

AUGUST VISA AVAILABILITY

The bulletin issued by the Visa Office of the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the U.S. Department of State gives the following availability position for issuance of immigrant visas during August 2005:

Persons Chargeable to India

Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	Apr 08, 2001
2nd Preference	
2A	Jul 22, 2001
2B	Jan 22, 1996
3rd Preference	Feb 01, 1998
4th Preference	Feb 22, 1993

Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Current
3rd Preference	Unavailable
Schedule A Workers	Current
Other Workers	Unavailable
4 th Preference	Current
Certain Religious	
Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp	
Areas	Current

Persons Chargeable to Other Countries

For other chargeability areas, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, and the nations of Africa, the cut-off dates for August 2005 are:

Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	Apr 08, 2001
2nd Preference	
2A	Jul 22, 2001
2B	Jan 01, 1996
3rd Preference	Feb 01, 1998
4th Preference	Oct 08, 1993

Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Current
3rd Preference	Unavailable
Schedule A Workers	Current
Other Workers	Unavailable
4th Preference	Current
Certain Religious	
Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp	
Areas	Current

PERM CHIEF TRANSFERRED

Foreign Labor Certification Division Chief William L. Carlson will leave the Division effective October 1, 2005. Office of National Programs Administrator John R. Beverly (current boss of Mr. Carlson) will assume responsibility for the Foreign Labor Certification programs.

PERM has suffered a number of problems such as initially denying 100% of PERM applications. PERM's emphasis on employer registration is believed by some to be a violation under the Administrative Procedures Act. Foreign Labor Certification Division encourages everyone to submit Applications for Permanent Employment Certification [ETA Form 9089] electronically. PERM of course allows employers to retain an attorney to represent them. Some employers who may not be technically oriented may indeed need to retain an attorney.

PERM will likely continue to have teething troubles in the coming days and months.