

**FULLCONTECH FALL 2017**

# VISA TYPES

The US has different types of visas for temporary immigrant workers and students. Here are visas the technology and agriculture industries use most often:

## **H-1B: PERSON IN SPECIALTY OCCUPATION**

For a worker in a highly specialized job. The person must have a bachelor's degree or higher in that specialty. Specialized jobs are often in science, engineering, and IT.

## **H-2A: TEMPORARY AGRICULTURAL WORKER**

For a temporary or seasonal agricultural worker. This visa is only granted to people from specific countries.

## **H-4: FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE H-1B WORKER**

For the spouse and unmarried children (under the age of 21) of someone with an H-1B visa. The Family Member visa is valid for the same period as the H-1B visa and prohibits employment in the U.S.

## **H-1B1: FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (FTA) PROFESSIONAL - CHILE, SINGAPORE**

For a worker from Chile or Singapore who is employed in a specialty occupation. This visa requires a post-secondary degree involving at least four years of study, like a PhD, in the specialty field.

## **L-1: INTRACOMPANY TRANSFEREE**

For a person to work at a branch, parent, affiliate, or subsidiary of their current employer as a manager, executive, or other role that requires specialized knowledge. This visa requires the person to be employed by the same employer abroad continuously for 1 year within the three preceding years.

## **L-2: DEPENDENTS OF L-1 VISA HOLDERS**

For the spouse and unmarried children (under the age of 21) of an L-1 visa-holder. This visa is valid for the same period as the L-1 visa and does allow employment in the U.S. with an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), also known as a "work permit."

## **F-1: ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE STUDENTS**

For a person attending a U.S. university, college, high school, private elementary school, seminary, conservatory, or other academic institution, including a language training program.

## **OPT: OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING**

For an F-1 visa holder working in their major area of study. Students can apply for OPT during or after completing their academic studies, but before they apply, they must have been enrolled in school for one full academic year. OPT employment lasts a maximum of 12 months.

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