

2013-2014 MAURITIUS COUNTRY GUIDELINES FOR U.S. FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS

The Fulbright Program is sponsored and administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the United States Department of State, awards scholarships to lecture, conduct research, and study abroad. Overseas, Fulbright programs are the responsibility of the Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the U.S. Embassy in Port Louis, Mauritius.

The country guidelines contain **summary** information about the Fulbright award, logistical and program support provided through the Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), contact information for the Public Affairs Section (PAS) and/or the U.S. Embassy, and advisory information about your host country. The country guidelines are an important resource for you throughout the duration of your grant. Please consult the guidelines for important information needed before arrival in the host country. This overview of privileges will be supplemented by PAS in further written and oral communication. Please note that information in these guidelines is subject to change.

THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MAURITIUS

The Public Affairs Section (PAS) is responsible for managing the Fulbright Program in Mauritius. The Public Affairs Officer (PAO) is Vanessa Harper. The PAO is assisted by Cultural Affairs Specialist (CAS) Priya Beegun.

The PAO staff may be reached using the following e-mail addresses:

Vanessa Harper: HarperVH@state.gov

Priya Beegun: BeegunPX@state.gov

The offices of the Public Affairs Section (PAS) are located in Rogers House, 4th Floor, John Kennedy Street, Port Louis. The Embassy is open 07:30 a.m. - 16:45 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 07:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on Friday. The Embassy and PAS can be reached by telephone at the following numbers:

PAS via Embassy switchboard:	(011-230) 202 4400
PAO direct line:	(011-230) 202 4440
CAS direct line:	(011-230) 202 4441
PAS fax line:	(011-230) 212 2808
Embassy Duty Officer Number:	(011-230) 253 3641

Fulbright scholars/students in the U.S. may write to PAS at the following address:

Public Affairs Officer
4th Floor, Rogers House
John Kennedy Street
P.O Box 544
Port Louis, Mauritius

The Embassy website is: <http://mauritius.usembassy.gov>. The Embassy's Facebook page is: <http://www.facebook.com/usembassy.portlouis>. **All Fulbright grantees must register with the embassy in case of emergency.** This can be done on this website at any time: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>.

THE FULBRIGHT GRANT AND THE BINATIONAL NATURE OF THE PROGRAM

The Fulbright Program is administered in accordance with regulations established by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB). The Board has ruled that Fulbright grant funds cannot duplicate benefits received under other auspices. Therefore, grantees, who receive host government or host institution financial contributions (for example, international travel, per diem/subsistence/housing allowance) in cash or kind, do not receive allowances for these benefits in their grants. Grantees who receive a concurrent grant to the same country under other auspices may have their Fulbright grants reduced if Fulbright grant benefits are duplicated by the other grant.

Governments and institutions in host countries support the exchange program in two ways: through (a) *monetary contributions*, which result in a sharing of program costs or (b) provision of *non-monetary assistance* to enhance the exchange experience for the guest scholar.

WHAT THE FULBRIGHT GRANT PROVIDES

For Student Grantees

Fulbright student grants have two components: (1) a base amount and (2) monthly maintenance allowance. Additional funds may be included in your grant as allowances and are described separately. Grant benefits authorized by ECA are paid in U.S. dollars through the Institute of International Education (IIE).

1. The base amount is provided to cover initial or one-time start-up expenses such as:
 - a. Unaccompanied and/or Excess Baggage
 - b. Miscellaneous Costs, such as visa fees, permits, medical exams, immunizations, etc.This is a fixed sum in each grant and may not reimburse all expenses completely.
2. A monthly maintenance allowance is provided to cover recurring subsistence needs such as housing, fuel, utilities, and food. The maintenance allowance is based upon the estimated cost of maintaining a modest standard of living in the country of assignment.

For Scholar Grantees

Fulbright senior scholar grants have three components: (1) travel and relocation, (2) monthly maintenance, and (3) monthly stipend. Additional funds may be included in your grant as special allowances and are described separately. Grant benefits are based upon the estimated cost of maintaining a modest standard of living in the country of assignment. Benefits are not intended to duplicate U.S. salary levels or the standard of living of U.S. diplomatic personnel. Grant benefits authorized by ECA are paid in U.S. dollars through the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES).

