Immigration Pointers for Businesses

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Presentation Overview

Part 1: Working in the United States

Part 2: Employment-Based Green Cards



Part 3: Compliance

Part 4: Immigration Audit Process



Part 5: Recent Changes in Immigration Law





Part 1: Working in the United States





Working in the United States

Foreign nationals who wish to come to the United States to work must typically be sponsored by the prospective employer.





"Specialty Occupation" Eligibility & Qualification Requirements



The H-1B Cap

• What is it?

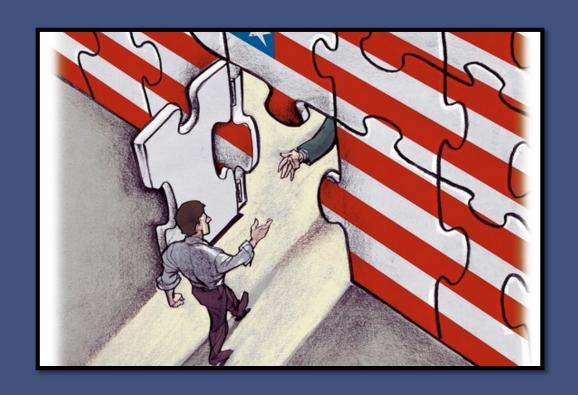
Are there exemptions?



Period of Stay

- How Long?
- How much?

• Who pays?

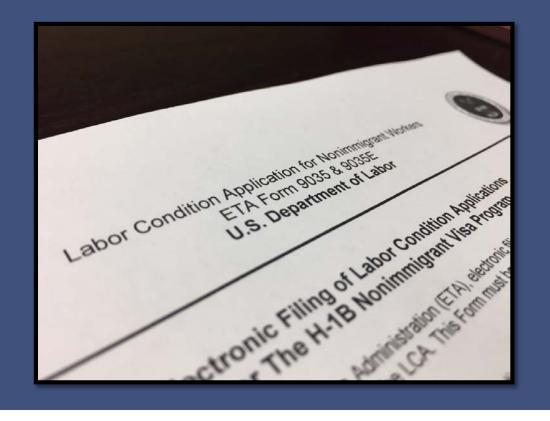


3 Step Application Process

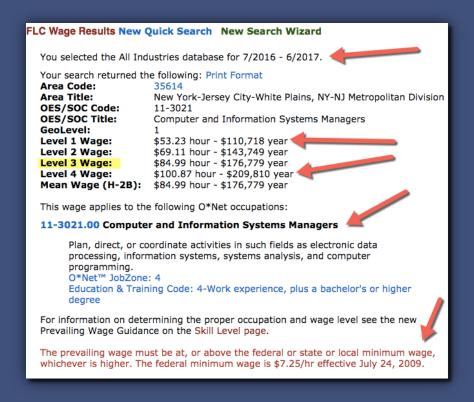




Step 1: Complete and Submit the Labor Condition Application (LCA)



Step 1 (cont.): Determine the Prevailing Wage

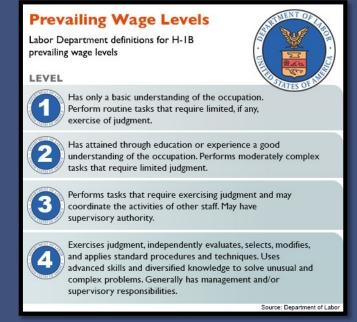




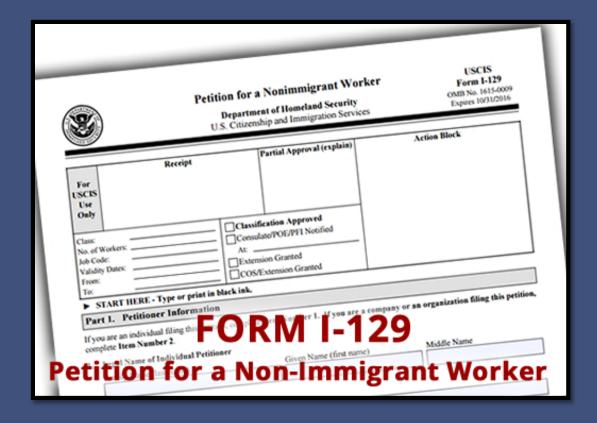
Step 1 (cont.): Determining the Prevailing Wage

