

The Global Glance

A Monthly Update from the Office of Global Engagement
February 2022



Visa/Immigration

Disadvantages of Avoiding Premium Processing with H-1b Cases

Regular processing times have climbed from two months in Spring 2021, to more than nine months. No regular processing cases have been adjudicated for applications submitted after May 1, 2021. This causes employers to have few options to avoid the expensive “Premium Processing” fee to expedite a case, especially since the first submitted application in this process cannot be submitted more than 183 days prior to the requested beginning date.

There is a method to possibly avoid the expensive Premium Processing cost of \$2,500 for current employees currently in another visa status, but not without some important disadvantages. If an employee in another visa category is currently authorized for employment for another year or more, the employer can request a beginning date well before current authorization expires. However, when requesting a beginning date, the requested validity period can be no more than three years. Therefore, when the case is finally approved, the remaining validity period would be significantly less than three years.

A second disadvantage is that when requesting a beginning date six months in advance, the sponsored employee would not be able to leave and re-enter the US until the H-1b case is approved by the USCIS and the re-entry date is within ten days of the approval’s beginning date. If an employee would instead re-enter the US with a different type of visa, then the H-1b approval would no longer be valid.

Because of these disadvantages of attempting to avoid the expensive Premium Processing fee, this fee is currently necessary for most applications when regular processing times are very lengthy. When paying the additional Premium Processing fee, the USCIS will generally adjudicate the case within 15 days.

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Non-clinical international visitor registrations resume

Effective immediately, the Office of Global Engagement is resuming normal processing of new non-clinical international visitor registrations. Clinical observers and trainees remain on hold until further notice. As a reminder, all registrations must be submitted via [iGlobal](#). More information about how to submit an international visitor registration is available on [our website](#).

All long-term (seven days or longer) international visitors must provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination before arriving in the United States. There are no exceptions to this requirement per UNMC policy.

Trainings continued to be offered on the iGlobal system. Click on a date below to register:

[Thursday, February 17](#)

[Thursday, March 3](#)

[Tuesday, March 15](#)

[Thursday, March 31](#)

Contact: Connor Willingham, connor.willingham@unmc.edu

SAGH hosts donation drive for Afghan refugees

Student Association for Global Health (SAGH), in partnership with Lutheran Family Services, is hosting a month-long drive for donations for local Afghan Refugees. [Click here](#) to see needed items and the four locations of the donation bins. Individuals can also purchase items for donation through the Amazon Wish list link on the flyer. The purchased items will be sent directly to Lutheran Family Services in Omaha. Monetary donations can also be made through the link provided.

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Upcoming Events and Deadlines

2022 International Photo Contest opens March 7

The photo contest, available to the UNMC community, will be open from March 7-28. Entrants can submit up to three separate photos. Photos must be from outside the United States. There are four categories: "Cityscapes/ Architecture, Landscapes/ Nature, People, and Animals". Photos submitted in last year's contest will not be accepted. Prizes include one overall Grand Prize and a first-place for each category in both the student/ resident and faculty/staff divisions. [Click here](#) for complete rules, prizes, and submission form.



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2023-24 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program competition now open

The [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program](#) offers awards for U.S. citizens to teach, research, and conduct professional projects in more than 130 countries where scholars come away with enhanced skills, new connections, and greater mutual understanding.

Those interested are encouraged to visit this website for [program details](#), [application guidance](#), and other resources. View current opportunities in the [Catalog of Awards](#), join a [webinar](#), or attend an [office hour](#) for live application assistance.

The application deadline is Sept. 15, 2022. Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

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