



Special Immigration Alert: 2013 Diversity Lottery/H-1B Quota

DV 2013:

On October 6, 2011, the Federal Register published the instructions for the Diversity Immigrant (DV-2013) Visa Program. These instructions guide applicants how to apply for the DV-2013 Program. Both the instructions and the Electronic Diversity Visa Entry Form for the DV-2013 lottery can be found at www.dvlottery.state.gov. The online registration period for the DV-2013 lottery began on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 12:00 p.m. EDT (GMT-4), and concludes on Saturday, November 5, 2011, at 12:00 p.m. EDT (GMT-4). We strongly recommend that applicants not wait until the last week of this registration period to enter because heavy demands could result in website delays. No entries will be accepted after 12:00 p.m. EDT on November 5, 2011.

H-1B Quota:

On October 11, 2011, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that, as of October 7, 2011, it had received 41,000 new petitions that count against the 65,000 standard H-1B cap, and 19,100 H-1B petitions that count against the 20,000 H-1B master's degree cap. As we have indicated, the USCIS will continue to accept new H-1B petitions until it has received enough to fill both the standard and master's H-1B quotas.

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