



GMS Flash Alert

Immigration

2024-089 | April 15, 2024



United States – May 2024 Visa Bulletin

The May 2024 *Visa Bulletin* released by the U.S. Department of State (DOS) reflects minimal movement in employment-based cut-off dates relative to the April 2024 *Visa Bulletin*.¹ Also, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will continue to accept Forms I-485, *Applications to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status*, for all employment-based preference categories based on the Final Action Dates chart next month.²

WHY THIS MATTERS

Congress limits the number of immigrant visas (“green cards”) which may be issued each year. A per-country limit of 7 percent of the annual quota of available employment-based immigrant visas applies. Each month, the DOS releases a *Visa Bulletin* indicating the availability of statutorily-limited visas for prospective immigrants.

The cut-off dates reflected in the *Visa Bulletin*, coupled with USCIS’ confirmation of which chart will apply, dictate eligibility to file a Form I-485 application in each month. In addition, the Final Action Dates chart in the applicable *Visa Bulletin* determines whether a pending Form I-485 or immigrant visa application may be approved.

In the April 2024 *Visa Bulletin*, DOS indicated that there will be no forward movement in cut-off dates for employment-based immigrant visa categories between May 1, 2024 and September 30, 2024, and retrogression may be possible.³ (For prior coverage, see [GMS Flash Alert 2024-063](#), March 19, 2024.) Accordingly, most employment-based categories remain unchanged in the May 2024 *Visa Bulletin*. As very-little-to-no forward movement in employment-based cut-off dates is expected in the upcoming months with a potential for retrogression, it is recommended that eligible applicants submit an I-485 application without delay.

Employment-Based Preference Category Cut-Off Dates

Cut-Off Dates for Dates of Filing Chart for May 2024

EB-1: All countries of chargeability except the People’s Republic of China (“China”) and India will remain

current. The cut-off date for China remains at January 1, 2023, and the cut-off date for India remains at April 1, 2021.

EB-2: The cut-off dates for all countries except China and India remain February 15, 2023. The cut-off for China will stay at June 1, 2020, and the cut-off for India remains at May 15, 2012.

EB-3 Professional and Skilled Workers: The cut-off dates for all countries of chargeability except China, India, and the Philippines remain February 1, 2023. China's cut-off date will stay at July 1, 2021, India's cut-off date will stay at September 15, 2012, and the Philippines' cut-off date will stay at January 1, 2023.

EB-3 Other Workers: All countries of chargeability except China, India, and the Philippines will have cut-off dates of December 15, 2020. China's cut-off date will remain June 1, 2017, India's cut-off date will remain at September 15, 2012, and the Philippines' cut-off date will also remain at May 15, 2020.

EB-4: The cut-off dates for all countries will stay at December 1, 2020.

Certain Religious workers: The cut-off dates for all countries remain at December 1, 2020.

EB-5: Cut-off dates are current for all countries, except for the C5, T5, I5, and R5 (i.e., 5th Unreserved) programs for China and India. The 5th Unreserved cut-off date for China remains at January 1, 2017, and the 5th Unreserved cut-off date for India remains at April 1, 2022.

Cut-Off Dates for Dates of Final Action Chart for May 2024⁴

EB-1: All countries of chargeability except China and India will be current. The cut-off date for China remains at September 1, 2022, and for India, the cut-off date remains at March 1, 2021.

EB-2: The cut-off dates for all countries except China and India will stay at January 15, 2023. The cut-off for China will remain at February 1, 2020, and the cut-off for India will remain at April 15, 2012.

EB-3 Professional and Skilled Workers: The cut-off dates for all countries of chargeability except China and India will stay at November 22, 2022. China's cut-off date will remain at September 1, 2020, and India's cut-off date will also remain at August 15, 2012.

EB-3 Other Workers: All countries of chargeability except China, India, and the Philippines will stay at October 8, 2020. China's cut-off date will remain at January 1, 2017, India's cut-off date will remain at August 15, 2012, and the cut-off date for the Philippines will remain at May 1, 2020.

EB-4: The cut-off dates for all countries will remain at November 1, 2020.

Certain Religious workers: The cut-off dates for all countries are November 1, 2020.

EB-5: Final Action Dates are current for all countries, except for the C5, T5, I5, and R5 (i.e., 5th Unreserved) programs for China and India. The 5th Unreserved cut-off date for China will remain at December 15, 2015, and the cut-off date for India remains at December 1, 2020.

FOOTNOTES:

1 U.S. Department of State [website](#).

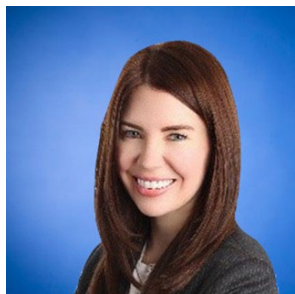
2 See the "[Adjustment of Status Filing Charts from the Visa Bulletin](#)" page on the USCIS website.

3 U.S. Department of State [website](#).

4 U.S. Department of State [website](#).

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