



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

An Immigration Attorney Who Shares Your Dreams

As an immigration attorney, I realize that the decision to come to U.S. permanently, as an investor, on a work visa or even as a student is a decision you have not made lightly. Leaving one's homeland is one of the most stressful decisions of our lives. I fully appreciate this and I want to help you avoid the pitfalls that you may face on this journey. My team and I are prepared to assist you every step of the way.

Whether you're moving to reconnect with family members, start a new career, or invest in your children and grandchildren's future, I can help in smart, practical ways: As your immigration attorney, I help improve your chances of acceptance and ensure that the US government has all the legal, financial, and personal documents it needs to welcome you. I can also help you develop a personalized immigration strategy that will best suit your needs. Our network of colleagues and professionals includes experienced tax advisors, real estate and financial advisors and even educational and career development professionals. I am here to help you achieve your goals of moving to the United States and make that transition as smooth and efficient as possible.

Non-Immigrant Employment/Investment Based Visas:

We will work with your employer in getting all the steps completed so that you can obtain your work visa as quickly as possible. Generally, we can obtain a visa for your spouse and children as well so that they can accompany you to the US or remain here and study while you are on your work visa. We specialize in H1B, E visas, L visas, as well as O and P visas.

In other cases, an applicant determines to invest in a US business and obtain temporary residence and work permit through the business investment.

B-1 Temporary Business Visitor

A B-1 visa generally allows you to come to the US for a short time to engage in a limited and relatively short-term business activity. We will evaluate your case and circumstances and help you determine whether you need to extend your visa or change the type of visa you must remain in the US for the time you desire.



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

E-1 US Visa Category - Treaty Traders

The E-1 visa allows for employees to move and work in the US to solely carry on or engage in substantial trade between their home country and the US.

We work with other experts in the field, such as CPAs, business plan writers, etc. to ensure that your E-1 visa application is in optimal condition for review by the consular or USCIS officer.

E-1 visas are generally issued for up to 2 years and can be renewed for up to 2 year increments, indefinitely. We can assist you in keeping updated with your visa status and renewals. E-1 Visa holders can have their families (spouse and children under 21) join them under the same visa and spouses can obtain work permit authorization as well.

E-2 Category - Treaty Investors

The E-2 visa allows for an investor or their executive to move and work in the US to develop or supervise a business in which he/she has substantially invested.

We work with other experts in the field, such as CPAs, business plan writers, etc. to ensure that your E-2 visa application is in optimal condition for review by the consular or USCIS officer.

E-2 visas are generally issued for up to 2 years and can be renewed for up to 2 year increments, indefinitely. We can assist you in keeping updated with your visa status and renewals. E-2 Visa holders can have their families (spouse and children under 21) join them under the same visa and spouses can obtain work permit authorization as well.

H-1B Visas - Specialty Occupations

This visa category is known as the “specialty occupation” work visa. Many employers use the H-1B visa to bring educated, specialized knowledge employees to the US.



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

The general rule is that the employer must be registered in the H1B system on or about March of each year, and the visa petition, if selected can then be filed. The current lottery system creates a challenge and there is a cap on H1B visa numbers which fills up rather quickly. However, there are exceptions to this rule for certain individuals and we will help you determine if you are eligible for the exceptions. If married, spouse and unmarried children under 21 years of age of H1-B visa holders may apply and accompany the H1- B employee to the USA.

H2 Visas - Temporary Workers

The H-2B program allows U.S. employers or U.S. agents who meet specific regulatory requirements to bring foreign nationals to the United States to fill temporary agricultural (H2A) or nonagricultural jobs (H2B).

H3 Trainee Visa

The H-3 nonimmigrant US visa is for an individual coming temporarily to the United States as one of the following:

- A Trainee - to receive training, other than graduate or medical education training, that is not available in the alien's home country. An H-3 "trainee" must be invited by an individual or organization. If the petition is approved, the trainee may be allowed to remain in the United States for up to 2 years.
- A Special Education Exchange Visitor - to participate in a special education exchange visitor training program for children with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. If the petition is approved, the special education exchange visitor may remain in the United States for up to 18 months.

I Visas - Representatives of Foreign Media

US visas under the I visa category include visas for reporters, film crews, editors, and similar occupations. If married, spouse and children under the age of 21 may accompany or follow



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

to join an I visa holder. You must show that you represent a foreign information media outlet (press, radio, film, or other foreign information media), that you are coming to the United States to engage solely in this profession and that you have a home office in a foreign country.

J-1 Exchange Visitors Visa

The J-1 Exchange Visitors Visa is for those who intend to participate in an approved program for the purpose of teaching, instructing, conducting research, receiving training, or to receive graduate medical education or training. Nannies/Au pairs and certain Camp counselors fall under this category as well.

Some J-1 nonimmigrants enter the United States specifically to work (as a researcher, nanny, etc.) while others do not. Your spouse and unmarried children under 21 years of age, regardless of nationality, are entitled to J-2 classification. Your spouse and children are entitled to work while in the US.

L Visas - Intra-company transfers

L-1 visas are US visas available to executives, managers and specialized employees moving to their employer's US affiliate sites. The qualified employee must have worked for the company or its affiliates for at least one year out of the last three years. L visas are issued initially for one to three years, with two-year extensions possible.

The transferring employee may be accompanied or followed by his or her family (spouse and unmarried children who are under 21 years of age) under the L-2 nonimmigrant category. Spouses of L-1 workers may obtain work permits and work authorization.

