



Foreign persons in the United States fall into five categories. Foreign persons who seek employment, study, and exchange opportunities in the United States generally fall into categories 4 and 5 below. Contact IC staff for more information:

1. Naturalized US citizens
2. Lawful permanent residents (“green card” holders)
3. Aliens with temporary but unrestricted work authorization (holders of Employment Authorization Document Form I-766 or I-688b).
Eligibility for such a “work permit” depends upon the circumstances of the individual. It is not possible under US law to simply apply for a work permit.
4. Aliens with temporary work authorization restricted to employment specifically approved by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services division of the US Department of Homeland Security.
Aliens in this category are “sponsored” by US employers under the following classifications, depending upon the nature of the employment, the duration of the US employer’s need, the credentials of the alien, and other factors. Contact IC staff if more information is needed:
 - E-1 treaty traders
 - E-2 treaty investors
 - H-2a seasonal agricultural workers
 - H-2b seasonal nonagricultural workers (provide link)
 - H-1b specialty workers
 - H-1c nurses in disadvantaged areas
 - H-3 trainees
 - L-1 intracompany transferees
 - outstanding aliens (can apply to any area of expertise)
 - P performers and athletes
 - R religious workers

5. Aliens approved to participate in academic study or exchange programs

- F-1 academic students
- M-1 vocational students
- Q-1 cultural exchange visitor
- J-1 exchange visitors
 - Au pair
 - Student
 - Summer work/travel (provide link)
 - Trainee
 - Professor
 - Teacher
 - Short-term scholar
 - Government visitor
 - Specialist
 - International Visitor
 - Camp counselor
 - Research scholar
 - Physician