Time Estimates for Permanent Residency Approvals

These time estimates are general and can change without notice based on government processing times. These estimates DO NOT take into consideration any delays that are common due to the following factors:

- Immigrant visa backlogs for certain categories and for employees with certain citizenships. These delays can exceed several years.
- Security clearance delays on the part of the government. These delays can exceed 6 to 12 months
- Delays in receiving required information from the sponsoring department or international employee.

**PERM cases requiring re-advertising and re-recruitment: (EB-2 and EB-3)**

- Advertising, recruiting, assembling and filing the PERM application to the Department of Labor: 6 to 8 months
- Receiving PERM approval from the Department of Labor: 4 to 6 months
- Assembling and Filing the I-140 application: 1 to 2 months
- Receiving approval from USCIS on the I-140: 4 to 6 months
- Assembling and Filing the I-485 adjustment of status application (by the employee): 2 to 4 months
- Receiving approval of the I-485, and receipt of the “green card”: 6 to 8 months

**PERM cases NOT requiring re-advertising and re-recruitment: (EB-2 for teaching positions)**

- Assembling and filing the PERM application to the Department of Labor: 1 to 3 months
- Receiving PERM approval from the Department of Labor: 4 to 6 months
- Assembling and Filing the I-140 application: 1 to 2 months
- Receiving approval from USCIS on the I-140: 4 to 6 months
- Assembling and Filing the I-485 adjustment of status application (by the employee): 2 to 4 months
- Receiving approval of the I-485, and receipt of the “green card”: 6 to 8 months

**Outstanding Professor or Researcher: (EB-1)**

- Assembling and Filing the I-140 application: 2 to 5 months (this depends largely on how long it takes the employee to assemble all evidence)
- Receiving approval from USCIS on the I-140: 4 to 6 months
- Assembling and Filing the I-485 adjustment of status application (by the employee): 2 to 4 months
- Receiving approval of the I-485, and receipt of the “green card”: 6 to 8 months