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## Green Card for Employment-Based Immigrants

**i ALERT:** There are an exceptionally high number of employment-based visas available this fiscal year (October 2021 through September 2022).

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There are an exceptionally high number of employment-based visas available this fiscal year (October 2021 through September 2022). In partnership with the U.S. Department of State, we are committed to attempting to use all these visa numbers. There are many more visas available in the first (priority workers) and second (workers with advanced degrees or of exceptional ability) employment-based categories than pending adjustment of status applications pending with USCIS.

If you are eligible, please consider applying in the first or second employment-based preference categories. If you have a pending adjustment of status application based in the third employment-based preference category but also have a pending or approved petition and an available visa in the second employment-based preference category, we strongly encourage you to request that USCIS “transfer the underlying basis” of your pending application to the second employment-based preference category.

For more information, please see the section called “Transfer of Underlying Basis” below.

U.S. immigration law provides aliens with a variety of ways to become lawful permanent residents (get a Green Card) through employment in the United States. These employment-based (EB) “preference immigrant” categories include:

- [First preference \(EB-1\)](#) – priority workers
  - Aliens with extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business, or athletics;
  - Outstanding professors and researchers; or
  - Certain multinational managers and executives.
- [Second preference \(EB-2\)](#) – aliens who are members of the professions holding advanced degrees or who have exceptional ability (including requests for national interest waivers).

- [Third preference \(EB-3\)](#) – skilled workers, professionals, or other workers.

This page provides specific information for aliens in the United States who want to apply for lawful permanent resident status in the EB-1, EB-2, and EB-3 categories while in the United States. This is called “adjustment of status.” You should also read the [Instructions for Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status \(PDF, 551.22 KB\)](#) before you apply.

For more information on other types of employment-based immigrants, see our pages on Green Cards for [EB-4 special immigrants](#) (for example, religious workers and special immigrant juveniles) and [EB-5 immigrant investors](#).

**If you are currently outside the United States**, see [Consular Processing](#) for information about how to apply for a Green Card as a family preference immigrant.

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Eligibility for Adjustment of Status



Bars to Adjustment



Grounds of Inadmissibility



How to Apply



What to Submit (Principal Applicant)



Family Members



Employment Authorization and Advance Parole Documents



Transfer of Underlying Basis



Legal Reference



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