



July 18, 2007

To: HR Representatives
From: Ahlstedt, Deborah
Subject: Permanent Residence Applications to be accepted for one month

The Department of State (DOS) has just issued its August 2007 Visa Bulletin, and as expected, all categories are "unavailable." However, DOS stated in the Bulletin that after consulting with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), it will be withdrawing the Update to its July 2007 Visa Bulletin, in which it made all categories unavailable for the month of July 2007. This means that visa numbers ARE available for nationals of ALL countries, including India and China, in the first three employment based categories.

In light of the DOS withdrawing its Update, the USCIS issued a press release announcing that it will not be rejecting the employment-based adjustment of status applications already properly filed and will allow those foreign nationals who are eligible to file employment-based adjustment of status applications a 31-day period from July 18 through August 17, 2007 to file the necessary applications. The USCIS stated that this will provide eligible foreign nationals with the same one-month filing window they would have had if the July 2 actions had not taken place. The full press release is available on the USCIS web site at: <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis> under Press Room.

Additionally, the USCIS stated that the current filing fee schedule will be applicable to the adjustment of status (with advance parole and employment authorization applications) filings through August 17th. Although the new fee schedule will be applicable to all other applications on July 30th, it will be postponed until August 17th for employment-based adjustment of status filings.

This means that everyone at UW-Madison who would have been eligible to file under the original July 2007 Visa Bulletin may file during the 31 day window and the old filing fees will still be applicable, even though the application is filed after July 30th, provided it is filed prior to August 17th. Nothing was said about reinstating Premium Processing for form I-140, so we assume that the moratorium is still in effect. [This information is also on the IFSS web site under Breaking News.](#)

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