1. Travel and Relocation
 - a. Unaccompanied and/or Excess Baggage
 - b. Relocation Allowance for expenses such as visa fees, permits, medical exams, immunizations, etc. This is a fixed sum in each grant and may not reimburse all expenses completely.
2. A monthly maintenance allowance is provided to cover recurring subsistence needs such as housing, fuel, utilities, and food.
3. Monthly base stipend

Fulbright Reporting Requirements

The Fulbright award requires submission of two reports: 1) at the interim or mid-point of the grant and 2) a final report prior to departing from the host country. Grantees will receive instructions from CIES or IIE, as appropriate, on how to file reports on-line.

INFORMATION NEEDED PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL

Travel to Mauritius

Grantee air travel is coordinated by the travel agency, HRG Worldwide, which will bill IIE or CIES directly for the costs of your tickets. HRG staff will assist you with your reservation and then send your reservation to IIE or CIES for approval. You must book a round-trip ticket with a return date that corresponds to the grant end date. All air travel and all air shipments paid for with United States Government funds must conform to the Fly America Act, which requires that all such travel and shipments be on "U.S. flag" airlines where such service is available.

Visas and Residence/Work/Research Permits

Grantees are advised to bring copies of all certificates - marriage, birth, driver's licenses, etc. Please make photocopies of the first two pages of your passports, which you should keep separate from your passport in case of loss or theft. It is advisable to bring extra passport photos for obtaining visas and conducting other business.

Visas

The Government of Mauritius (GOM) does not require a visa for U.S. citizens. However, Fulbright grantees must have certain documents to facilitate their entry into Mauritius. Grantees are encouraged to be prepared to present a valid passport, onward/return ticket, and proof of sufficient funds, a letter of acceptance from your host institution with copy to the Ministry of Education, Culture & Human Resources, marriage certificate (if accompanied by spouse) and the Fulbright acceptance letter which itemizes the amount of the grant. Obtaining extended visas and residence permits can be very difficult. The University of Mauritius may assist with extended visas, residence and work permits, and exemption certificates for Fulbright lecturers assigned to the university. Lecturers are advised to have all their documents including a copy of the offer letter from the University on hand upon arrival at the airport.

Exemption certificates allow the Fulbright lecturer to work at the university and leave and re-enter the host country without cost. For this application, a Fulbright lecturer will need to provide passport photographs and a copy of a marriage certificate, if accompanied by a spouse.

Researchers and students make their own arrangements for extended visas and work and residence permits upon presentation of a research permit issued by the Government of Mauritius, Ministry of Education and Human Resources.

Research Permits and Research Clearance

Please note that Government of Mauritius (GOM) regulations require ALL researchers to have a research clearance prior to conducting any field work. For this reason, grantees are encouraged to re-connect with affiliate organizations once the grant has been awarded. Grantees should be aware that the research clearance and permit process can take months to complete, so grantees are encouraged to begin the process as soon as possible. Researchers/students who do not have research permits risk being denied entry. Obtaining a permit after arrival in country is a long and tedious exercise and may result in the researcher/student spending time that cannot be used on research, or in being denied a permit. It is also against government regulations for an individual to change visa status from that of a visitor to that of a researcher.

The GOM encourages researchers/students to consult with a relevant Ministry/Department, research institution or another relevant body, before finalized funding proposals are submitted to a granting agency. A copy of the first correspondence in which the research theme is outlined should be sent to the subject Ministry or the Ministry of Labor and Home Affairs.

In order to obtain a residence permit, a researcher or student is required to meet the following requirements:

1. Passport bio data pages (including those of spouse and children if any);
2. Travel itineraries;
3. A letter addressed to the local Ministry of Labor and Employment certifying that they will not seek employment during their stay in Mauritius;
4. Proof of address (even for temporary accommodation) upon their arrival and;
5. An Application to Enter Mauritius form, available on the Government of Mauritius portal: <http://www.gov.mu>.

Grantees must submit all the above documents to PAS Port Louis at least one month before their arrival for immigration purposes.

Two copies of a completed application form for a research permit must be submitted to the relevant ministry, at least four months before commencement of the study.

Upon arrival in Mauritius, in order for them to receive travel and other information for U.S. citizens living abroad, grantees are requested to register on the Embassy website. Shortly after arriving, grantees will be expected to meet the Public Affairs Officer (and other Country Team members) and the Regional Security Officer (RSO) for a security brief. (See below.)

