USCIS Expedited Application Requests

United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) reviews all expedite requests on a case-by-case basis and requests are granted at the discretion of the office leadership. The burden is on the applicant or petitioner to demonstrate that one or more of the expedite criteria have been met.

USCIS may expedite a petition or application if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Severe financial loss to company or person;
- Emergency situation;
- Humanitarian reasons;
- Nonprofit organization whose request is in furtherance of the cultural and social interests of the United States;
- Department of Defense or national interest situation (These particular expedite requests must come from an official U.S. government entity and state that delay will be detrimental to the government.);
- USCIS error; or
- Compelling interest of USCIS.

To make a request to expedite the processing of a domestically filed application or petition, the customer should contact the National Customer Service Center (NCSC) at 1-800-375-5283. The NCSC forwards the Service Request to the office with jurisdiction over the application or petition.

Customers may also visit a local office by scheduling an InfoPass appointment or writing a letter to the field office or service center. Applicants or petitioners overseas should submit their requests directly to the USCIS office with jurisdiction over their applications or petitions; contact information for overseas USCIS offices is provided on the USCIS website.

Approval of such requests is discretionary and USCIS reserves the right to request documentation supporting the request to expedite an application or petition.

Starting April 3, 2017, USCIS temporarily **suspended** premium processing for all H-1B petitions. This suspension may last up to 6 months. USCIS will notify the public before resuming premium processing for H-1B petitions.

For more information, visit the USCIS Expedite Criteria landing page or the USCIS Policy Manual, Chapter 12.