

No. 2024-0149

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Consular Department, and has the honor of notifying the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the creation of new visa classifications for crewmembers engaging in lightering activities.

Lightering is a particular kind of sea crewmember activity in which liquid cargo is transferred to or from another vessel engaged in foreign trade. Lightering often involves the transfer of liquid fossil fuels to or from larger vessels by smaller ones. The recent amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act have outlined these new visa classifications to be only for a crewmember who intends to transit through the United States to join a vessel in pursuit of lightering for a period not to exceed 180 days and/or a crewmember who intends to land in the United States solely to perform lightering activities as part of their responsibilities as a crewmember for a period not to exceed 180 days.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

These classifications are the Noncitizen in Transit Lightering Operation (C-4) visa, Lightering Crewmember (D-3) visa, and Lightering Crewmember in Transit (C-4/D-3) visa.

The United States sets visa validity and visa issuance fees on the basis of reciprocity, insofar as practicable, in accordance with U.S. law and regulations.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Consular Department, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States of America 

Bucharest, July 25, 2024

