



OLSEN LAW FIRM IMMIGRATION NEWSLETTER

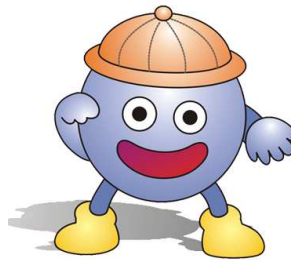
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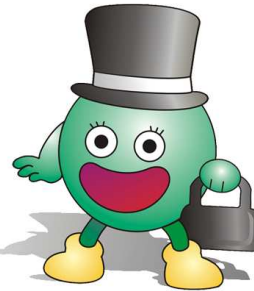
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We welcome you to meet the Immis! They help us simplify the immigration process for you. The Immis are in every issue of our newsletter and act as your personal guides to various immigration topics.



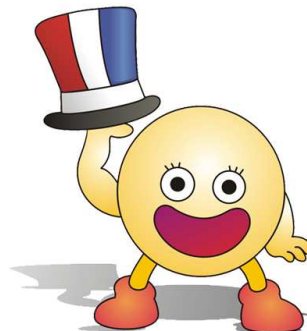
Immi Jr.

Immi Jr. will address nonimmigrant issues



Immi

Immi will address immigrant issues



Citizen Immi

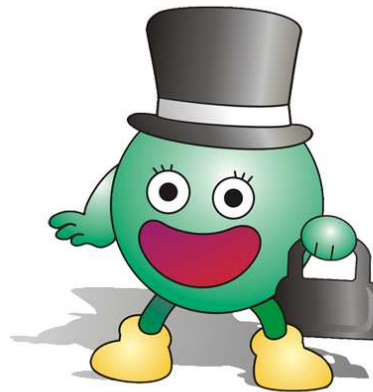
Immi will address citizenship issues

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IMMEDIATE INFORMATIONAL RELEASES

Immi says: Wow!!! President Bush states that the U.S. needs more professional foreign workers.



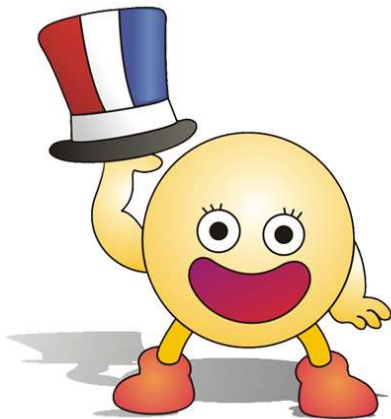
PRESIDENT CALLS ON CONGRESS TO RAISE H-1B CAP **SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)**

Excerpt from President Bush's 2-2-06 speech at the 3M Corporate Headquarters outlining his American Competitiveness Initiative:

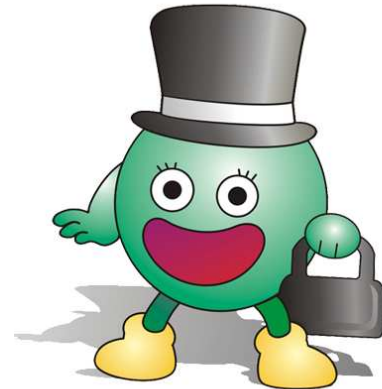
"Now, in the meantime, there's another issue that I want to discuss right quick. . . . There are more high-tech jobs in America today than people available to fill them. And if that's -- so what do we do about that? And the reason it's important, and the American citizen has got to understand it's important, is if we don't do something about how to fill those high-tech jobs here, they'll go somewhere else where somebody can do the job. In other words, there are some who say, we can't worry about competition. It doesn't matter, it's here. Don't worry about it, do something about it. It's a real aspect of the world in which we live.

And so one way to deal with this problem, and probably the most effective way, is to recognize that there's a lot of bright engineers and chemists and physicists from other lands that are either educated here, or received an education elsewhere but want to work here. And they come here under a program called H1B visas. And the problem is, is that Congress has limited the number of H1B visas that can come and apply for a job -- a H1B visa holder can apply for a job at 3M. I think it's a mistake not to encourage more really bright folks who can fill the jobs that are having trouble being filled here in America -- to limit their number. And so I call upon Congress to be realistic and reasonable and raise that cap.

We'll educate our kids. That's the goal. Of course, we want every job that's ever generated in America filled by Americans, but that's not the reality today. In order for 3M to remain competitive, in order for this job base to remain strong, in order for us to be a leader in innovation, we got to be wise about letting kids come here who've got the skill sets needed to fill the jobs that help us remain the leader in the world."



