**Expedited/Rush Processing**

Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP (“Fragomen”) and ICS kindly requests that all Nonimmigrant visa cases (H-1B, TN, O-1, E-3) are initiated as early as possible. Case should be initiated online at the UF/Fragomen IHP (<https://ufl.fdbl.com/>). By initiating the case as early as possible, it increases the chances that the visa can be processed and approved in time and it reduces the likelihood of needing Fragomen Expedited/Rush Service or USCIS Premium Processing. The following explains the recommended case initiation time for each type of case, along with the associated expedited/rush fees. If an expedited/rush fee is required, please make the check payable to “Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP” and remember that this fee is in addition to any required USCIS filing fee:

**Extensions of Stay:**

For existing employees who are looking to extend their stay in the same visa classification, a case should be initiated 9 months prior to the date the employee’s current status expires. If the extension case is not initiated in advance, the following expedited/rush fees will apply.

Requested start date (should be 1 day after current status expires):

* 0-15 days: Not possible to file an extension. Employee will need to leave the US and await approval of the new H-1B before he/she can re-enter the US and continue working. In this scenario, the $2000 rush fee would apply.
* 16-45 days: $2,000.00 Rush Fee
* 46-90 days: $1,500.00 Rush Fee
* 91-105 Days: $1,000.00 Rush Fee
* 105 Days+: No Expedited/Rush fee will be assessed. However, it’s in your best interest to initiate the case as early as possible (preferably 9 months in advance) to avoid USCIS Premium Processing charges and to increase the chances of having a successful case, in light of the ongoing problems with prevailing wage determinations.

**Amendments:**

For existing employees who are looking to amend their current visa (i.e. when there is a change in the employee’s job title, duties, location, etc.) a case should be initiated as early as possible. If the amendment case is not initiated in advance, the following expedited/rush fees will apply.

Requested start date (in new position):

* 0-90 days: Not possible to file an amendment. Employee will need to remain in current position until a new H-1B can be filed.
* 91-105 Days: $1,000.00 Rush Fee
* 105 Days+: No Expedited/Rush fee will be assessed. However, it’s in your best interest to initiate the case as early as possible to avoid USCIS Premium Processing charges and to increase the chances of having a successful case, in light of the ongoing problems with prevailing wage determinations.

**Change of Employer:**

For new employees who are looking to transfer their current visa to the University of Florida, a case should be initiated as early as possible. If the change of employer case is not initiated in advance, the following expedited/rush fees will apply.

Requested start date:

* 0-90 days: Not possible to file for a change of employer. Employee will need to remain with current employer until a new H-1B can be filed.
* 91-105 Days: $1,000.00 Rush Fee
* 105 Days+: No Expedited/Rush fee will be assessed. However, it’s in your best interest to initiate the case as early as possible to avoid USCIS Premium Processing charges and to increase the chances of having a successful case, in light of the ongoing problems with prevailing wage determinations.

**Change of Status:**

For new employees who are looking to change status (i.e. F-1 OPT to H-1B), a case should be initiated as early as possible and preferably 9 months before the current status expires. If the change of status case is not initiated in advance, the following expedited/rush fees will apply.

Requested start date:

* 0-90 days: Not possible to file for a change of status.
* 91-105 Days: $1,000.00 Rush Fee
* 105 Days+: No Expedited/Rush fee will be assessed. However, it’s in your best interest to initiate the case as early as possible to avoid USCIS Premium Processing charges and to increase the chances of having a successful case, in light of the ongoing problems with prevailing wage determinations.

**Consular Processing:**

For new employees who are looking to obtain a visa at the US Embassy abroad, a case should be initiated as early as possible and preferably 9 months before the requested start date. If the consular processing case is not initiated in advance, the following expedited/rush fees will apply.

Requested start date:

* 0-90 days: Not possible to file for consular processing.
* 91-105 Days: $1,000.00 Rush Fee
* 105 Days+: No Expedited/Rush fee will be assessed. However, it’s in your best interest to initiate the case as early as possible to avoid USCIS Premium Processing charges and to increase the chances of having a successful case, in light of the ongoing problems with prevailing wage determinations.