Sending and Receiving Mail

Fulbright scholars and students have been approved for access to the diplomatic pouch to receive first-class letter mail only (maximum of two pounds). Magazines, newspapers, videocassettes, and package mail are not authorized. First class letter mail means just that. It is wise to bring sufficient U.S. postage stamps with you for your first-class mail back to the United States. U.S. stamps may also be ordered on-line. The Department of State accepts no liability for loss or damage. First-class mail via the pouch can take up to two weeks or more for delivery.

The address format for correspondence is as follows:

Your name (Fulbrighter)
C/o Public Affairs Officer
U.S. Embassy
Rogers House, 4th floor
President John Kennedy Street
Port Louis, Mauritius

Books and Educational Materials Sent by Diplomatic Pouch

Fulbrighters have access to the diplomatic pouch for sending a maximum of four 8.5"x11" copy paper-size boxes of books and other education materials. For additional information on the exact dimensions, address information, and recommendations please consult the *Instructions for Shipment of Books and Educational Materials by Fulbright Scholars* document, which is included in your pre-departure orientation packet.

These pouch privileges are provided by the U.S. Embassy on a one-time, one-way basis only; materials cannot be sent back to the U.S. by pouch at any time during your stay. All package mail in excess of the four permitted boxes will be returned to the U.S. at your expense.

CAUTIONARY NOTE: In the past, abuse by several Fulbright scholars caused near revocation of privileges for all program participants. Anyone who violates pouch regulations will be barred from use and will have to make other arrangements for handling personal and professional correspondence.

Customs Restrictions on Professional and Personal Affects

Besides the limited pouch shipment and airline excess baggage, grantees may airmail materials addressed to themselves via international mail, but are subject to paying customs duty at the local post office before taking possession of the materials. All goods taken into the host country must be declared. There are no duties levied on equipment, such as computers, that are imported for personal use. Firearms cannot be brought in without prior arrangements with the Department of Customs and the host country police department. Pets require special handling and prior clearance with the Division of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agro Industry & Fisheries, Réduit, Mauritius, before they can be imported into the host country. A comprehensive guideline is available on: http://www.gov.mu/portal/sites/moasite/download/dvs_impguide.pdf. Please be aware that additional transit stops may also require clearance when traveling with pets. The Community Liaison Office at the Embassy can provide additional information on this process.

Schooling for Dependents

There is no American school in Mauritius. Foreigners, including Embassy officers, usually send their children (ages 5-12) to:

Alexandra House School (British System)
King George V Avenue
Floreale
Tel: (230) 696 4108, fax (230) 425 4512
E-mail: admin@alexandrahouseschool.com
Website: www.alexandrahouseschool.com

or to

Clavis Primary School (International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program)
Mount Ory
Moka
Tel: (230) 433 4439, fax (230) 433 4274
E-mail: clavis@intnet.mu
Website: www.clavis.mu

or to

International Preparatory School (IPS) - (British System)
(English medium school that is part of the Ecole du Nord elementary school)
Labourdonnais
Mapou
Tel: (230) 266 1973, 266 2238/9; Fax: (230) 266 8112
E-mail: ednis@intnet.mu
Website: www.ips.intnet.mu

Older children (13-18) attend:

Le Bocage High School, which is organized like an international school
Mount Ory
Moka
Tel: (230) 433-0941, fax: (230) 433-4914
E-mail: www.lbis@intnet.mu

There are also French schools in Curepipe and in the North:

Lycée Labourdonnais, Curepipe
Tel: (230) 670-6097, fax (230) 670 4190
E-mail: llb@intnet.mu
Website: <http://pages.intnet.mu/llb>

Ecole du Nord, Labourdonnais
Tel: (230) 266-1526, 266-1974, 266-2225
Fax: (230) 266-1971
E-mail: ednord@intnet.mu
Website: www.ecoledunord.org

Arrangements must be made well in advance since places are limited. Competition for places in private schools in Mauritius is strong; admission is not guaranteed and most students must take an admissions test after arriving in country. Transport to/from school is the parent's responsibility. Most students also take their own lunch and drinks.

