

USCIS Update

June 22, 2009

USCIS Announces Resumption of Premium Processing Service for Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker

WASHINGTON—USCIS announced today that effective June 29, 2009, it will resume Premium Processing Service for Form I-140, <u>Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker</u>, in accordance with 8 CFR 103.2(f)(2).

After an evaluation of its I-140 backlog reduction efforts and increased I-140 adjudicative efficiencies, USCIS has concluded that it is now able to provide Premium Process Service for this benefit.

USCIS will accept Premium Processing requests for Form I-140 Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker, involving EB-1 Aliens with Extraordinary Ability, EB-1 Outstanding Professors and Researchers, EB-2 Members of Professions with Advanced Degrees or Exceptional Ability *not seeking a National Interest Waiver*, EB-3 Professionals, EB-3 Skilled Workers, and EB-3 Workers other than Skilled Workers and Professionals.

Premium Processing Service is still not available for Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker, involving EB-1 Multinational Executives and Managers and EB-2 Members of Professions with Advanced Degrees or Exceptional Ability seeking a National Interest Waiver.

Under the <u>Premium Processing Service</u>, USCIS guarantees petitioners that, for a \$1,000 processing fee, it will issue either an approval notice, or where appropriate, a notice of intent to deny, a request for evidence or open an investigation for fraud or misrepresentation, within 15 calendar days of receipt. If the petition is not processed within 15 calendar days, USCIS will refund the \$1,000 fee and continue to process the request as part of the Premium Processing Service. In addition to faster processing, petitioners who participate in the program may use a dedicated phone number and e-mail address to check on the status of their petition or ask any other questions they may have concerning their petition. Premium Processing Service continues to be available for previously designated classifications within Form I-140 and Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker.

Information about the expanded Premium Processing Service, including what classifications are eligible to request such processing, is available on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov or by calling the USCIS National Customer Service Center toll free at 1-800-375-5283.