

## UPDATES ON USCIS FEES AND EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION DOCUMENT VALIDITY PERIODS

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### BACKGROUND

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has made changes to the fees for and the validity period of work permits (Employment Authorization Documents or EADs). Use this guide to know what fees are required and how often they will need to be paid to maintain work permits.

### WHAT ARE H.R. 1 FEES?

On July 4, 2025, President Trump signed into law H.R. 1— [One Big Beautiful Bill Act](#) . This Bill created new required fees for some work permit applications. These H.R. 1 fees are in addition to the regular USCIS filing fees for Form I-765 and cannot be waived.

### WHAT ARE ANNUAL FEES?

Asylum applicants must now pay a \$102 annual fee while their immigration case is still pending.<sup>1</sup> There is no fee waiver available for this fee, so we encourage applicants to budget accordingly.

### CHANGES TO WORK PERMIT DURATION

On December 4, 2025, [USCIS](#) reduced the validity periods for certain employment authorization documents (EAD).

The maximum validity period for initial and renewal EADs will be changed from 5 years back to 18 months for the following categories of work permit applicants:

- Applicants admitted as refugees;
- Applicants granted asylum;
- Applicants granted withholding of deportation or removal;
- Applicants with pending applications for asylum or withholding of removal;
- Applicants with pending applications for adjustment of status under INA 245; and
- Applicants with pending applications for suspension of deportation, cancellation of removal, or relief under the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act.

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<sup>1</sup> The new H.R. 1 fees cannot be waived or reduced. [USCIS Updates Fees Based on H.R. 1 | USCIS](#)

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Below is a chart for quick reference:

Category	USCIS EAD Filing Fee (this fee can be waived)	HR1 Fee (this fee cannot be waived)	Previous EAD Validity Period	Current EAD Validity Period
<sup>2</sup> C9 Pending Adjustment of Status	\$0 initial	\$0	5 years	18 months
C9 Pending Adjustment of Status	\$0 renewal	\$0	5 years	18 months
C8 Asylum pending	\$520 if filing by paper or \$470 if filing online initial	\$560 initial (first time filing for the work permit in this category)	5 years	18 months
C8 Asylum Pending	\$470 renewal	\$275 renewal	5 years	18 months

The validity period for initial and renewal employment authorization documents will be one year or the end date of the authorized parole period or duration of Temporary Protected Status (TPS), whichever is shorter for the following categories:

- Applicants paroled as refugees;
- Applicants granted TPS;  
Applicants granted parole; and
- Applicants with a pending TPS application.

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<sup>2</sup> If you are filing for an initial, replacement, or renewal Employment Authorization Document (EAD) and you have a pending Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status that you filed on or after July 30, 2007, and before April 1, 2024, and you paid the Form I-485 filing fee

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Category	USCIS EAD Filing Fee (this fee can be waived)	HR1 Fee (this fee cannot be waived)	Previous EAD Validity Period	Current EAD Validity Period
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A4 Refugees Paroled	\$0 initial	\$560 initial	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the authorized parole or whichever is shorter
A4 Refugees Paroled	\$0 renewal	\$280 renewal	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the authorized parole or whichever is shorter
A12 TPS Granted	\$520 if filing by paper or \$470 if filing online	\$560 initial	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the duration of Temporary Protected Status (TPS), whichever is shorter
A12 TPS Granted	\$275 renewal	\$280 renewal	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the duration of Temporary Protected Status (TPS), whichever is shorter
C19 (TPS Pending)	\$520 if filing by paper or \$470 if filing online	\$560 initial	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the duration of Temporary Protected Status,

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				whichever is shorter
C19 (TPS Pending)	\$275 renewal	\$280 renewal	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the duration of Temporary Protected Status, whichever is shorter
C11 (Parole)	\$520 if filing by paper or \$470 if filing online initial	\$560 initial	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the duration of Temporary Protected Status, whichever is shorter
C11 (Parole)	\$275 renewal	\$280 renewal	18-24 months	1 year or the end date of the authorized parole period whichever is shorter

#### OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER

1. Most applicants must now pay **two fees**: the regular USCIS filing fee **plus** an HR-1 fee.
2. **HR-1 fees cannot be waived**, even if the regular USCIS filing fee can be waived.
3. Many work permits are now valid for **12-18 months**, which means renewal costs may occur more often.
4. Renewal requests for most work permits can be submitted to USCIS up to 6 months before the current work permit expires. This is highly recommended due to lengthy processing times.
5. Asylum applicants must now pay a **\$102 annual fee** while their case is pending.
6. Applicants should always check the current fees and requirements before filing to avoid delays or rejections.

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### WORK PERMIT TIPS

- ✓ Keep track of your work permit category and validity.
- ✓ Set a reminder to renew six months before your work permit expires.
- ✓ Expect processing delays and plan for potential lapses in work authorization.
- ✓ Know how much to save for work permit renewals, including legal services fees.
- ✓ Be sure to renew state-issued driver's licenses or identity documents that are connected to your work permit validity.

**NOTE:** We strongly recommend consulting with a qualified immigration legal services provider when considering immigration benefits applications. A listing of non-profit immigration legal service providers can be found at [www.immigrationadvocates.org/legaldirectory/](http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/legaldirectory/)

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