PAS AND EMBASSY SUPPORT

In an effort to support U.S. Fulbright scholars/students and their families, the following services are provided by PAS and the Embassy:

Security

All Fulbrighters should seek an appointment with the Regional Security Officer at the Embassy to discuss personal and residential security matters. Care should be taken in arranging for a secure apartment, with solid doors and bars on accessible windows. Burglaries are relatively common and Fulbrighters may wish to have an alarm system for residential security. The rate of violent crime however is low. U.S. citizens should avoid crowds and street demonstrations and maintain a low profile. There have been several reports of sexual harassment and sexual assault towards foreign women in the last several months. It is advised that when walking alone you should be alert to your surroundings. Do not walk alone after dark. It is recommended that you do not travel alone while touring the country, although you can move freely about the country. There are no restrictions on photography and police are polite and fairly well-trained. Corruption is not a major problem and armed robbery is much rarer than in the U.S. Mauritius is a popular tourist resort for Europeans, and tourists always attract pick-pockets and other street crime. Fulbrighters are advised to keep cars and residences locked, with valuables out-of-sight, and to be vigilant when walking in crowded areas. Grantees should inform PAS when they are traveling outside Mauritius during their grant period.

Arrival and Temporary Lodging

All grantees will be met and assisted upon arrival. A representative from the University of Mauritius may meet Fulbright lecturers at the airport, and usually the CAS will also be on hand to meet and assist incoming Fulbrighters at the airport. All Fulbright grantees are required to arrive in Mauritius during the work week, Monday through Friday (between 07 30 and 12 30 hours). The Immigration Office is not open during the weekend, and those arriving on the weekend will have difficulty in going through the immigration process and could possibly be returned to port of embarkation. Grantees must provide the appropriate CIES and IIE program officers with their final itineraries at least 4 weeks in advance so that those officers can inform PAS Port Louis of your travel schedules.

Fulbright researchers and U.S. students must arrange their own accommodations. If requested to do so, the PAS will arrange for temporary accommodations, at the grantee's expense, for a few days until the grantee is able to find permanent lodging. The host institution can assist in locating suitable housing. The experience of current and past grantees in finding furnished housing is mixed. Some have quickly settled into housing shown to them by the host institutions; others have gone to commercial real estate brokers to find a house or apartment. The university provides a housing allowance of Rs. 8,000 for single (approximately US\$245) and Rs. 12,000 (approximately US\$370) for married U.S. Fulbright Senior Lecturer only per month.

Brokers charge a fee, usually one month's rent, which is not reimbursed by the host institution. Generally, grantees have found housing in the MR 10,000-12,000 (approximately \$375) range. We suggest you stay closely in touch with the Embassy throughout the house hunting process, as this can be tedious and frustrating.

Check Cashing and Local Banking Arrangements

The Embassy does not have check cashing facilities. Instead, Embassy personnel have a check-cashing arrangement with a local bank, which Fulbrighters may use. Opening a local foreign currency account poses no problem. There are no limits on the amount and frequency of check cashing for local currency. Should U.S. dollars be needed, there are limitations on the amount that a bank can issue due to availability. If U.S. dollars are needed, the request must be made a week in advance. American ATM cards can be used to draw cash in local currency (rupees).

Talk with your U.S. bank about arrangements for international transfers and overdraft privileges before you leave. We suggest that Fulbrighters travel with sufficient funds in traveler's checks to cover expenses for the initial two months. Internationally recognized credit cards can be helpful in emergencies and for travel elsewhere in Africa.

Prior to their departure from the U.S., Fulbrighters should consult their U.S. banks concerning overdraft privileges. When mail is delayed, scholars and students may not have current information about account balances. Additional U.S. dollar travelers' checks and a major U.S. credit card (such as Visa, MasterCard and Diner's Club) are valuable for travel and emergencies. Most retail facilities such as hotels, restaurants, grocery and clothing stores, pharmacies, and gas stations accept credit cards.

Local Health Services and Access to Embassy Health Facilities

Fulbright grantees do not have access to Embassy medical services. However, the Embassy Health Unit is staffed one morning a week by a local nurse, who can provide guidance on medical practitioners in Mauritius and what clinics are available. Private and public health services are adequate for most needs. Local private clinics are well equipped, the clinic Fortis Darné in Floreal being the most favored one to use. Cash is to be paid directly to the clinic before leaving. There are no credit facilities or monthly subscription fee. There is a doctor at the clinic 24/7 for emergencies.

There are no particular health hazards in the country. A few cases of malaria are reported annually, but it is not necessary to take malaria prophylaxis for Mauritius. Anti-malarial drugs are obtainable locally for travel to other African countries. From time to time, there are outbreaks of hepatitis A, chiefly resulting from contamination of drinking water after heavy rains.

