



# GMS Flash Alert

## Immigration Edition

2019-033 | February 21, 2019



## United States - Premium Processing Resumes for Some 2018 H-1B Petitions

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has now resumed premium processing for [petitions](#) filed on or before December 21, 2018.<sup>1</sup> This service had been suspended for most H-1B petition case types since September 11, 2018.<sup>2</sup> Employers can now upgrade those pending H-1B cases eligible for service under premium processing for an additional fee of \$1,410.

---

### WHY THIS MATTERS

Employers and beneficiaries should consider using the USCIS premium processing service to expedite the adjudication of pending H-1B cases in cases requiring urgent approval to facilitate international travel or driver's license renewal. If seeking to file a premium processing upgrade for a petition which has been transferred a different service center, Form I-907, *Request for Premium Processing Service*, and the requisite filing fee should be submitted along with a copy of the transfer notice to the service center currently handling the case.

Premium processing remains suspended for the following H-1B case types filed on or after December 22, 2018:

- H-1B Extension petitions
  - H-1B Amendment petitions
  - H-1B Change of Employer petitions
  - H-1B New Not Subject to H-1B Cap petitions
-

## Context

Premium processing is an optional service offered by the USCIS that allows for expedited processing for certain employment-based petitions and applications.

The USCIS guarantees a 15 calendar-day processing time to those petitioners or applicants who submit a Form I-907 and remit the government filing fee of \$1,410. With this, the H-1B petition should be approved, denied, or a request for evidence (RFE) will be issued within the 15-day premium processing period. The 15-calendar-day period begins when USCIS receives the completed Form I-907 and filing fee at the correct service center. If an RFE is issued, the final adjudication will occur within 15 days of receipt of the RFE response by USCIS.

---

## KPMG LAW LLP NOTE

USCIS has not yet announced a timeline for resuming premium processing in all cases or whether premium processing will be available for the FY20 H-1B Cap season.

KPMG Law LLP in Canada will continue to monitor the situation, and will endeavor to keep GMS *Flash Alert* readers informed as developments occur.

---

## FOOTNOTES:

- 1 See: <https://www.uscis.gov/news/news-releases/uscis-resumes-premium-processing-h-1b-petitions-filed-or-dec-21-2018>.
- 2 For prior coverage, see GMS [Flash Alert 2018-116](#), (August 31, 2018)

\* \* \* \*

## Contact us

For additional information or assistance, please contact your local GMS or People Services professional\* or one of the following professionals with the KPMG International member firm in Canada:



**Asha Sairah George**  
**Manager/Attorney**  
**U.S. Immigration**

KPMG Law LLP – Tax + Immigration,  
Canada

Tel. +1-416-943-7816

[ashasairahgeorge@kpmg.ca](mailto:ashasairahgeorge@kpmg.ca)



**Laura Ordenez**  
**Senior Immigration Coordinator**  
**U.S. Immigration**

KPMG Law LLP – Tax + Immigration,  
Canada

Tel. +1-416-943-7798

[lordonoz@kpmg.ca](mailto:lordonoz@kpmg.ca)

*\* Please note that KPMG LLP (U.S.) does not provide any immigration services. However, KPMG Law LLP in Canada can assist clients with U.S. immigration matters.*

**The information contained in this newsletter was submitted by the KPMG International member firm in Canada.**

© 2019 KPMG Law LLP, a tax and immigration law firm affiliated with KPMG LLP, each of which is a Canadian limited liability partnership. KPMG LLP is a Canadian limited liability partnership and a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity. All rights reserved.

[www.kpmg.com](http://www.kpmg.com)

[kpmg.com/socialmedia](http://kpmg.com/socialmedia)



© 2019 KPMG LLP, a Delaware limited liability partnership and the U.S. member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. NDPPS 530159

The KPMG name and logo are registered trademarks or trademarks of KPMG International.

The KPMG logo and name are trademarks of KPMG International. KPMG International is a Swiss cooperative that serves as a coordinating entity for a network of independent member firms. KPMG International provides no audit or other client services. Such services are provided solely by member firms in their respective geographic areas. KPMG International and its member firms are legally distinct and separate entities. They are not and nothing contained herein shall be construed to place these entities in the relationship of parents, subsidiaries, agents, partners, or joint venturers. No member firm has any authority (actual, apparent, implied or otherwise) to obligate or bind KPMG International or any member firm in any manner whatsoever. The information contained in herein is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavor to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.

Flash Alert is a GMS publication of KPMG LLP's Washington National Tax practice. To view this publication or recent prior issues online, please click [here](#). To learn more about our GMS practice, please visit us on the Internet: click [here](#) or go to <http://www.kpmg.com>.