Four-Tier System

- Level 1: Entry/beginning level
- Level 2: Qualified/competent in basic tasks
- Level 3: Experienced/exercise judgment
- Level 4: Senior management
- Recent Level 1 and Level 2 Wage Issues
- Responding to Requests for Information from USCIS



Step 2: Complete and File Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker



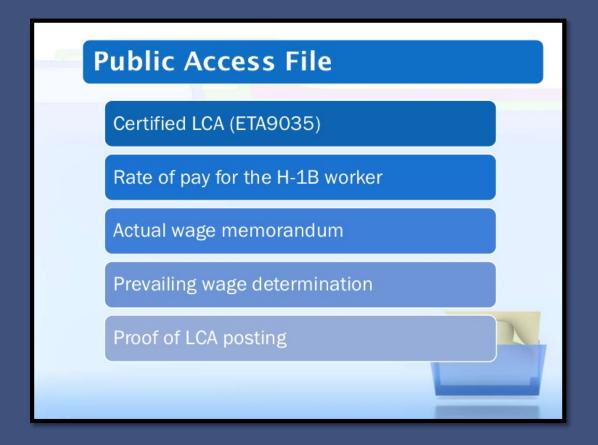
Part 6 of Form I-129

	Certification Regarding the Release of Controlled Technology or Technical Data to Foreign Persons in the United States
-	, H-1B1 Chile/Singapore, L-1, and O-1A petitions only. This section of the form is not required for all other classifications. 3 of the Instructions before completing this section.)
Check	Box 1 or Box 2 as appropriate:
petition	spect to the technology or technical data the petitioner will release or otherwise provide access to the beneficiary, the ser certifies that it has reviewed the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and the International Traffic in Arms tions (ITAR) and has determined that:
□ 1.	A license is not required from either U.S. Department of Commerce or the U.S. Department of State to release such technology or technical data to the foreign person; or
2.	A license is required from the U.S. Department of Commerce and/or the U.S. Department of State to release such technology or technical data to the beneficiary and the petitioner will prevent access to the controlled technology or technical data by the beneficiary until and unless the petitioner has received the required license or other authorization to release it to the beneficiary.

Step 3: Apply for a H-1B Visa



The Public Access File

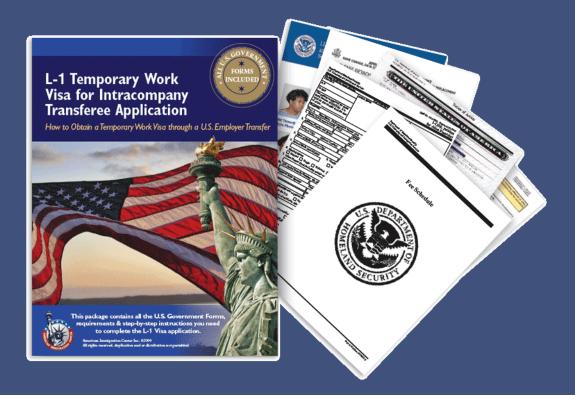


Maintaining the Public Access File

- Required Contents:
 - LCA, including instructions executed by employer and employee
 - Prevailing Wage Documentation
 - Health Benefits Summary
 - Actual Wage Memorandum
- Highly Recommended Contents:
 - Notice of Posting
 - Posting Notice Certification
 - Written acknowledgment or other proof that the beneficiary received a copy of the LCA
 - Specific salary data the employer used to calculate actual wage



The L-1 Visa Classification enables a U.S. employer to transfer a nonimmigrant worker from one of its affiliated foreign offices to one of its offices in the United States





Two types of L-1 Visas:

- L-1A: Intracompany Transferee
 Executive or Manager
- L-1B: Intracompany Transferee Professional Employee with Specialized Knowledge