O Visas - Extraordinary Abilities

The O-1 US visa is for individuals of “extraordinary ability” in the one of certain areas such as: sciences, arts, education, business, or athletics. Individuals who have demonstrated a record of extraordinary achievement in the motion picture or television industry and have been recognized nationally or internationally for those achievements may also qualify for an



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

O US visa so long as they have a job offer from a US employer in their area of expertise or achievement.

P Visas - Athletes and Entertainers

- P-1 Athletes/Performers - The P-1 visa applies to you if you are coming to the U.S. temporarily to perform at a specific athletic competition as an athlete, individually or as part of a group or team, at an internationally recognized level of performance or to perform as a member of an entertainment group that has been recognized internationally as outstanding in the discipline for a sustained and substantial period of time.

The Initial term of visa would be for the time it will take to complete the event, competition, or performance, not to exceed one year for performers and five years for athletes.

- P-2 Reciprocal Exchange Program - The P-2 classification applies to you if you are coming temporarily to perform as an artist or entertainer, individually or as part of a group, who will perform under a reciprocal exchange program between an organization in the United States and an organization in another country.
- P-3 Artist or Entertainer Part of a Culturally Unique Program - The P-3 classification applies to you if you are coming temporarily to perform, teach or coach as artists or entertainers, individually or as part of a group, under a program that is culturally unique. The initial time of the visa would be for the time required to complete the event, not to exceed one year.

R-1 Visas - Temporary Nonimmigrant Religious Workers

An R-1 is a foreign national who is coming to the United States temporarily to be employed at least part time by a non-profit religious organization in the United States or an affiliate and to work in a religious capacity.



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

Immigrant Visas – Permanent Residence to USA

Family Based Immigration:

Family petitions

A US citizen or a Permanent Resident of the US may apply for their spouse and children to obtain a green card and move to the US. A US citizen over the age of 21 years old, may also apply for his/her parent or siblings to obtain green cards and move to the US.

Depending on the family relationship, age of the beneficiary and which country they are from, the timing for visa availabilities will vary. Additionally, the long wait times for visas create complications in many cases as the beneficiaries may “age out” and turn 21 while waiting for visas to become available to them.

Fiancé(e) Visas

A US citizen can obtain a temporary visa to bring his/her fiancé(e) to the US so they can marry. With the fiancé(e) or K-1 nonimmigrant visa, your fiancé(e) can enter the United States for 90 days so that your marriage ceremony can take place. Once you marry, your spouse needs to file for permanent residence and can remain in the United States while his/her green card application is being processed.

Employment Based Immigrant Visas:

EB-1 Category - Priority Workers

This category of immigrant visas is designated for:

- Persons of extraordinary ability - Workers of Extraordinary Ability are defined by statute as those who have extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business, or athletics, which has been demonstrated by sustained national or international acclaim, and whose achievements have been recognized in the field through extensive documentation.
- Outstanding Professors and Researchers - Professors or researchers who are internationally recognized as outstanding in a specific academic field, have a



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

minimum of 3 years' experience in teaching and/or research in that field, and enter the United States in a tenure or tenure-track teaching or research position at a university or similar institution.

- **Multinational Executives and Managers** - A foreign worker who has been employed at least one out of the past three years with the same or related company in a managerial or executive position. This person must be coming to work in the US as an executive or in a managerial capacity. The US employer must have been doing business in the US for at least one year.

EB-2 Category – Advanced Degree Professionals or Individuals of Exceptional Ability in Sciences, Art or Business

This category of immigrant visas is intended for:

Members of Professions Holding Advanced Degrees - a US employer can petition to hire a foreign person for a position which requires a degree beyond a bachelor's degree. As an alternative, a bachelor's degree plus five years progressive experience in the same field, can serve as the equivalent of a master's degree. Our staff are experienced in handling the labor certification process which is generally required under the EB-2 category and we will assist you and the employer through each step of the process. Further, there are certain exceptions to the general rule, and we will assess your case and qualifications to determine the best means of proceeding.

Workers of Exceptional Ability - must demonstrate a degree of expertise significantly above the ordinary. For National Interest Waiver cases, we will assess your credentials and qualifications to determine the best means of proceeding and will assist in the preparation of your case to optimize success.

EB-3 Category – Skilled Workers, Professionals and Other Workers

This category of immigrant visas is intended for:

- **Skilled workers** - who must show at least two years of experience in the specific field.
- **Professionals** - who must have a baccalaureate degree (required for the job and for the foreign person).



LAW OFFICE OF ATOOSA VAKILI

US IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

28202 Cabot Road, Suite 300, Laguna Niguel CA 92677 | (949) 667-0976 | www.usils.com | info@usils.com

- Other Workers may qualify for a job which requires less than two years' experience in the field.

EB-5 Investment Based Immigration

The EB-5 Immigration Investment Program is available to individuals and their families who have are ready to invest in a “new” business enterprise with \$800,000 or \$1,050,000, depending on the investment program and its location. We will assist you step by step in your research, using experts to review the prospective investment projects and approval of the project you will invest in.

The benefits of this category are that the process is often less stringent, requiring no direct involvement in business management (in regional center project cases). The investor's spouse and children under the age of 21 years old also qualify and can receive permanent residence status through the same petition.

Humanitarian Relief Visas

Refugee Status or Asylum may be granted to people who have been persecuted or fear they will be persecuted on account of race, religion, nationality, and/or membership in a particular social group or political opinion.

An Affirmative Asylum petition must generally be filed within one year of applicant's arrival to the US. If you are intending to file an asylum case, please contact our office as soon as possible. We will review your case and facts and assist you in determining the strength of your case and the options available to you.