H-1 B PETITIONS UPDATE

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will resume premium processing for certain cap-exempt H-1B petitions effective immediately. The H-1B visa has an annual cap of 65,000 visas each fiscal year. Additionally, there is an annual “master’s cap” of 20,000 petitions filed for beneficiaries with a U.S. master’s degree or higher.

Premium processing will resume for petitions that may be exempt from the cap if the H-1B petitioner is:
* An institution of higher education;
* A nonprofit related to or affiliated with an institution of higher education; or
* A nonprofit research or governmental research organization.

Premium processing will also resume for petitions that may also be exempt if the beneficiary will be employed at a qualifying cap-exempt institution, organization or entity.

Starting today (July 24), those cap-exempt petitioners who are eligible for premium processing can file Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service for Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker. Form I-907 can be filed together with an H-1B petition or separately for a pending H-1B petition.

USCIS previously announced that premium processing resumed on June 26 for H-1B petitions filed on behalf of physicians under the Conrad 30 waiver program as well as interested government agency waivers.

USCIS plans to resume premium processing of other H-1B petitions as workloads permit. USCIS will make additional announcements with specific details related to when we will begin accepting premium processing for those petitions. Until then, premium processing remains temporarily suspended for all other H-1B petitions. USCIS will reject any Form I-907 filed for those petitions, and if the petitioner submitted one check combining the Form I-907 and Form I-129 fees, USCIS will have to reject both forms.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit www.uscis.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, August 9
Group Livestream of Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences and the Center for Practical Bioethics’ Current Issues in Bioethics Lecture Series
1023 Orr-Major
1:00-1:55 p.m.

Thursday, August 10
3rd Annual KUMC International Meet & Greet
SON Atrium
4:00-5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 22
Cross-Cultural Anesthesiology Practices
Clendening Auditorium
4:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served at all August events.

CULTURE HOUR RESUMES

Weekly Culture Hour conversations resume
Thursday, August 24.
G004 Orr-Major
Noon

A Reminder: J1 visa holders are required to engage in cultural activities and exchanges while in the United States. Culture Hour is a great way to help meet this requirement!