We have had some instances of chikungunya on the Island recently. Chikungunya is spread through a particular type of brown mosquito. Visitors are advised to use an insect repellent with at least 20% DEET in it, and to wear long sleeved tops and trousers whenever possible. The symptoms include joint pain and fever for a few days, which are usually relieved by analgesic and anti-inflammatory medications.

Many over-the-counter and prescription drugs are available in Mauritius under names used by European or South African manufacturers at prices equal to or higher than those in the U.S. Fulbrighters should plan to bring a supply of regularly used prescription drugs. Carry prescription drugs in the original prescription container in case of customs inquiries.

Fulbrighters planning travel to other African countries should observe precautions about malaria and immunizations for yellow fever, hepatitis A and hepatitis B. It is recommended that Fulbrighters and their families consult their physicians about up-to-date tetanus immunizations, typhoid, and current booster/vaccines against childhood diseases (tetanus-diphtheria, polio, measles/mumps/rubella).

We recommend that Fulbrighters carry copies of the Fulbright medical report with them to provide basic information that will enable a medical professional to help you quickly, efficiently, and properly should it become necessary.

Emergency medical evacuation insurance in case of serious illness or accidental injury is a worthwhile investment, especially for dependents.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Permanent Housing and Household Goods

The University of Mauritius does NOT provide furnished housing for Fulbright lecturers and their families. Fulbright lecturers may communicate with their department heads regarding housing and other facilities and also visit the following websites:

<http://www.lexpressproperty.com> and <http://www.orange.mu>.

Fulbright researchers and students are responsible for finding their own housing. Housing can be very expensive. Even though Fulbrighters are responsible for finding their own housing, the Embassy can assist them in reviewing the conditions of lease before they settle for their permanent accommodation.

Household effects are readily available and inexpensive. Food is not expensive by U.S. standards and grocery stores are plentiful. In Mauritius, water can be safely drunk from the tap.

The television system used in Mauritius is PAL. Because the U.S. uses the NTSC system, videotapes/DVDs brought from the U.S. will not be viewable on locally-acquired TV sets, unless they are multi-system. Satellite television service is widely subscribed to and costs about US \$100 per month for a package that includes news, sports and movie channels.

Computers and Other Electronic Equipment

No customs duty is imposed on personal computers. Electricity supply is 220 volt, 50 cycle. If the equipment is 110 volts, you will need a converter. There are power fluctuations sometimes. Bring a surge protector or voltage regulator. There are local representatives for IBM, Apple, Acer, Hewlett Packard, Gateway and Microsoft.

Phoning Home and Mobile Phones

International phone calls from Mauritius are good and not very expensive with the introduction of prepaid telephone cards using internet telephony. Telephone, fax, and telegraph services are reliable, including the international direct dialing (IDD) and high-speed internet lines. Internet service improved in 1997 with a direct satellite link to U.S. Sprint.

Most Fulbrighters find it impossible to live without a mobile phone. There are several companies—EMTEL and ORANGE are most common--and mobile networks are ever-expanding. American phones, unless compatible with the GSM900 system, will not be compatible with the host country system. Mobile phones purchased in Europe should work. Mobile phones are quite cheap in Mauritius.

Academic Life

The University of Mauritius (UoM) is the country's national institution of higher learning and has an enrollment of around 7,000, with some 70 international students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The university's website address is <http://www.uom.ac.mu>. Outside the academic life, PAS Port Louis would love to see grantees engage with students and other audiences for its different outreach programs, based of course on their interests and experiences.

Academic Calendar

The academic year runs from August through May. There are two semesters: August-December and January-May. Accordingly, Fulbright lecturers should plan to arrive in early or mid-August. While classes may not actually start on dates scheduled, course assignments are often decided during the last semester of the previous academic year. Given this, lecturers must be present before classes are scheduled to start.

Teaching Requirements, Attendance, and Staff Hours

Lecturers may be assigned up to four courses, due to staff shortages in various departments. As stated in the Fulbright grant, the Public Affairs Section expects all lecturers to fulfill their professional responsibilities, including class attendance, faculty meetings, special projects, etc. Lecturers should communicate with their department heads as soon as possible to get some idea of classes to be assigned. However, Fulbright lecturers should also take note of workload assigned to them, and, if it looks as if his/her department is seriously unbalanced in assignments, to let PAS know.

Local Transportation and the Used Car Market

Fulbrighters who plan to drive should obtain an international driver's license from the American Automobile Association (AAA) before leaving the United States. In Mauritius, one drives on the left side of the street, which can be very disorienting to those not accustomed to this.

