XIPHIAS Immigration

COUNTRY BROCHURE



CORPORATE MOBILITY | COUNTRY GUIDE

United States Corporate Mobility

Expand, innovate, and build your U.S. presence — corporate pathways for executives, managers, and entrepreneurs.

PROGRAMMES	CAPITAL	CURRENCY	LANGUAGE
2	Washington D.C.	USD	English

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Updated 1 October 2026

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United States at a glance

CAPITAL **Washington D.C.**	POPULATION **335,000,000**
LANGUAGE **English**	CURRENCY **USD**
TIME ZONE **UTC-5 to UTC-10**	CLIMATE **Varies by region**
PROGRAMMES WE ADVISE ON **2**	LAST UPDATED **1 October 2026**

Overview

The United States is the world’s largest economy and a leading hub for business expansion, innovation, and investment. Through programs like the L1 Visa and O1 Visa, companies can transfer executives or entrepreneurs to establish and grow U.S. operations. These corporate pathways enable access to the U.S. market, business-friendly policies, and long-term residency options.

Key points

- L1 and O1 visas enable U.S. business expansion for executives and entrepreneurs.
- Transfer key talent or establish a new U.S. entity under clear corporate visa routes.
- Access the world’s largest economy with pathways to permanent residency.

Programmes in United States



USA L1 Corporate Transfer Visa

Transfer to your employer's US arm after a year abroad. No cap, no lottery, and L-1A feeds directly into the EB-1C green card — India's second-fastest employment route.

4 months (XIPHIAS average)



USA O1 Entrepreneur Visa

No cap, no lottery, no USD 100,000 payment and no per-country queue. For a genuinely strong record, O-1A is now the cleanest fast route into the United States.

3 months (XIPHIAS average)

What is actually open to an Indian national, October 2026

Ranked by the realistic wait for an Indian national:

Route	India position	Verdict
EB-5 set-asides — rural, high unemployment, infrastructure	**Current — no queue**	USD 800,000. The only employment-based route with no India wait, and concurrent I-485 filing is available
O-1A	No queue (nonimmigrant)	No cap, no lottery, no USD 100,000 payment. The cleanest fast route for a strong record
L-1A / L-1B	No queue (nonimmigrant)	Needs a year with the employer group abroad. L-1A feeds EB-1C
EB-1A / EB-1B / EB-1C	01 Feb 2023 — about 3 yr 8 mo	The fastest green card open to Indians without an investment. The evidentiary bar is high
EB-5 unreserved	01 Dec 2023 — about 2 yr 10 mo	USD 1,050,000. Usually worth choosing a set-aside project instead
H-1B	No queue, but heavily restricted	A USD 100,000 payment applies to petitions for people abroad. FY2027 cap closed; next window about March 2027
EB-2 NIW	01 Nov 2013 — about **12 yr 11 mo**	Worth filing to hold a priority date; not a near-term route to a green card
EB-3	01 Jan 2014 — about **12 yr 9 mo**	Holds a priority date; the India queue is long

One thing to be clear about: the E-2 visa

India is not a US treaty country. It appears nowhere in the State Department's treaty countries table, for either E-1 or E-2. An Indian passport holder **cannot obtain an E-2 treaty investor visa on Indian nationality** — at least half the US enterprise must be owned by nationals of a treaty country.

Some Indian families do reach E-2 by first acquiring a qualifying second citizenship, for example Grenada or Turkey. That is a legitimate two-step plan with its own cost and timeline, and we are happy to map it out. An E-2 application on Indian nationality alone is not possible.

{/ restored from the 2019–2026 site /}

Employer Sanctions

We represent companies who are being audited by the U.S. Immigration & Custom Enforcement (ICE) or who are conducting a self-audit regarding the legal work eligibility of its workforce and compliance with the appropriate documentation of such legal work eligibility (Forms I-9).

Set up a Company in US

For most non-residents, international tax law, getting visas and opening a bank account present the most problems. While a non-resident will have to go through all the same steps as a resident, there are additional complications.

How the application works

1. **Choose the right U.S. corporate visa — L1 for executives or O1 for extraordinary talent.**
2. **Register your U.S. business entity and prepare required documentation.**
3. **File Form I-129 with USCIS and attend the consular visa interview (DS-160).**
4. **Receive approval, activate visa status, and begin U.S. business operations.**
5. **Apply for dependent visas after the principal’s approval.**

General requirements

- Valid passport (minimum 6 months validity).
- L1: Proof of qualifying company relationship and executive/managerial role.
- O1: Evidence of extraordinary ability and U.S. job offer or contract.
- Business plan and basic office setup documents for new entities.
- Recent financials, tax returns, and registration certificates as proof of operations.
- Completed USCIS forms (I-129, DS-160) with required government fees.

Sectors in demand

- Technology
- Finance
- Healthcare

Questions clients ask

What are the main U.S. corporate visa options?

The L1 Visa supports intra-company transfers for executives and managers, while the O1 Visa is for entrepreneurs or professionals with extraordinary ability.

How long does the U.S. visa process take?

XIPHIAS's own observed average is about 4 months for an L-1 and 3 months for an O-1. Premium processing (USD 2,965) gives a USCIS response on Form I-129 within 15 business days; consular appointment availability adds time.

Can my family join me in the U.S.?

Yes. Spouses and children under 21 can accompany you in L-2 or O-3 status. L-2 spouses can work in the US.

Is there a minimum investment for L1 or O1?

No fixed minimum, but applicants must show genuine business operations and financial capacity.

Can L1 or O1 visa holders get a Green Card?

Yes. L1A visa holders may apply via EB-1C, and O1 professionals can transition through EB-1A for permanent residency.

Official sources: US Department of State — Visa Bulletin for October 2026; US Department of State — treaty countries; Electronic Code of Federal Regulations — 8 CFR 204.5; Electronic Code of Federal Regulations — 8 CFR 106.2 (USCIS fee schedule); Federal Register — Proclamation 11069 extending the H-1B entry restriction.



XIPHIAS Immigration

NEXT STEP

Discuss your United States options with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will compare the United States routes that fit you, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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CREDENTIALS

- Advising clients on global mobility since 2009; XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC in Dubai since 2017.
- Named Best Immigration Consultant by The Times of India in 2022.
- Canada files handled by a CICC-licensed Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, licence R516194.
- Australia files handled by a registered migration agent, MARA 1680615.

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