

## U.S. and Canadian Immigration and Nationality Law (Bimonthly) Newsletter and Updates.

### Dear Reader:

Effective June 11, 2025, USCIS has revised its policy regarding Form I-693 (Medical Examination and Vaccination Record). Any Form I-693 signed on or after November 1, 2023, is now valid only while the corresponding immigration benefit application (e.g., Form I-485) is pending. If that application is withdrawn or denied, the I-693 becomes invalid and cannot be reused for future filings. This change reverses USCIS's April 2024 guidance, which had allowed indefinite use of properly signed Form I-693s. The updated rule aims to protect public health by ensuring medical exams are current and applicants receive timely evaluations. A new Form I-693 will be required for any new application following a denial or withdrawal.

As of June 13, 2025, USCIS has also tightened its review of Form N-648 disability waivers. Medical professionals must clearly explain how a disability prevents an applicant from fulfilling the English and civics requirements for naturalization. Submitting multiple forms may raise credibility concerns and result in further review. The update seeks to deter fraud and preserve the integrity of the naturalization process.

This month also marks the 13th anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Despite the contributions of more than 600,000 DREAMers—including teachers, nurses, business owners, and essential workers—permanent protections remain elusive. Immigration advocates continue to call on Congress to end years of legal uncertainty and pass legislation offering lasting security for these longtime U.S. residents.

We encourage you to stay informed as these policy changes evolve. If you have questions about how these developments may impact your status, studies, or travel, please reach out to NPZ Law Group at [info@visaserve.com](mailto:info@visaserve.com) or call 201-670-0006 (ext. 104). Our team of U.S. and Canadian immigration attorneys is here to support you with experienced, strategic, and compassionate guidance.

**Know Your Rights: What to Do If ICE Comes to Your Home, Workplace, or Stops You in Public (English & Spanish Versions).** [Please click here](#) to download and feel free to share it with your friends and family.

## Here are this month's top stories to keep you informed:

### **MAJOR UPDATE FROM USCIS: NEW POLICY GUIDANCE ON FORM N-648 (MEDICAL CERTIFICATION FOR DISABILITY EXCEPTIONS).**

On June 13, 2025, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced an important policy update to the USCIS Policy Manual that affects Form N-648, which is used for Medical Certification for Disability Exceptions.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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### **IMPORTANT USCIS UPDATE: FORM I-693 VALIDITY NOW TIED TO SPECIFIC APPLICATION.**

USCIS has updated its Policy Manual to reflect a significant change regarding the Form I-693, Report of Immigration Medical Examination and Vaccination Record. Effective immediately, any Form I-693 signed by a civil surgeon on or after November 1, 2023, is only valid while the application it was submitted with is pending.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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### **REENTRY RISKS FOR GREEN CARD HOLDERS: WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE TRAVELING ABROAD.**

At NPZ Law Group, we are hearing that other of our colleagues are seeing increased enforcement actions at U.S. ports of entry involving lawful permanent residents (LPRs) returning from extended international travel.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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### **U.S. TEMPORARILY HALTS NEW F, J, AND M VISA APPOINTMENTS: WHAT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS NEED TO KNOW.**

In a major shift affecting international students and exchange visitors, the U.S. Department of State has directed all consular posts around the world to pause new visa appointments for F-1, J-1, and M-1 categories.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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## **VISA PLANNING FOR FOREIGN FOUNDERS: WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE LAUNCHING A U.S. STARTUP.**

As more international entrepreneurs look to build their companies in the United States, understanding the interplay between U.S. visa options and startup ownership structures has become essential.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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## **PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION IMPOSES NEW TRAVEL BAN ON 19 COUNTRIES.**

On June 4, 2025, the U.S. government issued a Presidential Proclamation establishing new restrictions on the entry of foreign nationals from specific countries. The measure aims to address national security and public safety concerns by placing full or partial suspensions on visa issuance and travel.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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## **CAN FOREIGN PHYSICIANS QUALIFY FOR A GREEN CARD WITHOUT EMPLOYER SPONSORSHIP? UNDERSTANDING THE PHYSICIAN NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER (NIW).**

Foreign-trained physicians who wish to practice in the United States often face complex immigration hurdles. For some, especially those willing to serve in medically underserved areas, there may be a direct pathway to lawful permanent residency (Green Card) without the need for traditional employer sponsorship.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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## **WHAT IF I DON'T FINISH MY STUDIES? BUSINESS IMMIGRATION OPTIONS FOR F-1 STUDENTS.**

Many international students enter the United States on an [F-1 visa](#) with hopes of completing their degree and launching a career. But what happens if things change — you pause your studies or decide that the academic path isn't right for you?

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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## **DOS VISA BULLETIN UPDATE: VISA BULLETIN FOR JULY 2025 - IF YOUR "PRIORITY DATE" IS CURRENT, PLEASE LET US KNOW?**

The July 2025 Visa Bulletin issued by the U.S. Department of State shows marginal forward movement in several employment and family-based categories. While some

categories remain unchanged, slight progression in others—particularly EB-3 for India and family-based F2A—offers cautious optimism for applicants. [Read more.](#)

[To view the current cutoff dates for each visa preference category and country of chargeability, please click here to access two charts provided by the U.S. Department of State's monthly visa bulletin.](#)

## CANADIAN IMMIGRATION LAW NEWS.

### UNDERSTANDING QUÉBEC'S NEW IMMIGRATION RULES: BILL 84 AND THE NATIONAL INTEGRATION MODEL

Québec has unveiled Bill 84, a landmark integration law that redefines the province's immigration and cultural policies. Unlike Canada's broader multicultural approach, Québec's National Integration Model prioritizes French language, shared democratic values, and civic participation.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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### CANADA'S 2025–26 IMMIGRATION OUTLOOK: 5 KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM PM CARNEY.

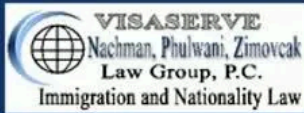
Canada's newly appointed Prime Minister, Mark Carney, is introducing a bold and balanced vision for immigration in 2025–26. His national priorities signal a shift toward smarter immigration strategies that align with the country's economic, security, and demographic goals.

[To read more, please click here . . .](#)

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## NPZ's Immigration Insights: New YouTube Series on U.S. & Canadian Law

### MARRIAGE-BASED GREEN CARD CHANGES: WHAT COUPLES NEED TO KNOW.

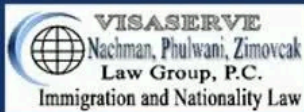


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## WARNING TO F-1 OPT STUDENTS: DON'T RISK SEVIS TERMINATION!



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**WELCOME BACK TO THE NPZ**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### U.S. Immigration Basics in the Trump/Vance Era and Beyond

Date: June 26, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: In-Person (New Jersey Law  
Center, New Brunswick), **OR** Online  
(zoom)

[Register Now!](#)

### Recent Developments in New Jersey Law 2025

July 22, 2025

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

Venue: [Online via Zoom](#)

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