

USCIS Suspends Interviews and Premium Processing for Cap H-1B Cases, Consulates Suspend or Limit Visa Interviews

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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [announced temporary suspension until April 1](#) of all in-person activities at local offices including biometric appointments, permanent residence interviews, asylum hearings and naturalization ceremonies. USCIS will send notices to affected applicants rescheduling.

USCIS also [announced suspension of premium processing on cap H-1B petitions](#). The new H-1B registration period closes March 20, 2020 at noon. USCIS is expected to select cap cases the following week, and petitions may be filed within 90 days after selection. USCIS expected to phase in resumption of premium processing, first with change of status from F-1 status by May 27 and then all cases by June 29.

U.S. Department of State, through its embassies and consulates worldwide, has limited or cancelled visa interviews. With H-2A and H-2B visa processing needed to support seasonal work, Mexican consulates are processing scheduled visa appointments and working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on protocols to continue processing. To access information on operations at individual consulates, please

see: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/COVID-19-Country-Specific-Information.html>

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