Application Process

- Same as H-1B application process
- EXCEPT: Employer
 Completes the L
 Classification
 Supplement to Form
 I-129



L Classification Supplement to Form I-129

- Section 1, Part 1: Classification Sought
- Employer will select <u>either</u> L-1A manager or executive or L-1B specialized knowledge

	L Classification Supplement to Form I-129 Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	USCIS Form I-129 OMB No. 1615-0009 Expires 12/31/2018	
1.	Name of the Petitioner		
2.	Name of the Beneficiary		
3.	This petition is (select only one box): a. An individual petition b. A blanket petition		
4.a	Does the petitioner employ 50 or more individuals in the U.S.?	Yes No	
4.b	If yes, are more than 50 percent of those employee in H-1B, L-1A, or L-1B nonimmigrant status?	Yes No	
Se	ection 1. Complete This Section If Filing For An Individual Petition		



Period of Stay

- All qualified L-1 employees will be allowed a maximum initial stay of 3 years
- Qualified L-1 employees entering the United States to establish a new office will be allowed a maximum initial stay of 1 year

L-1 Petition Fees

 Carefully review USCIS's webpage titled "H and L Filing Fees for Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker" to determine which supplemental fees are required



Part 2: Employment-Based Green Cards

Adjustment of Status



9 Steps for Adjustment of Status

Steps for Adjustment of Status 1. Determine if you are eligible to apply for a Green Card 2. You or someone else must file an immigrant petition for you (if applicable) 3. Check visa availability (if applicable) 4. File Form I-485 5. Go to your Application Support Center appointment 6. Go to your interview (if applicable) 7. Respond to request for additional evidence (if applicable) 8. Check your case status 9. Receive a decision

Non-Immigrant Status (H-1B, L1, etc.)

PERM Labor Certification

- Prevailing Wage Request
- Recruitment Period
- File PERM Application (Priority Date)

I-140 Immigrant Petition I-485
Adjustment of
Status (Green
Card
Application)

Receive Green Card (Permanent Residency)

Eligibility for Adjustment of Status



Employment-Based (EB) Visa Preference Categories



Permanent Labor Certification Process (PERM)



Form I-140 Immigrant petition for Alien Worker



Instructions for Petition for Alien Workers

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services USCIS Form I-140 OMB No. 1615-0015 Expires 04/30/2018

What is the Purpose of This Form?

Form I-140 is used to petition U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for an immigrant visa based on employment.

Form I-485

Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status

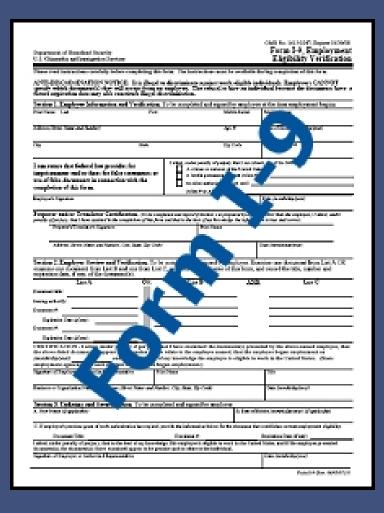
What happens after?



Part 3: Compliance



Form I-9 Overview



- The Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA)
- Revised Form I-9 Now Mandatory

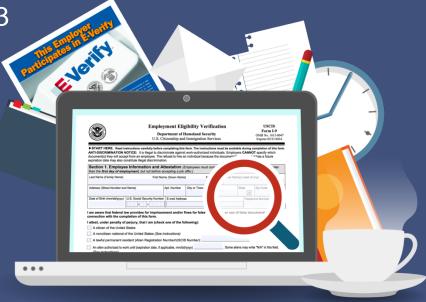


Form I-9 Overview

 Form I-9 MUST be completed for each newly hired employee

Form I-9 must be completed within 3 days of employment

There are 3 Sections to Form I-9



Form I-9: Section 1

Newly hired employees <u>MUST</u> complete and sign Section 1 **no later than** the first day of employment, but not before accepting a job offer



