

USCIS implements premium processing for certain previously filed petitions

Beginning on June 1, 2022, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) began implementing premium processing for certain petitioners who have a pending Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Workers, under the EB-1 and EB-2 classifications. According to the [announcement](#), the expansion of premium processing applies only to previously filed I-140 petitions in the E13 "multinational executive or manager" classification and the E21 "member of a profession with an advanced degree or exceptional ability seeking a national waiver (NIW)" classification. Petitioners in these categories can ask USCIS to upgrade their cases by filing Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service, and paying the premium processing fee. Upgraded cases will be processed on an expedited basis, as described below.

The expansion will be rolled out in two phases:

- Beginning on June 1, 2022, USCIS will accept premium processing upgrade requests for E13 multinational executive and manager petitions filed on or before January 1, 2021.
- Beginning on July 1, 2022, USCIS will accept premium processing upgrade requests for E21 NIW petitions received on or before June 1, 2021 and E13 multinational executive or manager petitions received on or before March 1, 2021.

USCIS went on to say that it will continue to work toward expanding premium processing for other petitions and applications, including Form I-539 (Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status) and Form I-765 (Application for Employment Authorization). The agency also noted that it will not accept new (initial) Forms I-140 with premium processing requests at this time.

On May 23, 2022, USCIS published a new version of Form I-907, dated 05/31/22. For the month of June, USCIS will accept both the 09/30/20 and the 05/31/22 editions of Form I-907. Starting July 1, USCIS will reject the older 09/30/20 edition of Form I-907.

USCIS is expanding premium processing to additional form types as part of the efforts to increase efficiency and reduce burdens to the overall legal immigration system.

What is premium processing?

Premium processing is an optional service that provides expedited processing for certain forms filed with USCIS in exchange for a fee that is added on top of the standard filing fee. Currently, premium processing is available only to petitioners filing Form I-129, Petition for an Alien Worker (used for H-1Bs and similar cases) and certain employment-based immigrant visa petitioners. The premium processing fee is currently \$2,500. All applicants for premium processing must pay this additional fee and file Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service.