students should be aware that there are different types of visas for students:

- F1: Student visa
- M1: Vocational Student Visa
- J1: Exchange Visitor Program such as summer work and travel

When preparing for an interview, students should remember:

- Do not bring any fake documents!
- The most important factor in the interview is CREDIBILITY.

In 2017, we issued 822 visas for students.

After we did research on the behavior of Mongolian students in the U.S., we found that a significant percent have worked illegally, or transferred schools multiple times to extend their time in the U.S. However, many students do study seriously in the U.S., and this is just what we want to see. Students should be working toward a degree and taking this opportunity seriously. Mongolians who went to the U.S. to study, completed their academic degrees, and returned to Mongolia are now using their U.S. educations and academic degrees to contribute positively to their society.

*The most important factor in the interview is CREDIBILITY.*

The **#TravelResponsibly** campaign has been live for one year now and is proving to be successful. Ultimately, the governments of Mongolia and the U.S. share the same interest: safe, secure, legitimate, and responsible travel. The #TravelResponsibly Outreach Campaign is designed to educate Mongolians about the benefits and potential rewards of traveling responsibly.



You can see our videos on Travel Responsibly at:  
<https://mn.usembassy.gov/visas/travelresponsibly/>

Students can get in touch with EducationUSA by visiting their website:  
<https://educationusa.state.gov/>

## Travel Warnings & Alerts

Level 3: Reconsider Travel to:

<i>Location:</i>	<i>Posted on:</i>
<b>Russia</b>	June 15, 2018
<b>Turkey</b>	June 28, 2018

Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution in:

<i>Location:</i>	<i>Posted on:</i>
<b>China</b>	January 22, 2018
<b>Germany</b>	June 19, 2018
<b>Indonesia</b>	January 10, 2018
<b>France</b>	January 10, 2018
<b>Philippines</b>	April 13, 2018

Level 1: Exercise Normal Precautions in:

<i>Location:</i>	<i>Posted on:</i>
<b>Malaysia</b>	January 10, 2018
<b>South Korea</b>	January 10, 2018
<b>Vietnam</b>	January 10, 2018

For additional information, visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html>



Mongolia boasts beautiful landscapes and mountainous views. You are welcome to send your photo submissions for future newsletters to:

**[ulaanbaatarACS@state.gov](mailto:ulaanbaatarACS@state.gov)**

Please include your name and the location of the photo.

## Legal Aid Center

A Legal Aid Center in Ulaanbaatar provides free legal advice and information services to foreign citizens in English!

**Address:** First building of Legal Aid Center  
“Community Service Hall”  
1st floor of “Emon Center” building  
Ikh toiruu 48/2  
7-th khoroo  
Sukhbaatar district  
Ulaanbaatar city

**Phone:** 70004030

**Email:** [shinechimeg@lac.gov.mn](mailto:shinechimeg@lac.gov.mn)

**Dates:** On Mondays until Dec 31, 2018 from 9:00am—5:00pm.



Consular team recently had a refresher training on providing first-aid. Here a tourniquet is being applied to the leg of an injured person.