



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Reaches FY 2018 H-1B Cap

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WASHINGTON - U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has reached the congressionally mandated 65,000 visa H-1B cap for fiscal year 2018. USCIS has also received a sufficient number of H-1B petitions to meet the 20,000 visa U.S. advanced degree exemption, also known as the master's cap.

The agency will reject and return filing fees for all unselected cap-subject petitions that are not duplicate filings.

USCIS will continue to accept and process petitions that are otherwise exempt from the cap. However, please keep in mind USCIS [suspended premium processing](#) April 3 for up to six months for all H-1B petitions, including cap-exempt petitions. Petitions filed on behalf of current H-1B workers who have been counted previously against the cap, and who still retain their cap number, will also not be counted toward the congressionally mandated FY 2018 H-1B cap. USCIS will continue to accept and process petitions filed to:

- Extend the amount of time a current H-1B worker may remain in the United States;
- Change the terms of employment for current H-1B workers;
- Allow current H-1B workers to change employers; and
- Allow current H-1B workers to work concurrently in a second H-1B position.

U.S. businesses use the [H-1B program](#) to employ foreign workers in occupations that require specialized knowledge.

We encourage H-1B applicants to subscribe to the H-1B Cap Season email updates located on the [H-1B Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2018 Cap Season](#) Web page.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit www.uscis.gov or follow us on Twitter ([@uscis](#)), Instagram ([/uscis](#)), YouTube ([/uscis](#)), and Facebook([/uscis](#)).

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