UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
Office of Business Liaison

Public inquiries*: Employer hotline** 800-357-2099 **Fax** 202-305-2523 **E-mail** ***office.business.liaison@usdoj.gov
Order INS Forms 800-870-3676 **Website** ***www.usdoj.gov/ins/***

PREMIUM PROCESSING[1]

Payment of a $1000 fee, *in addition to standard processing fees*, will guarantee adjudication of a Form I-129 within 15 calendar days[2]. Request for premium processing may be filed concurrently with an I-129 or to expedite any pending Form I-129. Premium process applies to the following classifications:

As of June 1, 2001:	*As of July 30, 2001*
E-1/2	H-1B
H-2B	TN-1/2
H-3	R-1
L-1A/B	
O-1/2	
P-1/2/3	
Q-1	

Note: INS will also expedite Forms I-539 of dependents requesting extensions of stay, based on the principal alien beneficiaries' Forms I-129. The $1000 premium processing fee will include this service if the related forms are filed together.

WHAT AND WHERE TO FILE

New Form I-907 must be included in the I-129 submission. Instructions for the new form provide unique INS Service Center mailing and courier delivery addresses (see below), *for use in premium processing cases only.* The Service Center is determined according to filing instructions for the Form I-129.

FEES

The fee for this service, which may not be waived, is $1000 (see exceptions below). The premium processing fee must be submitted by a check or money order that is separate from payment of regularly applicable filing fees.

COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING PREMIUM PROCESSING REQUESTS

INS has established dedicated phone numbers and e-mail addresses for all four Service Centers, *for use of premium processing customers only*[3]. Calls and e-mails for non-premium processing cases will not be answered. To facilitate communications with customers, INS will also collect from the Form I-907 the phone numbers, fax numbers and e-mail addresses of requesting parties.

California Service Center Premium Processing phone line: (949) 831-8550
CSC.Premium.Processing@usdoj.gov

Nebraska Service Center Premium Processing phone line: (402) 474-5012
NSC.Premium.Processing@usdoj.gov

Texas Service Center Premium Processing phone line: (214) 275-4415
TSC.Premium.Processing@usdoj.gov

Vermont Service Center Premium Processing phone line: (802) 527-3192
VSC.PremiumProcessing@usdoj.gov

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[1] Premium processing is restricted by statute to employment-based submissions. INS will consider applying premium processing to other employment-based forms as the program matures.

[2] Processing period begins when the Form I-907 is delivered to the proper Service Center premium processing address and ends upon INS' mailing of a notice. This may be an approval, request for evidence, intent to deny, or notice of investigation for fraud or misrepresentation. If the notice requires submission of additional evidence, a new 15-day period will begin upon the delivery of a response to the Service Center. A refund will be initiated whenever one of these cases goes beyond the 15 day processing without some sort of action.

[3] The public may contact Service Centers using the dedicated e-mail addresses, with questions about premium processing. Use of the dedicated phone lines are restricted to parties with pending premium processing requests.

AVAILABILIY FOR CLASSIFICATIONS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL QUOTAS

Premium processing is not designed to give unfair advantage to entities that can pay the fee. Service Centers will process premium processing and expedite requests of petitions for all classifications in receipt order. Furthermore, availability of premium processing will terminate temporarily when it becomes clear that demand for a particular nonimmigrant classification will exceed the annual numerical limitation (e.g., pending cases are sufficient to meet the quota). Temporary termination of a designation of a nonimmigrant classification for Premium Processing Service, by publication of a notice *in the* ***Federal Register,*** will apply only to petitions[4] filed for the fiscal year in which the termination is announced.

TERMINATION OF STANDARD EXPEDITED PROCESSING FOR MOST CASES

Note! Regardless of circumstances, expedite requests will no longer be available to petitioners whose submissions are eligible for premium processing *unless a petitioner has been designated as a non-profit entity by the US Internal Revenue Service*[5]. *Non profit agencies must send a 1-page letter stating the reason(s) for the expedite request and attach supporting documentation.*

CRITERIA FOR STANDARD EXPEDITED PROCESSING *(effective April 20, 2000)*

Exception to general rule regarding expedited processing! Non-profit petitioners may continue to use the standard expedited processing procedures outlined below. Non-profit entities whose submissions do not meet the standard expedited processing criteria will be eligible nevertheless for fee-based premium processing.

1. Severe financial loss to company or individual
2. Extreme emergent situation
3. Humanitarian situation
4. Department of Defense or National Interest situation providing that request is submitted by US Government agency and states that delay will be detrimental to the Government of the United States
5. INS error

STANDARD PROCEDURES FOR SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS TO EXPEDITE PROCESSING

California Service Center
Mark the envelope with a red dot and send via bonded carrier to:
CSC
24000 Avila Road, 2nd floor, room 2302
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677.

Nebraska Service Center
Telephone expedite requests to (402)323-7830 or mail to the listed Post Office Box address for the requested form or petition.

Texas Service Center
Fax expedite requests to (214)489-4021.

Vermont Service Center
Telephone expedite requests to (802)527-4913.

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[4] When INS announces temporary termination of Premium Processing Service for a particular nonimmigrant classification, the Form I-907 and Premium Fee will be returned.

[5] Exemptions apply to government entities, which IRS designates as not for profit.