



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

H-1B Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Cap Season

NOTE: Information about the H-2B cap count has been moved and can now be found at www.uscis.gov/h-2b_count

The H-1B Program

U.S. businesses use the H-1B program to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise in specialized fields, such as scientists, engineers, or computer programmers.

For more information about the H-1B program, see the link to the left under temporary workers for H-1B Specialty Occupations, DOD Cooperative Research and Development Project Workers, and Fashion Models.

How USCIS Determines if an H-1B Petition is Subject to the FY 2011 Cap

We use the information provided in Part C of the H-1B Data Collection and Filing Fee Exemption Supplement (Form I-129, pages 14 through 15) to determine whether a petition is subject to the 65,000 H-1B numerical limitation (the "cap"). Some petitions are exempt from the cap under the advanced degree exemption provided to the first 20,000 petitions filed for a beneficiary who has obtained a U.S. master's degree or higher.

FY 2011 H-1B Cap Count

Cap Type	Cap Amount	Cap Eligible Petitions	Petition Target	Date of Last Count
H-1B Regular Cap	65,000	19,600		5/21/2010
H-1B Master's Exemption	20,000	8,200		5/21/2010