Taxes and import duties on new cars are high. Second hand cars are available from \$6000 upward. A used car can generally be sold for the purchase price or slightly less on departure. It should be emphasized that U.S. Fulbrighters do not enjoy duty-free importation privileges for automobiles. All arrangements, including licenses and insurance are the individual's responsibility. Japanese vehicles are common here, and therefore spare parts are easily available.

Buying a car in Mauritius can be a frustrating and time consuming process. Finding suitable

sellers, negotiation, and registration -- all take time. This said many past Fulbrighters have found a car to be an absolute necessity. Renting a car may cost about \$75 or more per day. Note that roads are narrow and traffic travels at high speed with little traffic law enforcement. Drivers must be prudent and cautious. Fulbrighters are not granted duty-free privileges to purchase or import vehicles. For that reason, Fulbrighters are advised not to import vehicles, as import duty is very expensive and delays are common in clearing vehicles through customs. The Embassy and PAS cannot assist with customs clearance. However, grantees can request the Embassy's advice before signing any papers related to the purchase of vehicle.

Roads are generally well maintained, but then Mauritian drivers are often criticized for their driving habits, so be prepared!

Transportation by bus is cheap and easy, although buses can be infrequent outside rush hours. Most buses are not well maintained. Taxis are available for reasonable, negotiable prices. However, it may be difficult to find a taxi after 8 P.M.; arrangements for evening rides should be made in advance.

Other Websites or Resource Material

Consular Info: <http://travel.state.gov>

State Alumni: <http://alumni.state.gov>

Fulbright Association: <http://www.fulbright.org>

Africanews: <http://www.africanews.org/>

The leading commercial Mauritian media groups are:

- La Sentinelle Ltd. (L'express, L'express-dimanche, 5-Plus dimanche, L'express-turf, Radio One, and several regular periodicals: Rivages and Cote Nord, published quarterly, for the tourism sector, and the monthly women's magazine Essentielle)
- Le Mauricien Ltd. (Le Mauricien, Weekend, Weekend Scope, Turf Magazine)
- Le Défi Media Group (Le Défi-Plus, News on Sunday, L'Hebdo/Le Dimanche, Radio Plus)
- Asia-Pacific Communications Associates / AAPCA (Le Matinal, Independent Daily)

Radio Stations websites:

- MBC Radio: <http://www.mbcradio.tv>
- Radio One: <http://www.r1.mu>
- Radio Plus: <http://www.radioplus.mu>
- Top FM: <http://www.topfmradio.com>

Newspapers and other useful links:

- <http://www.lemauricien.com>
- <http://www.lexpress.mu>
- <http://www.lexpressproperty.com> (for house-hunting)
- <http://www.lematinal.com>
- <http://www.impactnews.mu>

- <http://www.mauritiustimes.com> (mostly English)
- <http://newsnow.mu> (English)

Public Holidays in Mauritius

The following holidays will be observed by the U.S. Embassy Port Louis:

<i>HOLIDAYS</i>	<i>DAY/MONTH</i>	<i>MAURITIAN/US</i>
New Year's Day	Sunday, January 1	Mauritian/US
New Year's Day	Monday, January 2	Mauritian/US
Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Monday, January 16	US
Chinese Spring Festival	Monday, January 23	Mauritian
Abolition of Slavery	Wednesday, February 1	Mauritian
Thaipooam Cavadee	Tuesday, February 7	Mauritian
Maha Shivaratree	Monday, February 20	Mauritian
Washington's Birthday	Monday, February 20	US
National Day	Monday, March 12	Mauritian
Ougadi	Friday, March 23	Mauritian
Labor Day	Tuesday, May 1	Mauritian
Memorial Day	Monday, May 28	US
Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4	US
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Wednesday, August 15	Mauritian
Eid-UI-Fitr**	Sunday, August 19	Mauritian
Labor Day	Monday, September 3	US
Ganesh Chaturthi	Thursday, September 20	Mauritian
Columbus Day	Monday, October 8	US
Arrival of Indentured Laborers	Friday, November 2	Mauritian
Veterans Day	Monday, November 12	US
Divali	Tuesday, November 13	Mauritian
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 22	US
Christmas Day	Tuesday, December 25	Mauritian /US

*Eid-UI-Fitr: The exact date of this festival is subject to confirmation as its celebration depends on the visibility of the Moon.