

The E Visa

- **E-1 Treaty Countries (50% + in trade with the U.S. per year)**

- **Aruba**
- **Canada**
- **China**
- Ethiopia
- France
- Italy
- **Japan**
- **South Korea**
- **Mexico**
- Spain
- Philippines
- UK
- Yugoslavia

- **E-2 Treaty Countries (people who make U.S. investments)**

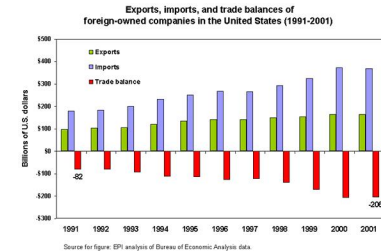
- **Canada**
- Costa Rica
- France
- **China**
- **Iran**
- Italy
- **South Korea**
- **Mexico**
- **Jamaica**
- Japan
- **Thailand**
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turkey

E-1 Visa

The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and immigration regulations define an E-1 Visa visitor as someone:

- Entitled to enter the United States under the provisions of a treaty between the United States and the foreign state of which he or she is a national;
- Coming to the U.S. solely to carry on trade of a substantial nature, including trade in services or trade in technology;
- Working either individually or as an employee of a foreign person or organization;
- Engaged in trade that is international in scope and principally between the United States and the foreign state of which he or she is a national; and
- The individual intends to depart the United States upon the expiration or termination of E-1 Visa treaty trader status.

E-1 Visa: Treaty Trader



- **Forms Required**

I-129 & Supplement E, Form G-28 (individual, and separate G-28 per family member), Form I-539, Form OF-156E

- **Documents Required**

1. Degrees and/or certificates
2. Resume and/or work experience letters showing individual is a director or executive of a foreign company
3. Invoices and Receipts showing amount of trade with the U.S.
4. Business Plan showing future projected trade with the U.S.
5. Passport
6. Form I-94

E-2 Investor Visa

- The **E2 Investor Visa** allows an individual to enter and work inside of the United States based on an investment he or she will be controlling, while inside the United States.
- This visa must be renewed every other year, but there is no limit to how many times one can renew.
- Investment must be "substantial." There is no minimum amount, but generally speaking, \$150,000 invested in the US is considered substantial.
- An investor must "contribute" to the US economy. (Setting up a small shop alone is not enough.)
- The investor must hire US citizens or residents. Generally, two employees are sufficient.

E-2 Visa: Investor



Forms Required:

I-129 & Supplement E, Form G-28 (individual, and separate G-28 per family member), Form I-539, Form OF-156E (same as E-1)

Documents Required by Investor:

1. Educational Degrees/Certificates
2. Proof of Income from other sources (besides U.S. investment)
3. Resume and/or work experience letters showing individual's ability to direct the enterprise.
4. Valid Passport of the applicant and all family members
5. 2 recent photos of applicant
6. Visa Application
7. Form I-94
8. Wire transfers from the foreign country
9. Certain Documents of the U.S. Company : Occupational license/permit to operate the U.S. Company; lease or deed for U.S. company; employer wage and tax report and quarterly income reports; IRS Form SS-4; Stock Certificate/Evidence of ownership; Bank letter/Articles of Incorporation; Financial Statement; Contracts/Sale and Purchase Receipts; Business Plan; Photos of the premises; brochures/ads

The L Visa: Generally

- An **L-1 visa** is a visa document used to enter the United States for the purpose of work in L-1 status.
- It is a non immigrant visa, and is valid for a relatively short amount of time - generally three years.
- L-1 visas are available to employees of an international company with offices in both a home country and the United States, or which intend to open a new office in the United States while maintaining their home country interests.
- The visa allows foreign workers to relocate to the corporation's US office after having worked abroad *continuously* for the company for at least one year prior to being granted L-1 status.
- The US office must be a parent company, child company, or sister company to the foreign company.

L1-A Visa-Intracompany Transferee

- Allows an intracompany executive or manager to come to the U.S. to establish a new business.
- The employee who is transferring must be acting in a managerial or executive capacity with the company.

Forms Required

I-129 & Supplement E, Form G-28 (individual, and separate G-28 per family member).

Documents Required by Transferee

1. Educational Degrees/Certificates
2. Resume and/or work experience letters showing individual's ability to direct the enterprise.
3. Certain Documents of the U.S. Company: Generally—proof of ability to do business in U.S.; wage and financial information; Articles of incorporation; contracts and/or sales receipts
4. Certain Documents Pertaining to the Foreign Company: Generally—financial records, Articles of Association, Organizational Chart, Employee Duty List, Utility Bills
5. Passport of Applicant
6. Form I-94

L1-B Visa—Specialized Knowledge Employee

- Allows a person with a specialized knowledge to come to the U.S. to work for a qualifying U.S. Company.
- It must be proved that the specialty is difficult to be performed by other people and necessary for the operation of the development of the business in the U.S.

Forms Required

Same as the L1-A Requirements

Documents Required

Same as the L1-A Requirements

2006 Top 10 Companies Using L-1 Visas

Rank	Company	Headquarters	Primary Employment Base	L-1 Visa Received
1	Tata Consultancy Services Ltd	Mumbai, India	India	4,887
2	Cognizant Technology Solutions	New Jersey	India	3520
3	IBM	Armonk, NY	USA	1237
4	Satyam	Hyderabad, India	India	950
5	Wipro	Bangalore, India	India	839
6	Hindustan Computers Ltd.	India	India	511
7	Deloitte & Touche LLP	New York	USA	512
8	Patni Computer Systems	India	India	440
9	Intel, Corp	Santa Clara, CA	USA	394
10	Kanbay	Chicago, Pune, Hyderabad, & Chennai	India	329