



In this issue:

Visa Validity for Chinese Students & Exchange Visitors	2
Labor Certification Update	3
New Issued I-9 Form	4
Quick Information Bytes	5

We welcome you to meet the Immis! They help us simplify the immigration process for you. The Immis are in every issue of our newsletter and act as your personal guides to various immigration topics.



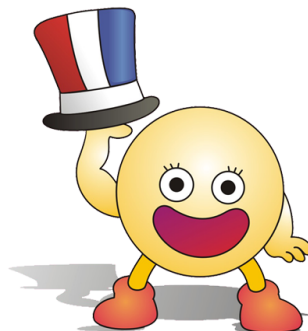
Immi Jr.

Immi Jr. will address nonimmigrant issues



Immi

Immi will address immigrant issues



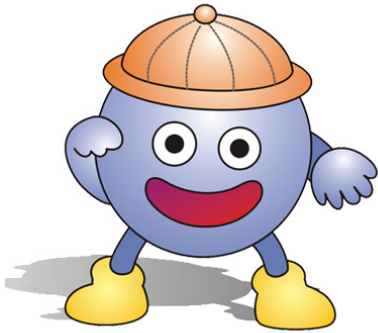
Citizen Immi

Immi will address citizenship issues

USEFUL INFORMATION:

- Immigration Related Web Sites 6
- Olsen Law Firm Contact Information 7

IMMEDIATE INFORMATIONAL RELEASES



Immi, Jr. says: Good News!!! Chinese students and exchange visitors will be issued longer valid visas without going through extension trouble.

STUDENT VISAS FOR CHINESE NATIONALS TO HAVE LONGER VALIDITY

SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

U.S. Extends Visa Validity for Chinese Students and Exchange Visitors

Beginning June 20, 2005, eligible Chinese nationals who wish to study in the United States temporarily as students (F-1), exchange visitors (J-1), or to undertake vocational training (M1) will be issued visas that are valid for 12 months and multiple entries. The previous maximum validity for U.S. visas issued for these purposes was six months and for multiple entries.

The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also agreed to reciprocally issue to U.S. citizens visiting China temporarily as students, exchange visitors or vocational students, visas valid for 12 months and multiple entries.

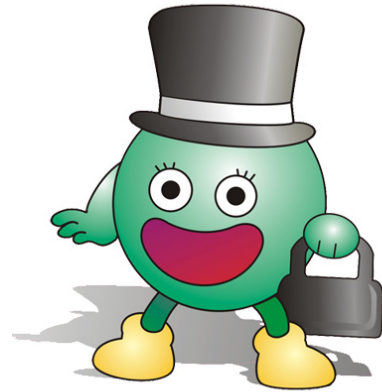
While the United States and China will in principle issue maximum validity visas to each other's citizens, on a case-by-case basis, each side may limit the period of validity and number of entries as required by law and regulation.

Family members or persons deriving status from the primary student or exchange visitor, receiving F-2, J-2, or M-2 visas, will also be eligible for multiple-entry 12-month validity visas.

The mutual extension of visa reciprocity will be a significant benefit to student and exchange travelers between China and the United States and help facilitate educational exchanges between the two countries. In addition, American citizen students in China will save time and money with longer visa validity. Chinese students studying in the United States receiving longer validity visas will need to visit the U.S. Embassy or Consulates in China less often to renew visas, freeing embassy and consulate resources to adjudicate other visa applications more quickly.

In 2003, the United States issued 21,786 student and exchange visitor visas (F-1, J-1 and M-1 visa categories) to Chinese nationals. In 2004, the United States issued 25,647 student and exchange visitor visas to Chinese nationals.

Immi says: Be watchful and be patient!!! The Labor Department is working hard on logging case information into their new PERM system.



LABOR CERTIFICATION UPDATE: PERM AND BACKLOG REDUCTION CENTERS

SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

➤ **PERM**

Department of Labor is still working on the decision logic that has been resulting in erroneous denials, and hopes to have the system fixed soon. It will then run the prior denials through the system again. Those that should not have been denied will, it is hoped, instead go into the full processing system. Notices will be issued on those cases for which a denial still stands. Estimates currently are that the new notices may go out in early July.

➤ **BACKLOG REDUCTION CENTERS**

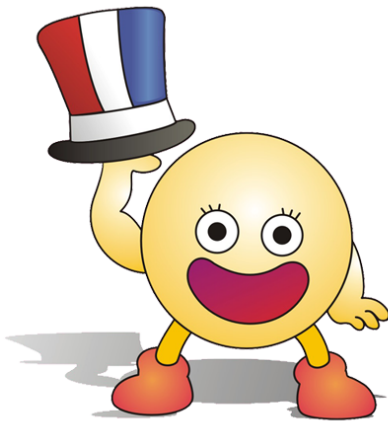
Tens of thousands of cases still need to be input into the system. DOL asks that you NOT submit inquiries on these cases as it does not have the capacity to check them all. Indeed, email inquiries regarding status are receiving automated responses to this effect.

