



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

Dear Reader:

We bring you important updates that may significantly impact both employment- and family-based immigration pathways.

The Dignity Act of 2025, currently under review in Congress, proposes a potential lifeline for immigrants stuck in the green card backlog. If enacted, this bipartisan bill would allow applicants who have waited over 10 years to opt into a fast-track process by paying a \$20,000 premium fee—bypassing current visa bulletin delays. It also proposes raising the per-country cap to 15% and aims to eliminate the backlog by 2035. For nationals of high-demand countries like India and China, this legislation could bring long-overdue relief and certainty to their immigration journey.

In addition, a new Visa Bond Pilot Program will take effect on August 20, 2025. Under this rule, select B-1/B-2 visa applicants from countries with high overstay rates or weak identity screening—such as Malawi and Zambia—may be required to post refundable bonds of \$5,000, \$10,000, or \$15,000. The goal is to reduce visa overstay and strengthen U.S. border security. Bonds are paid electronically through Pay.gov and are returned upon full compliance with visa terms.

At NPZ Law Group, we are actively monitoring these changes and remain committed to helping our clients navigate the evolving immigration landscape. If you or your loved ones may be impacted, we encourage you to reach out to our team for personalized guidance and support.

We encourage you to stay informed as immigration policies continue to evolve. If

you have any questions about how these developments may affect your status, travel, or future in the U.S., please contact NPZ Law Group at info@visaserve.com or call 201-670-0006 (ext. 104). Our experienced team of U.S. and Canadian immigration attorneys is here to provide strategic, knowledgeable, and compassionate assistance.

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:

DIGNITY ACT OF 2025: A NEW \$20,000 FAST LANE TO GREEN CARDS FOR LONG-WAITING IMMIGRANTS.

A new bipartisan immigration bill introduced in Congress — the Dignity Act of 2025 (H.R. 4393) — could offer relief to immigrants who have been stuck in the green card backlog for over a decade. If passed, the bill would allow certain applicants to pay a \$20,000 premium fee to fast-track their green card applications and bypass the years-long wait many have endured.

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

CAN U.S. AGENTS FILE O-1 OR P-1 VISA PETITIONS? UNDERSTANDING USCIS RULES FOR MULTIPLE EMPLOYERS.

When it comes to U.S. immigration for artists, athletes, or entertainers, many beneficiaries work with multiple employers at the same time. This is especially common in industries such as music, sports, film, and live performance. So how can their immigration paperwork be streamlined?

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

NEW U.S. VISA RULE REQUIRES UP TO \$15,000 BOND FOR CERTAIN B-1/B-2 APPLICANTS.

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) has introduced a new 12-month Visa Bond Pilot Program that significantly impacts applicants seeking temporary visitor visas (B-1/B-2) from certain countries. Under the new rule, which will take effect on August 20, 2025, consular officers may now require selected applicants to post a visa bond of \$5,000, \$10,000, or \$15,000 as a condition of visa issuance.

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

MASSIVE IMMIGRATION FEE HIKES ANNOUNCED UNDER “ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT” — WHAT APPLICANTS MUST KNOW.

On July 4, 2025, President Trump signed the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” ushering in the most sweeping immigration fee increases in years. The law impacts asylum seekers, parolees, TPS applicants, and more, with many fees becoming effective immediately.

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

SEVIS FEE REMINDER FOR F-1, J-1, AND M-1 VISA APPLICANTS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IN 2025.

If you’re an international student, vocational trainee, or exchange visitor preparing for your U.S. journey, understanding the SEVIS fee process is essential. This update explains what the I-901 fee is, who needs to pay it, and how to stay compliant — so you can focus on your studies, not paperwork.

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

CAN YOU SPONSOR YOUR OWN H-1B? NEW 2025 RULES MAKE SELF-SPONSORED H-1BS A REALITY FOR ENTREPRENEURS.

The U.S. immigration system has long required that employers petition on behalf of foreign workers under the H-1B visa. But recent changes in 2025 are opening new doors for entrepreneurs — including those who own their own business.

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

USCIS UPDATES CSPA AGE CALCULATION POLICY USING FINAL ACTION DATES.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has issued a significant policy update that impacts how the age of certain dependent children is calculated under the Child Status Protection Act (CSPA). This change provides greater consistency for applicants applying for lawful permanent residency.

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

TRAVELING TO THE U.S. WITH A PENDING CRIMINAL CASE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.

Traveling to the U.S. with a pending criminal case is risky. Even without a conviction, U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers can refuse entry if they believe the charges are serious or present security concerns. This applies whether the case is in the U.S. or abroad. In many cases, it’s safer to delay travel until the matter is resolved and always seek guidance from both a criminal defense lawyer

and an immigration attorney before making plans.

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

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

The September 2025 Visa Bulletin arrives with minimal movement as the fiscal year comes to an end. Most Employment-Based and Family-Based categories remain unchanged from August, signaling that annual visa limits are near or already reached. Demand remains high, and some categories are already unavailable. Here's what you need to know. [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.

FOREIGN WORK EXPERIENCE WHILE STUDYING ABROAD: THE EXPRESS ENTRY ADVANTAGE.

Many Express Entry candidates don't realize that foreign skilled work experience gained while studying full-time abroad can still boost their CRS score—if it meets certain criteria. IRCC confirms that paid, skilled employment outside Canada during your studies counts toward Skill Transferability Factors, unlike Canadian work experience during school.

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

FRANCOPHONE IMMIGRATION TO SUDBURY: A DIRECT PATHWAY TO CANADIAN PERMANENT RESIDENCY.

French-speaking skilled workers can unlock a direct pathway to Canadian permanent residency through the Francophone Community Immigration Pilot (FCIP) in Greater Sudbury, Ontario.

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

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

**VISA INTERVIEW CHANGES: WHO MUST NOW APPEAR IN PERSON? |
U.S. EMBASSY POLICY SHIFT 2025.**



Ludka Zimovcak, Esq.
Managing Attorney

Visa Interview Changes: Who Must Appear In Person? U.S. Entry Policy Shift 2025



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CAN YOU SPONSOR YOUR OWN H-1B VISA THROUGH A STARTUP? | NEW 2025 SELF-SPONSORSHIP RULES EXPLAINED.



Snehal Batra, Esq.
Managing Attorney

Can You Sponsor Your Own H-1B Visa Through a Startup? | New 2025 Sponsorship Rules Explained



 **SUBSCRIBE**

UPCOMING EVENT

IMMIGRATION LAW IN 2025: ENFORCEMENT, POLICY SHIFTS, AND COMPLIANCE UNDER THE TRUMP-VANCE ADMINISTRATION

September 11, 2025

Time: 12:00pm-2:00pm

Venue: [Online via Zoom](#)

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