



The Madness and Stupidity of Reciprocity and Visa Validity Periods

Recently, the U.S. randomly decided to lower the E-2 visa validity from 60 months to 18 months for Danish citizens. The E-2 visa is one which is used by many entrepreneurs launching U.S. companies as well as...

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H-1B Alternatives

The annual lottery for H-1B visas is closed, and there is no guarantee that any of those 855,000 spots will open back up, so employers dead-set on hiring foreign professionals must think of alternatives. Here are a few:

1. If the person is outside the U.S., J-1 visas are great and usually can be used for 18 months, which bridges the candidates not only into next year's H-1B lottery but also past the Oct 1, 2023 start date, which allows the candidates to change status within the U.S.
2. If the person is in the U.S., a change of status to an H-3 training visa can serve as a great bridge to the H-1b in 2023 and the person does not have to leave the U.S.
3. If the person has recognition in their field, they may qualify for an O-1 visa based on extraordinary ability. The O-1 is very diverse and the O-1A category applies to all non-artistic fields, including science and business. O-1 status can be granted for 3 years with unlimited renewals. Doing an in-depth analysis of

the person's specific scenario is required and this much more nuanced than an H-1B, but the requirements are clear and cases can be built up over time to meet any deficient categories before being submitted.

It is important to note that green card/employment-based immigrant visa processes are SEPARATE from the above, and if the candidate is on Optional Practical Training with a 3-year STEM period, there is enough to do a PERM case for them and an immigrant visa petition as well within that window, while always maintaining their underlying status with the above visa statuses if you are not successful in the H-1B lottery.

If you have any questions, simply reply and ask.



Video Testimonial

We are thankful for our amazing clients who are kind enough to explain their process and successful journey with us at SMA Law Firm led by Steve Maggi, an immigration expert.

[Click here to watch the full testimonial](#)

Building The Bridge With Tech Lawyer Anne Wolfson



In this episode, SMA Law Firm Founder Steve Maggi talks with Business and Tech Lawyer Anne Wolfson about the role empathy plays when working with foreign business nationals.



In this episode, SMA Law Firm Founder Steve Maggi talks with Business and Tech Lawyer Anne Wolfson about how to set up a foreign business in the US from your native country.

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A Tribute to the Life and Work of The Amazing Joan Maggi

My Mother, the great artist Joan Maggi passed away on January 14, 2001, leaving a powerful legacy and a collection of beautiful art. Without the economic means to store each painting that she created, the artist was forced to paint over many pieces but had the foresight to take photos/slides of the pieces.

I created a virtual gallery as a tribute to her, with the purpose of sharing her marvelous art with the world. Please click the link below, share with others and enjoy!

Please check out joanmaggi.com. Thank you.



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