

News & Types:

Visa Bulletin for July 2016

6/15/2016

Practices: Immigration

Visa Bulletin for July 2016

The Department of State (DOS) released the monthly Visa Bulletin and below is a summary of green card Final Action Dates and Dates For Filing dates for employment-based immigrant visa categories for the month of July.

PLEASE NOTE: Per a new USCIS policy, a week after the Department of State (DOS) issues its monthly Visa Bulletin indicating immigrant visa availability for the next month, the USCIS will make its own separate determination on green card availability. If green cards are available for a certain category, the USCIS will post its own notice on its website at: www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo to alert immigrants applying in those categories with more availability, that they may use the Dates for Filing chart and not the Final Action Date chart. Thus immigrants may no longer rely on the DOS Visa Bulletin, but must wait one week after its publication and then look to the USCIS to see whether a green card is available to them.

GREEN CARD "DATES FOR FILING" AVAILABILITY DATES

Individuals with priority dates prior to the dates listed in the chart below are eligible to file their green card applications during the month of July.

Employment-based	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
2nd	CURRENT	01JUN13	01JUL09	CURRENT	CURRENT
3rd	CURRENT	01MAY15	01JUL05	CURRENT	01JAN10
Other Workers	CURRENT	01AUG09	01JUL05	CURRENT	01JAN10
4th	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
Certain Religious Workers	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
5th Non-Regional Center (C5 and T5)	CURRENT	01MAY15	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
5th Regional	CURRENT	01MAY15	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT

Center (I5 and R5)					
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GREEN CARD APPROVAL "FINAL ACTION DATES"

Individuals with priority dates prior to the dates listed in the chart below have a green card available to them during the month of July, therefore, the US government may take final action on their case.

Employment based	All Charge-ability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	EL SALVADOR GUATEMALA HONDURAS	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
2nd	CURRENT	01JAN10	CURRENT	01NOV04	CURRENT	CURRENT
3rd	01MAR16	01JAN10	01MAR16	22OCT04	01MAR16	15FEB09
Other Workers	01MAR16	01JAN04	01MAR16	22OCT04	01MAR16	15FEB09
4th	CURRENT	CURRENT	01JAN10	CURRENT	01JAN10	CURRENT
Certain Religious Workers	CURRENT	CURRENT	01JAN10	CURRENT	01JAN10	CURRENT
5th Non-Regional Center (C5 and T5)	CURRENT	15FEB14	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT
5th Regional Center (I5 and R5)	CURRENT	15FEB14	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT

Below is a summary of changes from the visa bulletin for last month for Final Action Dates:

- The EB-2 China category remains stalled at January 1, 2010.
- The EB-2 India category advances once month from October 1, 2004 to November 1, 2004.
- The EB-3 World and Mexico categories advance several weeks from February 15, 2016 to March 1, 2016.
- The EB-3 China category remains stalled at January 1, 2010.
- The EB-3 India category advances one month from September 22, 2004 to October 22, 2004.
- The EB-3 Philippines category advances several months from November, 1, 2008 to February 15, 2009.
- The EB-3 El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras categories advance several weeks from February 15, 2016 to March 1, 2016.
- The EB-5 China category remains stalled at February 15, 2014.

Month-to-month availability of immigrant visas varies and depends on many factors. The entire Visa Bulletin can be viewed at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/law-and-policy/bulletin/2016/visa-bulletin-for-july-2016.html>