



MAILBAG

E-Mail: mailbag@chiangmai-mail.com

Ask your local US Consul



Dear Consul,

I'm a Thai guy who has a residence in Bangkok, but now I'm working in Chiang Mai. I'm wondering if I can apply for the visa in Chiang Mai? Or do I have to go to Bangkok? I've been denied for a visa from the U.S. Embassy before, with the reason that I don't have enough money. I think the reason is not that I don't have enough money (as I'm showing 1.6 million baht in my account), but I think the

maintain stringent security standards, and (3) unfortunately, not everyone is as honest as you, Mr. FATGWWTGTSFNAPIUS-ASB, and ... I know this is shocking ... people have been known to disguise their intentions when talking to a visa officer.

That said, many people do manage to "prove otherwise." The current visa refusal rate

have come into it at all. There are other connections to one's home country besides economic, and officers look closely at those, too.

In fact, it's those non-monetary factors that mean that although you certainly can apply in Chiang Mai, you may want to spend some time in your new city before you do. It's easier to show ties to your country if you can show ties to your town, and, unfortunately, having just moved means not having deep roots. The Consulate wants to see deep roots.

Prior travel is important,