Form I-9: Section 1

Last Name (Family Name) 🕙	First Nam	ne (Given Name) 🤅	9	Middle Initial 🕖	Other La	ast Names Used (if any)
Address (Street Number and Name)	13	Apt. Number 🕖 Ci	ity or Town 🕙)		State ③ ZIP Code ③
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) 3 U.S	. Social Security Numb	per 3 Employee's	s E-mail Addr	ess 🕐	En	mployee's Telephone Nu
I am aware that federal law pro	on of this form.				use of	false documents in
I attest, under penalty of perju	-	k one of the folk	owing boxe	s):		
1. A citizen of the United States	_					
2. A noncitizen national of the U						
3. A lawful permanent resident			· -			
4. An alien authorized to work Some aliens may write "N/A"					.	
Aliens authorized to work must pro An Alien Registration Number/USC					iber.	Do Not Write in This 8
Alien Registration Number/USC OR Form I-94 Admission Number: OR Foreign Passport Number:	_			- -	_	
OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number:	_			- - -		
OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number: OR 3. Foreign Passport Number: OR	_			Today's Date	(mm/dd/)	(1999) (3
OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number: OR 3. Foreign Passport Number: Country of Issuance: Signature of Employee Preparer and/or Translat I did not use a preparer or transl. (Fields below must be complete	or Certification ator. A prepared d and signed when	er(s) and/or translat preparers and/or	or(s) assisted translators a	the employee in c	ompleting	g Section 1. ompleting Section 1.)
OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number: OR 3. Foreign Passport Number: Country of Issuance: Signature of Employee I did not use a preparer or translat	or Certification ator.	er(s) and/or translat preparers and/or	or(s) assisted translators a	the employee in c	ompleting	g Section 1. ompleting Section 1.)
OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number: OR 3. Foreign Passport Number: Country of Issuance: Signature of Employee Preparer and/or Translat I did not use a preparer or transl (Fields below must be complete) I attest, under penalty of perju	or Certification ator.	er(s) and/or translat preparers and/or	or(s) assisted translators a	the employee in c assist an employ ection 1 of this	ompleting vee in co	g Section 1. ompleting Section 1.)
OR 2. Form I-94 Admission Number: OR 3. Foreign Passport Number: Country of Issuance: Signature of Employee Preparer and/or Translat I did not use a preparer or transl. (Fields below must be complete 1 attest, under penalty of perjul	or Certification ator.	er(s) and/or translat preparers and/or	or(s) assisted translators a pletion of S	the employee in c assist an employ ection 1 of this	ompleting vee in co form a oday's D	g Section 1. completing Section 1.) and that to the best c

Form I-9: Section 2

- Employers or their authorized representatives <u>MUST</u> complete and sign Section 2 within three (3) business days of the employee's first day of employment
- Employers or their authorized representatives <u>MUST</u> physically examine one document from List A or a combination of one document from List B and one document from List C on the "Lists of Acceptable Documents"



Employee Info from Section 1 Last Name (Fa	amily Name) 📳	First Name (Given N	Vame) 🕖 M.I.	Citizenship/Immigration
List A O		it B	AND	List C Employment Authoriza
Document Title (3)	Document Title (3)		Document 1	Title 🕖
Issuing Authority(*)	Issuing Authority®		Issuing Aut	hority®
Document Number®	Document Number ③		Document	Number 🕙
Expiration Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyyy)	Expiration Date (if any)	(mm/dd/yyyy)[]	Expiration D	Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyyy) 🕑
Document Title (*)				
Issuing Authority (3)	Additional Informati	on 🖲		QR Code - Sections 2 & 3 Do Not Write in This Space
Document Number®	ll .			
Expiration Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyyy)[3]				
Document Title ③				
Issuing Authority®	ll .			
Document Number(3)	ll .			
Expiration Date (if any)(mm/dd/yyyy) 3				
Certification: I attest, under penalty of perju (2) the above-listed document(s) appear to b employee is authorized to work in the United	e genuine and to relat d States.	e to the employee n	amed, and (3) to	the best of my knowled
The employee's first day of employment (Signature of Employer or Authorized Representati				for exemptions) or Authorized Representative
Signature of Employer of Authorized Representati	ve 💮 💮 Todays D	ate (min/dd/yyyy)	nie or employer o	or Authorized Representative
Last Name of Employer or Authorized Representative	First Name of Employer of	Authorized Representati	ive 🕖 Employer's	Business or Organization

