

# O VISA



O visas are designed for designed for individuals with extraordinary ability related to their employment and, as a result, they only apply to very specific workers.

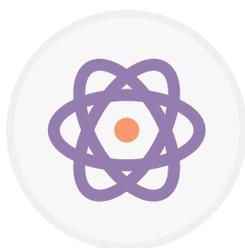
This section will cover:

- 1 O-1: Individuals with Extraordinary Ability or Achievement**

## O-1: INDIVIDUALS WITH EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY OR ACHIEVEMENT

### Who's Eligible

The special visa classification is for people who possess extraordinary ability in the **sciences, arts, education, business and athletics**.



**Extraordinary ability** means the person has risen to the very top of the field of endeavor and is known internationally or nationally for his or her achievements.

### CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT

To obtain an O-1 visa, a written advisory opinion might be required in the application from a peer group (including labor organizations) or a person designated by the group with expertise in the beneficiary's area of specialization. Not all O-1 visas require this.

## Validity Period



INITIAL STAY

**3 years**



RENEWALS

Unlimited extensions granted up to

**1 year**



TOTAL STAY

**Varies**

## Future Plans

We recommend that you speak to your attorney if the temporary nature of the assignment changes.

## Government Fees

**Petition filing fee: \$460**

**Premium processing:** Employers can pay the **\$2,500 premium processing fee** when available and USCIS will adjudicate the O-1 petition, meaning they are required to approve, issue a Request for Evidence (RFE) or deny the visa petition **within 15 calendar days**.

## Dependents

**Spouses and unmarried children 21 years of age and under may accompany the O-1 holder** with an O-3 nonimmigrant dependent visa classification. They are not authorized to work and cannot apply for work authorization as an O-3 dependent. However, they are allowed to study.



## Employer Document Checklist

- Job description
- Copy of company letterhead
- Financial statements or annual report
- Catalogs, brochures, or other types of marketing literature
- Employment contract

## Employee Document Checklist

- Form I-94\* Arrival/Departure Record
- Passport
- Previous visa stamps, if any
- All previous Form I-797 Approval Notices, if any
- Documentation evidencing beneficiary's extraordinary ability (note: this is tailored for each applicant; please consult an attorney for a personalized checklist).
- Recommendation letters
- Payroll paycheck stubs for the last two pay periods\*
- Resume or curriculum vitae

\*If inside the U.S. and applying for an extension

## KEY EMPLOYER TAKEAWAYS

- ❗ The O-2 visa, sometimes referred to as the “entourage visa,” allows O-1 holders to have managers, assistants and other aides travel with them.
- ❗ Premium processing is available for this visa category.
- ❗ Dependents may accompany the O-1 holder. They aren't authorized to work, but can study.



**855-840-8046**



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