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Client Alert: USCIS Releases Deadlines for H-1B Cap Initial Registration

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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) updated employers and immigration practitioners regarding important dates for the upcoming H-1B lottery registration. This year, the online registration period for the H-1B lottery will begin on March 7 at 12:00 pm (EST) and run through March 24 at 12:00 pm (EST). Employers and their attorneys must wait until March 7 to enter beneficiary information and submit the registration fee. Below is a chart of important dates for your reference:

March 7	H-1B registration period opens at noon EST.
March 24	H-1B registration period closes at noon EST.
March 31	Date by which USCIS intends to notify selected registrants.

Prospective H-1B cap-subject petitioners or their representatives are required to use a USCIS online account to register each beneficiary electronically for the selection process. Starting this year, the associated filing fee for each H-1B registration submitted is increasing to \$215. If you are an H-1B petitioning employer who does not have a USCIS online account, you will need to create an organizational account. Our office is ready to assist you with this process.

Required employer information needed to register:

- Name
- Primary address
- Federal Employer ID Number (FEIN)
- An authorized signatory's contact information

Required Foreign National information needed to register:

- Name
- Gender
- Date of birth
- Country of birth and citizenship

- Passport number
- Whether the individual has at least a master's degree from a U.S. institution of higher education

Additionally, USCIS will require registrants to provide valid passport information or valid travel document information. The passport or travel document provided must be the one the beneficiary, if or when abroad, intends to use to enter the United States if issued an H-1B visa. Each beneficiary must only be registered under one passport or travel document.

What to do if you have a candidate for the H-1B lottery

Please reach out to Shumaker's Immigration team if you would like a review of potential eligibility. Our team can advise on H-1B eligibility, help prepare your candidate for registration, and advise on future visa eligibility.

Continue to check back with us for updates. In the meantime, we are available to assist with your immigration needs. For more information, please reach out to a member of Shumaker's Immigration team.

Tags: H-1B, H-1B lottery, H-1B registration