



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Reaches FY 2019 H-1B Cap

[Versión en español](#)

USCIS has reached the congressionally-mandated 65,000 H-1B visa cap for fiscal year 2019. USCIS has also received a sufficient number of H-1B petitions to meet the 20,000 visa U.S. advanced degree exemption, known as the master's cap.

The agency will reject and return filing fees for all unselected cap-subject petitions that are not prohibited [multiple filings \(PDF, 119 KB\)](#).

USCIS will continue to accept and process petitions that are otherwise exempt from the cap. Petitions filed for 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 FY 2019 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 \(FY\) 2019 Cap Season](#) page.

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