- <u>USCIS Anti-Discrimination Notice</u>: An employer cannot specify which document(s) the employee may present from the List of Acceptable Documents
- Form I-9 Acceptable Documents can be found on USCIS' website by clicking: Forms → I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification → I-9 Central → Acceptable Documents



Acceptable Documents: List A







Acceptable Documents:

List B List C

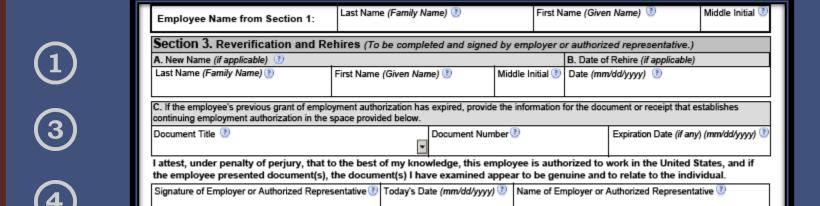






Section 3 should be completed by employers in either a reverification or rehire situation

A. New Name (if applicable)					B. Date of Rehire (if applicable)		
Last Name (Family Name) Fi	First Name (Given Name)		Middle Initial Date (r		m/dd/yyyy)		
Doe J	lim	A		Date Employee Begins Employmen			
C. If the employee's previous grant of employn continuing employment authorization in the spa		expired, provide the	e information	for the doc	ument or receipt that establishes		
Document Title		Document Number		Expiration Date (if any) (mm/dd/yyyy)			
EAD		ABC0000000000			01/01/2020		
attest, under penalty of perjury, that to t he employee presented document(s), the							
Signature of Employer or Authorized Represer	ntative Today's Da	Today's Date (mm/dd/yyyy)		Name of Employer or Authorized Representative			
Jane Doe	Date Lin	Completes Section 3		Jane Doe			







Correcting I-9 Forms



Retention of Documents

Retention of I-9

- Duration of employment
- Later of either 3 years
 after date of hire or 1
 year after termination of
 employment ended
- Copies of form I-9



Part 4: Immigration Audit Process

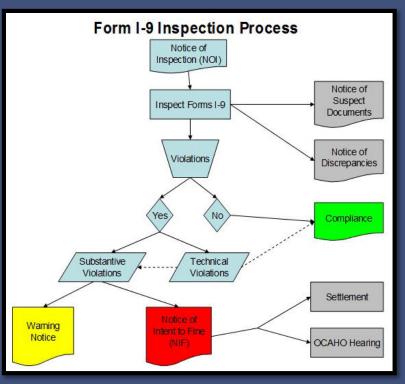
Businesses are receiving Notices of Inspection ("NOI") from DHS' Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") Division



Results of Inspection

Following an inspection of documents, ICE will provide notification to an employer. The most common notices include:

- Notice of Suspect Documents
- Notice of Discrepancies
- Notice of Technical/Procedural Failures
- Warning Notice
- Notice of Intent to Fine (NIF)



Notice of Intent to Fine (NIF)

ICE will issue a NIF if there is evidence of violations for substantive, uncorrected technical, knowing hire and continuing to employ



Technical or Substantive Violations





Penalties for Non-Compliance

- Monetary penalties may range from \$375 to \$16,000 per violation
- Penalties for substantive violations, including failing to submit an I-9 when requested by ICE, range from \$110 to \$1,100 per violation. 8 CFR §274a.10(b)(2)
- Five criteria in determining size of penalty



Fraud - Generally

18 U.S.C. § 1546(a)

Anyone who knowingly makes a false statement on an application to USCIS for anything requiring a representation under oath of a material fact (i.e. visas, work authorizations, sponsorship applications for alien employees) is subject to imprisonment for up to 25 years. Foreign nationals may be imprisoned and/or removed from the U.S.



