



## U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

# USCIS Reaches the H-2B Cap for Fiscal Year 2017

USCIS has received a sufficient number of petitions to reach the congressionally mandated [H-2B cap](#) for fiscal year (FY) 2017. March 13, 2017 was the final receipt date for new H-2B worker petitions requesting an employment start date before October 1, 2017.

### What Happens After Reaching the Cap

Except as noted below, we will reject new H-2B petitions received after March 13 that request an employment start date before October 1, 2017.

### Petitions That Are Exempt from the Cap

We will continue to accept H-2B petitions that are exempt from the congressionally mandated cap. This includes the following types of petitions:

- Current H-2B workers in the U.S. petitioning to extend their stay and, if applicable, change the terms of their employment or change their employers;
- Fish roe processors, fish roe technicians and/or supervisors of fish roe processing; and
- Workers performing labor or services from November 28, 2009 until December 31, 2019, in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands and/or Guam.

For more information about the H-2B work program, visit our website at [uscis.gov/h-2b](https://uscis.gov/h-2b) or call the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283.

Last Reviewed/Updated: 03/16/2017