Immies say: Hi!! Let's look at some updates for H-1Bs and for Employment-Based immigration.



USCIS REACHES H-1B CAP FOR ADVANCE DEGREE EXEMPTION

SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

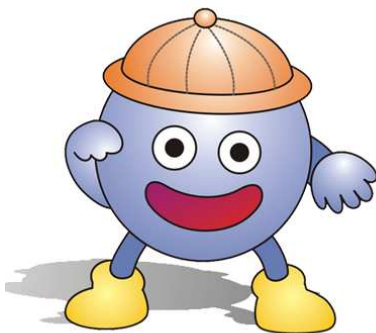
Current Cap Count for Non-Immigrant Worker Visas

	H-1B (FY 06)	H-1B Advance Degree Exemption (FY 06)	H-2B 1st Half (FY 06)	H-2B 2nd Half (FY 06)	H-2B FY 06
Cap	58,200*	20,000	33,000	33,000	66,000**
Beneficiaries Approved	-----	-----	-----	5,633	54,079
Beneficiaries Pending	-----	-----	-----	10,861	13,191
Total	Cap Reached	Cap Reached	Cap Reached	16,494	67,270
Date of Last Count	8/10/2005	1/17/2006	12/15/2005	1/25/2006	1/25/2006

Visa Bulletin for February 2006

	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILLIPINES
Employment-Based					
1 st	C	01JAN03	01FEB04	C	C
2 nd	C	01APR02	01AUG01	C	C
3 rd	22APR01	22APR01	01JAN00	15MAR01	22APR01
Schedule A Workers	C	C	C	C	C
Other Workers	01OCT01	01OCT01	01OCT01	01OCT01	01OCT01

4 th	C	C	C	C	C
Certain Religious Workers	C	C	C	C	C
5 th	C	C	C	C	C
Targeted Employment Areas/Regional Centers	C	C	C	C	C



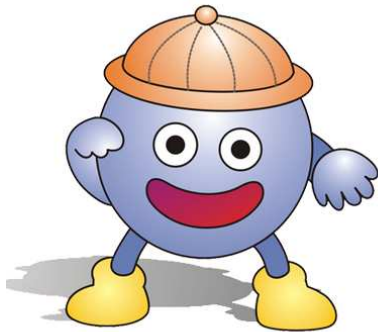
Immi Jr. says: EU nationals in J nonimmigrant status need to be aware of returning to their home countries to fulfill the 2 year requirement.

DOS ON FULFILLMENT OF 2 YEAR REQUIREMENT BY EU NATIONALS

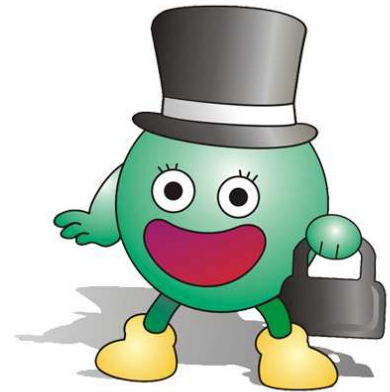
SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

Recent reports have indicated that EU nationals in J nonimmigrant status may be able to fulfill the two year home-country residence requirement in **any** EU country. In response to these reports, the Visa Office's J Waiver Division has provided the DOS Liaison Committee with clarification of prevailing policy:

Since the INA requires two years in the individual's country of nationality or legal residence, and the EU is not a country, the option of returning to any of the EU countries is not acceptable. European nationals must fulfill the two year requirement in their country of nationality or legal residence.



***Immis say: Look!!!
The live test of E-Passports
starts at San Francisco
International Airport.***



DHS TO BEGIN TESTING OF ELETRONIC PASSPORTS AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

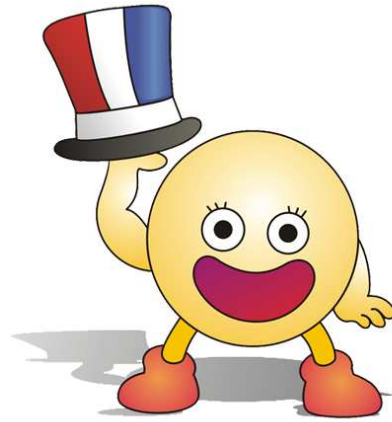
A live test of e-Passports, that contain contactless chips with biographic and biometric information and the readers that are capable of reading these e-Passports, begins January 15, 2006 at Terminal G at San Francisco International Airport (SFO). This test is a collaborative effort between the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore that will run through April 15, 2006.

