



VARDANYAN LAW GROUP

-Defending Rights, Serving Justice!

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Business-Based Visas Overview

Business-based visas allow foreign nationals to work and live in the U.S. through employment sponsorship. Common categories include **EB-3 (Employment-Based Green Card)**, **H-1B (Specialty Occupations)**, and **L-1 (Intra-Company Transferees)**. Each visa has specific eligibility requirements and processing timelines, and applicants must be sponsored by a U.S. employer.

Minimum Required Documents

- Job offer letter from a U.S. employer
- Labor Condition Application (LCA) for H-1B
- Certified PERM labor certification for EB-3
- Employer support letter and organizational structure for L-1
- Proof of qualifications (degrees, work experience letters, licenses, etc.)
- Passport biographic page and prior U.S. visa (if applicable)

This is not a complete list, additional documents may be required based on specific visa requirements.

Processing Times (USCIS)

- **EB-3 Visa:** 1–3 years (longer for certain countries due to visa backlogs)
- **H-1B Visa:** 4–8 months (or 15 days with premium processing)
- **L-1 Visa:** 2–6 months (or 15 days with premium processing)

Government Filing Fees:

Filing fees for business-based visas range from **\$1,500 to \$6,000**, depending on the visa type, premium processing requests, and employer category. Fees are subject to change, so applicants should always check the latest fee schedule on the [USCIS website](#) before filing.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – Business-Based Visas

1. What is the difference between H-1B, L-1, and EB-3 visas?

- **H-1B** is for professionals in specialty occupations requiring a bachelor's degree. It is a temporary nonimmigrant visa valid for up to 6 years.

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- **L-1** is for multinational company employees transferring to a U.S. office, with a maximum stay of **7 years (L-1A) or 5 years (L-1B)**.
- **EB-3** is an employment-based Green Card for skilled workers, professionals, and certain unskilled workers, leading to permanent residency.

2. How long does it take to get an H-1B visa?

Regular processing takes **4–8 months**, but **premium processing (15 days)** is available for an additional fee. H-1B visas are subject to an annual lottery, and only **certain amount of visas** are issued each year.

3. Can my employer sponsor me for a Green Card while I am on an H-1B or L-1 visa?

Yes, employers can sponsor H-1B or L-1 employees for permanent residency through the **EB-3 Green Card process**. The process involves **PERM labor certification, I-140 petition approval, and Adjustment of Status (I-485)**.

4. Can my spouse and children come with me on a business-based visa?

- **H-1B visa holders** can apply for **H-4 visas** (some spouses may qualify for work authorization).
- **L-1 visa holders** can bring dependents on **L-2 visas**, with spouses eligible for **work authorization**.
- **EB-3 applicants** can include their spouse and unmarried children under 21 in the Green Card application.

5. Can I switch employers while on an H-1B or L-1 visa?

- **H-1B visa holders** can transfer to a new employer by filing an H-1B transfer petition.
- **L-1 visa holders** cannot transfer to a different employer but may switch to an H-1B if eligible.
- **EB-3 Green Card applicants** may change employers under **AC21 portability rules** after meeting the requirements.

For all questions regarding Business Visas, contact our firm today for individual legal guidance and personalized assistance.

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