



[Home](#) > H-1B FAQ



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SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

On Friday, September 19, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed a Proclamation, "Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers," that took an important, initial, and incremental step to reform the H-1B visa program to curb abuses and protect American workers.

This Proclamation:

- ◆ Requires a \$100,000 payment to accompany any new H-1B visa petitions submitted after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 21, 2025. This includes the 2026 lottery, and any other H-1B petitions submitted after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 21, 2025.
- ◆ Authorizes the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State to coordinate to take all necessary and appropriate action to implement this Proclamation.
 - ◆ U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has so far taken such action by issuing guidance regarding the Proclamation, available [here](#) .
 - ◆ U.S. Customs and Border Protection has also issued guidance, available [here](#) .
 - ◆ The Department of State has posted guidance to all consular offices, consistent with the guidance from U.S.

This Proclamation does not:

- ◆ Apply to any previously issued H-1B visas, or any petitions submitted prior to 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 21, 2025.
- ◆ Does not change any payments or fees required to be submitted in connection with any H-1B renewals. The fee is a one-time fee on submission of a new H-1B petition.
- ◆ Does not prevent any holder of a current H-1B visa from traveling in and out of the United States.

Further steps that will be taken to reform the H-1B program, as contemplated in the Proclamation, include:

- ◆ A rulemaking by the Department of Labor to revise and raise the prevailing wage levels in order to upskill the H-1B program and ensure that it is used to hire only the best of the best temporary foreign workers.
- ◆ A rulemaking by the Department of Homeland Security to prioritize high-skilled, high-paid aliens in the H-1B lottery over those at lower wage levels.

Additional reforms are also under consideration and will be announced in the coming months.



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