"This test provides an important opportunity to work with our international partners to further the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to put in place an e-Passport reader solution by the fall of this year," said Jim Williams, director of US-VISIT, a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) program. Participants include citizens of Australia and New Zealand who have been issued the new e-Passports, Singapore Airlines crew holding trial e-Passports and U.S. diplomatic and official e-Passport holders. The test will assess the operational impact of using new equipment and software to read and verify the information embedded in the e-Passports. Participants will present their e-Passports when arriving in the United States at SFO, at Changi Airport in Singapore or at Sydney Airport in Australia. The e-Passport contains the holder's biographic information and a biometric identifier, in this case a digital photograph, embedded in a contactless chip set in the passport. The inspection process for those participating does not change.

The e-Passports being tested are enabled with a security feature known as Basic Access Control (BAC), which helps prevent the unauthorized reading, or "skimming," of information from e-Passports. This is the second live test conducted between the United States, Australia and New Zealand. The goal of the live test is to gather information that can support countries around the world in their development and implementation of e-Passports that comply with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards. It will also provide valuable information on the capability of the reader technology.

"The results of the previous test, held at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and Sydney Airport, indicated that further testing would be beneficial to our development of a fully operational system," Williams said. "So we will conduct further testing to allow for the evaluation of new technologies." Biometrics included in a contactless chip provides a further means by which the identity of visitors may be verified, thus preventing entry by imposters and the use of fraudulent documents. Biometrics provide border officials with a critical tool in making admissibility decisions, thus enhancing homeland security. A DHS priority, US-VISIT enhances the security of our citizens and visitors, facilitates legitimate travel and trade, ensures the integrity of our immigration system and protects personal privacy. To date, more than 46 million visitors to the United States have been processed through US-VISIT without adversely impacting wait times, and more than 990 criminals or immigration violators have been intercepted as a result of the use of biometrics.

Citizen Immi says: Ha!!! The USCIS tries to speed up the processing of naturalization cases; it will no longer group naturalization applications.



USCIS TO DECOUPLE NATURALIZATION APPLICATIONS

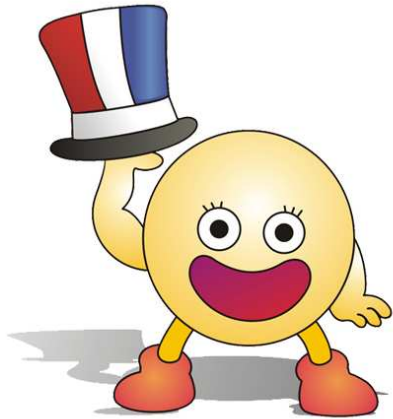
SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

In order to speed the processing of naturalization cases, USCIS will no longer group naturalization applications (a systems function known as Group Management) unless specifically requested by a family.

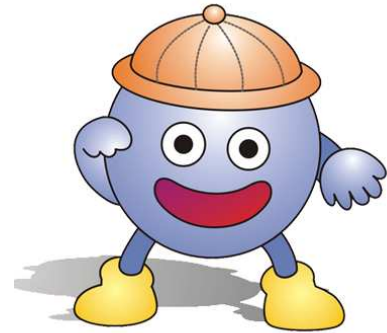
Following a careful study of the operational impact of the Group Management option upon our naturalization case processing system, USCIS learned that the function is adversely affecting our ability to provide timely customer service. This adverse impact is primarily a result of the many system stages that a naturalization application must pass through before processing has been completed. The Group Management option requires that all applicants in a group successfully complete each processing stage before the group as a whole can move on to the next stage. For example, all members of a group must have their background checks completed before the group can proceed to the interview stage. If one individual in a group of 50 hasn't successfully completed this stage, the remaining 49 cases cannot proceed and their processing will unnecessarily stall.

USCIS has identified more than 10,000 naturalization cases currently affected by the Group Management function. Effective immediately, USCIS will decouple, or "ungroup," all currently established groups allowing individual cases to proceed through the process independently.

Upon request, group management will remain a customer service option for USCIS family applicants who desire group processing. This will allow our customers the option to schedule interviews for family members on the same day. Family applicants who wish to take advantage of Group Management should submit a written request for grouping when their naturalization application is mailed to the Service Center with jurisdiction.



Immis say: Don't worry applicants!!! Some cases will be processed at the California Service Center to eliminate the backlog situation. Therefore, you may receive receipts issued from the CSC.