That being said, if you need confirmation of a filing to extend an H-1B beyond the sixth year, the Centers are accepting those inquiries. The email addresses for these types of queries are h1b7yr@phi.dflc.us (for Philadelphia) or h1b7yr@dal.dflc.us (for Dallas). DOL will return a screen shot, which USCIS has agreed to accept as evidence.

➤ **CASE CLOSURE LETTERS**

If you receive a letter from a Backlog Reduction Center indicating that your case was closed for failure to respond to a 45-day letter, and that letter is in error either because (a) you did indeed respond or (b) you never received the letter, please take two steps:

- Send a response asking that the case be reopened, specifying the reason the closure is erroneous and enclosing documentation if available, and
- Email the same information to Crystal Williams at the AILA national office, at cwilliams@aila.org, for forwarding to the DOL HQ.



Citizen Immi says: Be aware that DHS has issued a new I-9 form!!!!

DHS ISSUES REBRANDED FORM I-9

SOURCE: AMERICAN IMMIGRATION LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (AILA)

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced that they have updated the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9) to eliminate outdated references to the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and its parent agency, the Department of Justice.

On March 1, 2003, the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) transferred the functions of the former INS from the Department of Justice to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). USCIS, an entity within DHS, presently maintains many of the immigration forms that USCIS and ICE inherited from the former INS. USCIS is currently rebranding these forms, including the I-9, to reflect the transfer to DHS.

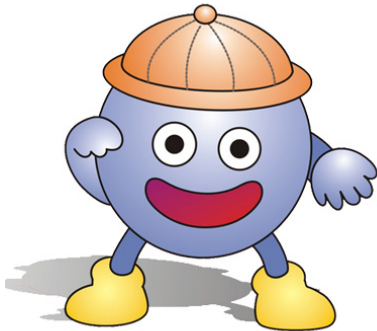
Aside from replacing outdated references to the Department of Justice and the former INS with references to DHS and its components, the current edition of Form I-9 is the same as the 11/21/91 edition.

The edition date on the rebranded Form I-9 reads “(Rev. 05/31/05)Y.” Employers may meet their employment verification requirements under the law by completing a Form I-9 that has an edition date of either “(Rev. 5/31/05)Y,” “(Rev. 05/31/05)N,” or “(Rev. 11/21/91)N” in the lower right corner of the form.

DHS is currently in the process of making substantive changes to the Form I-9 in connection with previous rulemakings and plans to introduce a new Form I-9 at the end of this process.

More information about the employment verification process and other employer-based immigration topics is available from USCIS’ Office of Business Liaison at <http://uscis.gov/graphics/services/employerinfo/eibulletin.htm>.

QUICK INFORMATION BYTES

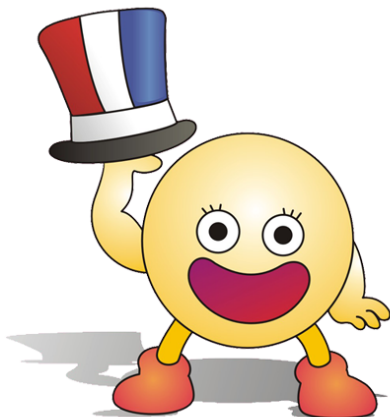
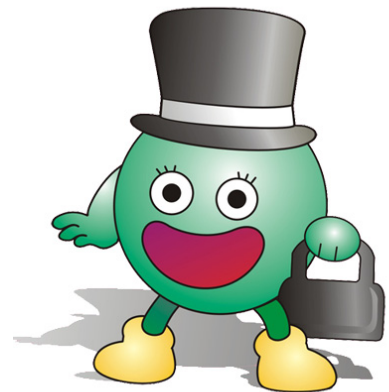


Immi, Jr. says: If you are currently on OPT, be sure to apply for an H1B before the H1B cap is reached.

SOURCE: TERRENCE L. OLSEN, ESQ., OLSEN LAW FIRM

Immi says: When applying for a green card, be sure to supply the USCIS with any and all criminal charges you may have had in the past.

SOURCE: TERRENCE L. OLSEN, ESQ., OLSEN LAW FIRM



Citizen Immi says: USCIS Memphis Sub Office will not accept any faxes until this August after moving to its new facility.

SOURCE: TERRENCE L. OLSEN, ESQ., OLSEN LAW FIRM

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Explanation: If you have questions concerning immigration related issues or concerns and are of a non-advice and pure general interest nature, please e-mail them to tolsen@tlolaw.com.

IMPORTANT IMMIGRATION RELATED WEB SITES

<http://uscis.gov/graphics/index.htm>

- US Citizenship and Immigration Services Web Link

<http://www.dol.gov/>

- Dept. of Labor Web Link

<http://www.state.gov/>

- Dept. of State Web Link

<http://www.embassy.org/>

- Embassies in Washington D.C. Web Link

<http://www.aviso.net/government/embassies/>

- Embassies Located Inside and Outside U.S. Web Link

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please visit: www.tlolaw.com for our web site

Terry Olsen, Attorney, tolsen@tlolaw.com , 423-648-9390 and 423-648-9370 (for Chinese and Taiwanese language assistance)

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