

Immigration alert

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► This Alert will highlight the fee increases for some of the most popular petitions and applications.

US IMMIGRATION FILING FEES TO INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY ON JULY 30, 2007

► **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** Any person who is considering sponsoring a relative, changing or extending their nonimmigrant status, applying for a green card, or seeking U.S. citizenship should act quickly to avoid these large fee increases.

The United States Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, recently announced that a significant increase in government filing fees for nonimmigrant and immigrant benefits petitions/applications is necessary to "maintain critical business functions, properly address fraud and national security issues, or process incoming applications and petitions in a timely manner."

The following is a summary of the fee schedule that will apply to all petitions and applications filed on or after July 30, 2007:

Form	Current Fee	Final Fee
I-129 Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker	\$190.00	\$320.00
I-130 Petition for Alien Relative	\$190.00	\$355.00
I-131 Application for Travel Document	\$170.00	\$305.00
I-140 Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker	\$195.00	\$475.00
I-765 Application for Employment Authorization	\$180.00	\$340.00
I-485 Application for Adjustment of Status for Applicants Over the Age of 14	\$325.00	\$1,010.00**
I-485 Application for Adjustment of Status for Applicants Under the Age of 14 Who Are Filing with at Least One Parent	\$225.00	\$600.00
N-400 Application for Naturalization	\$330.00	\$675.00*

* Note that this filing fee includes an \$80.00 biometrics fee.

** Note that this filing fee includes an \$80.00 biometrics fee. The fee also covers filing fees for the interim benefits of work authorization (I-765) and travel permission (I-131). However, there is no reduction in the I-485 filing fee if the applicant chooses not to apply for work or travel permission or both.

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Jill A. Apa is an Immigration Associate in the firm's Labor & Employment Department. Ms. Apa has written numerous legal articles and edited treatise chapters on various immigration issues for local and national publications, including AILA, the *Buffalo Law Journal*, *The Daily Record*, and *The Homeland Security Deskbook* and *The Immigration Law and Procedure Desk Edition*. Additionally, Ms. Apa serves each week as a moderator on an immigration law internet chat hosted by Lawyers.com and provides frequent guidance on the Lawyers.com Immigration Community Message Board.

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