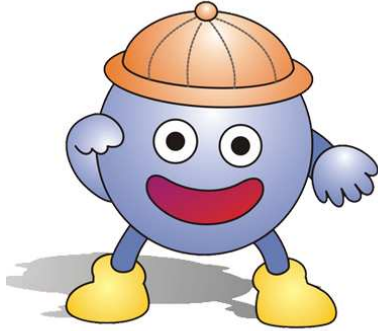
RECEIPTS ISSUED FROM THE CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER (CSC)
SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

Some U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) customers may receive a receipt or transfer notice from the California Service Center (CSC) for cases they filed with local District Offices in the USCIS Western, Central, or Eastern Region or with the National Benefits Center. This is occurring because, in the context of backlog elimination, some cases that are unlikely to require an interview have been transferred from district offices with longer backlogs to the California Service Center where there is greater existing adjudications capacity. These transfer notices reflect receipt by the CSC of a case that has been transferred there to be adjudicated, rather than original receipt of the case by USCIS. For newly filed cases, customers may receive their first receipt notice from CSC, rather than the National Benefits Center or the District Office.

- Case types include the following:
- Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Resident or Adjust Status;
- Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative;
- Form I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence;
- Form N-565, Application for Replacement of Citizenship Document; and
- Form N-600, Application for Certification of Citizenship.

For I-485, I-130, N-565, and N-600 cases, affected applicants will receive a notice from the CSC with a receipt number. This notice confirms that the case has been successfully entered into the electronic database. Please refer to the new CSC receipt number if you need to inquire about the case. For I-751s, customers will not receive a new receipt and may first learn of the transfer of their case through a Request for Evidence. While processing a relocated case, the CSC may determine that additional information or documentation is needed before a final decision can be made. USCIS would like to remind ALL applicants that it is very important to pay close attention to the return address noted on all requests for additional information or documentation, to ensure that the response is sent to the correct USCIS location. Approval notices will reflect the original filing (priority) date.

QUICK INFORMATION BYTES

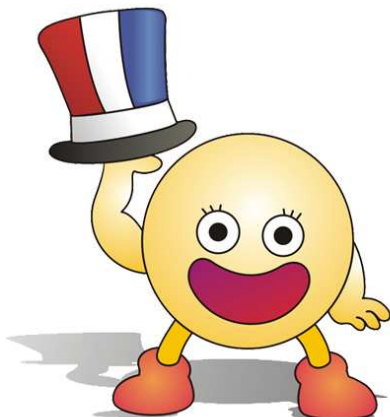
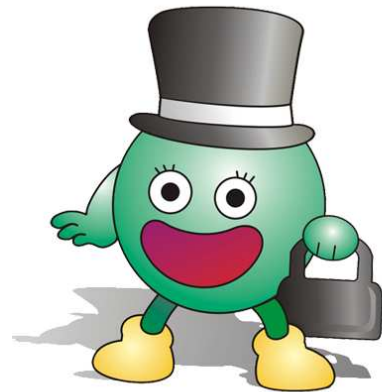


Immi, Jr. says: If you are on OPT and you have an expired F-1 visa, then it may be very difficult for you to obtain a new F-1 visa from the U.S. consulate in your home country.

SOURCE: TERRENCE L. OLSEN, ESQ., OLSEN LAW FIRM

Immi says: Whenever you receive your Permanent Resident Card, make sure all the information on the card is correct especially your birthday.

SOURCE: TERRENCE L. OLSEN, ESQ., OLSEN LAW FIRM



Citizen Immi says: Once obtaining U.S. citizenship, a naturalized citizen still must be watchful of the length of long stays outside of the U.S.

SOURCE: TERRENCE L. OLSEN, ESQ., OLSEN LAW FIRM

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Explanation: If you have questions concerning immigration related issues or concerns and are of a non-advice and pure general interest nature, please e-mail them to tolsen@tlolaw.com.

IMPORTANT IMMIGRATION RELATED WEB SITES

<http://uscis.gov/graphics/index.htm>

- US Citizenship and Immigration Services Web Link

<http://www.dol.gov/>

- Dept. of Labor Web Link

<http://www.state.gov/>

- Dept. of State Web Link

<http://www.embassy.org/>

- Embassies in Washington D.C. Web Link

<http://www.aviso.net/government/embassies/>

- Embassies Located Inside and Outside U.S. Web Link

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please visit: www.tlolaw.com for our web site

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