


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.

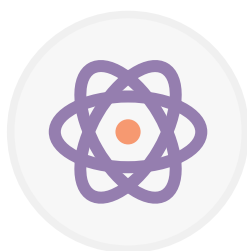
This section will cover:

- 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.



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