

News & Types: Immigration Update

Business Immigration Weekly for the Week of January 14

1/18/2013

February 2013 Visa Bulletin Update

The U.S. Department of State ("DOS") recently released its February 2013 Visa Bulletin which shows the availability of employment-based immigrant visa categories for the month of February. This month's Visa Bulletin features the following highlights:

There continues to be great advancement in the EB-2 China category. From January 2013 to February 2013, the category has advanced three months.

Due to high demand, the EB-2 India category has shown no movement since October 2012 when the new fiscal year's annual quota opened. The EB-2 and EB-3 India categories are severely backlogged with thousands of individuals waiting for immigrant visas since January 2007.

The EB-3 World category has also shown significant advancement in one to two month increments every month.

The following is a comparison of priority date movement since the inception of the current retrogression in 2007:

	Dec 2007	Jun 2008	Aug 2009	Mar 2010	Sept 2012	Oct 2012	Jan 2013	Additional information about the movement of the employment-based immigrant visa priority dates will be contained in our
EB-3 World	09/01/02	03/01/06	U	12/15/02	10/01/06	10/22/06	03/15/07	
EB-2 China	01/01/03	04/01/04	10/01/03	07/08/05	U	07/15/07	01/15/08	
EB-3 China	10/15/01	03/22/03	U	12/15/02	12/15/05	02/06/06	11/15/06	
EB-2 India	01/01/02	04/01/04	10/01/03	02/01/05	U	09/01/04	09/01/04	
EB-3 India	05/01/01	11/01/01	U	07/01/01	10/08/02	10/15/02	11/15/02	
EB-3 Other Workers	10/01/01	01/01/03	U	06/01/01	10/01/06	10/22/06	03/15/07	

firm's future Immigration Updates when it becomes available.

Illinois House Passes Bill Authorizing Issuance of Temporary Driver's Licenses to Undocumented Immigrants

The State of Illinois House of Representatives has passed a bill that will allow undocumented immigrants who have resided in the state for one year to obtain a Temporary Visitor Driver's License (TVDL). The bill has been sent to Governor Quinn who supported the bill and who has stated that he intends to sign it. Upon the bill's enactment into law, Illinois will join New Mexico, California and Washington State in allowing undocumented immigrants to obtain a driver's license. Illinois already issues TVDLs to foreign nationals who are legally present in the United States, but who do not have social security cards, such as spouses of foreign workers and foreign students. To qualify, an applicant must have resided in Illinois for at least one year and present a valid foreign passport or consular identification. The Illinois TVD is mostly indistinguishable from normal driver's licenses with the exception that it is marked "not valid for identification." The law is set to be implemented in the fall of 2013 and applicants will be able to apply at most Department of Motor Vehicles facilities.