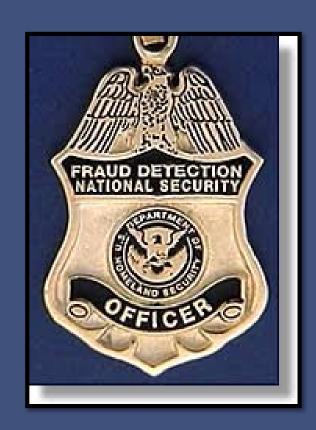
Document Fraud



Fraud Investigations

Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate (FDNS): developed to enhance national security and ensure that the right benefits are offered to correct beneficiaries

FDNS developed Administrative Site Visit and Verification Program (ASVVP) to enable FDNS to randomly visit employers that have submitted I-129 petitions on behalf of employees



FDNS Site Visits

Examples of FDNS questions to employer:

- How many persons employed
- How long has company been in business
- Number of H-1B employees employed full and part-time
- Number of lawful permanent residents or foreign nationals

Examples of FDNS questions to employee:

- Employee's title, responsibilities and salary
- Employee's education
- Who paid the H-1B filing and legal fees





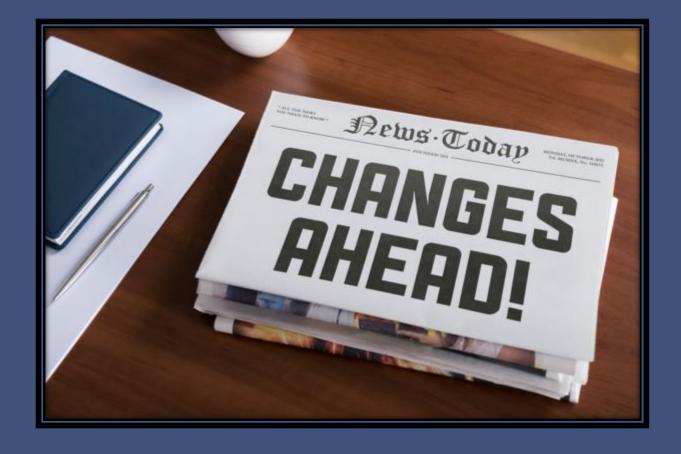
FDNS Site Visits

How to prepare for FDNS site visits:

- Establish protocols
 - Verify credentials
 - Counsel involvement
- Train stakeholders
 - Do not guess
 - Ask for time
 - Coach employees in advance, including reception
 - Counsel review



Part 5: Recent Changes in Immigration Law



USCIS Will No Longer Provide Deference to Prior Adjudications for Nonimmigrant Petitions

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of the Director (MS 2000)

Washington, DC 20529-2000 U.S. Citizenship



October 23, 2017

PM-602-0151

Policy Memorandum

Rescission of Guidance Regarding Deference to Prior Determinations of

Eligibility in the Adjudication of Petitions for Extension of Nonimmigrant Status

USCIS Issues New Form to Obtain Work Authorization Document and Social Security Number Simultaneously



New USCIS Form Streamlines Process to Obtain a Work Authorization Document and Social Security Number Simultaneously

Versión en español

Release Date: Oct. 2, 2017



The DHS Terminates Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program



Memorandum on Rescission Of Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Release Date: September 5, 2017

USCIS Expands In-Person Interview Requirements for Certain Permanent Residency Applications



USCIS to Expand In-Person Interview Requirements for Certain Permanent Residency Applicants

Release Date: Aug. 28, 2017



USCIS is Denying Pending Forms I-131 for Abandonment Due to International Travel



Practice Alert: USCIS Is Denying Pending Forms I-131 for Abandonment Due to International Travel

AILA Doc. No. 17081867 | Dated August 18, 2017

Questions?



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