

From: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [mailto:uscis@public.govdelivery.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 10:02 AM
To:
Subject: H-1B Cap Premium Processing to Begin April 27

On April 27, 2015, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will begin premium processing for cap-subject H-1B petitions requesting premium processing, including petitions seeking an exemption for individuals with a U.S. master's degree or higher. USCIS first announced in a [news release](#) that it would temporarily adjust its premium processing practice due to the historic premium processing receipt levels, combined with the possibility that the H-1B cap will be met in the first 5 business days of the filing season.

USCIS provides premium processing service for certain employment-based petitions and guarantees a 15-calendar-day processing time.

For H-1B petitions that are not subject to the cap and for any other visa classification, the 15-day processing period for premium processing service begins on the date that USCIS receives the request. However, for cap-subject H-1B petitions, including advanced degree exemption petitions, the 15-day processing period set by 8 CFR 103.7(e)(2) will begin on April 27, 2015, regardless of the date on the Form I-797 receipt notice, which indicates the date that the premium processing fee is received.

We encourage H-1B applicants to subscribe to the H-1B Cap Season email updates located on the [H-1B FY2016 Cap Season](#) Web page.

For more information, see our website at <http://www.uscis.gov/news/alerts/h-1b-cap-premium-processing-begin-april-27>

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