



# Instructions for Immigrant Petition by Standalone Investor

Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS  
Form I-526  
OMB No. 1615-0026  
Expires 07/31/2025

## What Is the Purpose of Form I-526?

This form is used by a **standalone investor** to petition U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for status as an immigrant to the United States under section 203(b)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended. An investor seeking to pool his or her investment with one or more additional investors seeking classification under INA section 203(b)(5) must file for such classification in accordance with INA section 203(b)(5)(E) using Form I-526E, Immigrant Petition by Regional Center Investor at [www.uscis.gov/i-526e](http://www.uscis.gov/i-526e).

## Who May File Form I-526?

You may file this petition for yourself if you have invested or are actively in the process of investing the required investment amount in a new commercial enterprise (NCE) that will benefit the U.S. economy by creating full-time employment in the United States for at least 10 U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, lawful permanent residents, or other immigrants lawfully authorized to be employed in the United States, other than yourself, your spouse, or your sons or daughters.

An NCE may be established by:

1. The formation of a business after November 29, 1990;
2. The purchase of a business formed on or before November 29, 1990, and simultaneous or subsequent restructuring or reorganization resulting in an NCE; or
3. The expansion of a business formed on or before November 29, 1990, through investment of the amount required so that a substantial change (at least 40 percent increase) in either the net worth or number of employees results.

The required investment amount is set by statute. You may obtain additional information about the EB-5 program and investment amount on the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/permanent-workers/eb-5-immigrant-investor-program](http://www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/permanent-workers/eb-5-immigrant-investor-program), or a U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate abroad.

## General Instructions

USCIS provides forms free of charge through the USCIS website. In order to view, print, or fill out our forms, you should use the latest version of Adobe Reader, which you can download for free at <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>. If you do not have Internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at 1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833) and ask that we mail a form to you. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

**Signature.** Each petition must be properly signed and filed. For all signatures on this petition, USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature. If you are under 14 years of age, your parent or legal guardian may sign the petition on your behalf. A legal guardian may also sign for a mentally incompetent person. If the request is not signed or if the requisite signature on the request is not valid, USCIS will reject the request. See 8 CFR 103.2(a)(7)(ii) (A). If USCIS accepts a request for adjudication and determines that it has a deficient signature, USCIS will deny the request.

**Validity of Signatures.** USCIS will consider a photocopied, faxed, or scanned copy of the original handwritten signature valid for filing purposes. The photocopy, fax, or scan must be of the original document containing the handwritten ink signature.

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**Filing Fee.** Each petition must be accompanied by the appropriate filing fee. (See the **What Is the Filing Fee** section of these Instructions.)

**Evidence.** At the time of filing, you must submit all evidence and supporting documentation listed in the **What Evidence Must You Submit and Specific Instructions** section of these Instructions.

**Biometric Services Appointment.** USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide **biometrics** (fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature) at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks. After USCIS receives your petition and ensures it is complete, we will inform you if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If an appointment is necessary, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS Application Support Center (ASC) and the date and time of your appointment or, if you are currently overseas, instruct you to contact a U.S. Embassy, U.S. Consulate, or USCIS office outside the United States to set up an appointment. USCIS may use your biometrics to obtain the criminal history records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), for identity verification, to determine eligibility, to create immigration documents (for example, Permanent Resident Card, Employment Authorization Document), or any purpose authorized by the Immigration and Nationality Act. You may obtain a copy of your own FBI record using the procedures outlined at 28 CFR 16.32. For information, please visit: <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks>. For Privacy Act information, please visit <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/compact-council/privacy-act-statement>.

**Copies.** You should submit legible photocopies of documents requested, unless the Instructions specifically state that you must submit an original document. USCIS may request an original document at the time of filing or at any time during processing of an application, petition, or request. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

**NOTE:** If you submit original documents when not required or requested by USCIS, your original documents may remain a part of the record, USCIS will not automatically return them to you, **and your original documents may be immediately destroyed upon receipt.**

**Translations.** If you submit a document with information in a foreign language, you must also submit a full certified English translation. The translator must sign a certification that the English language translation is complete and accurate, and that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English. The certification must include the translator's signature. DHS recommends the certification contain the translator's printed name and the date and the translator's contact information.

### How To Fill Out Form I-526

1. Type or print legibly in black ink.
2. If you need extra space to complete any item within this petition, use the space provided in **Part 10. Additional Information** or attach a separate sheet of paper; type or print your name and Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) at the top of each sheet; indicate the **Page Number, Part Number, and Item Number** to which your answer refers, and sign and date each sheet.
3. Answer all questions fully and accurately. If a question does not apply to you (for example, if you have never been married and the question asks "Provide the name of your current spouse"), type or print "N/A" unless otherwise directed. If your answer to a question which requires a numeric response is zero or none (for example, "How many children do you have" or "How many times have you departed the United States"), type or print "None" unless otherwise directed.

## Specific Instructions

### Part 1. Information About You

**Item Number 1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number)** (if any). Provide your A-Number. Your A-Number is the number used to identify your immigration records. **It begins with an “A” and can be found on correspondence that has been received from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or USCIS. If you do not have an A-Number, type or print “N/A.”**

**Item Number 2. USCIS Online Account Number** (if any). **Providing your unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps you manage your online account. You have an Online Account Number if you previously filed an application, petition, or request online or by mail and were issued a receipt number that begins with IOE. If you filed a form online, you can find your OAN in your USCIS Online Account profile. If you mailed your form, you can find your OAN at the top of the USCIS Account Access Notice we sent you. The OAN is not the same as an A-Number. If you do not have a receipt number beginning with IOE, you do not have an OAN.**

**Item Number 3. U.S. Social Security Number** (if any). Provide your U.S. Social Security number, if you have one.

**Item Number 4. Your Full Name.** Provide your full legal name in the spaces provided.

**Item Number 5. Other Names Used** (if any). Provide all the names you have used, including maiden name, married names, and nicknames, in the space **provided.**

**Item Number 6. Date of Birth.** Provide your date of birth in a month/day/year format.

**Item Number 7. Gender.** Indicate whether you are male or female.

**Item Number 8. Place of Birth.** Provide the city or town, state or province, and country where you were born in the spaces provided.

**Item Number 9. - 10. Country(ies) of Citizenship or Nationality.** Provide the name of the country where you are a citizen and/or national. If you are a citizen of more than one **country, you have had more than one citizenship, or** your nationality differs from your citizenship, provide the information in **Part 10. Additional Information.** Indicate whether you are a citizen or national of each country you list. This is not necessarily the country where you were born. If you do not have citizenship in any country, write “stateless” and provide an explanation in **Part 10. Additional Information.**

**Item Number 11. Country of Last Foreign Residence.** Provide the name of the country where you had your last foreign residence.

**Item Number 12 - 13. Mailing Address.** Provide the address where you would like to receive written correspondence regarding your petition. Indicate whether your current mailing address is the same as your physical address.

**Item Numbers 14. - 16. Physical Address.** Provide your current physical (residential) address and all prior residential addresses for the past five years. Indicate the dates of residence at each address.

**Item Numbers 17. - 20. Employment History.** Provide your current employment information and prior employment information for the prior 20 years of your employment history. If you are currently unemployed or retired, you must provide the last 20 years of your employment history. Additionally, you must also provide any positions held with government or military at any time, not just within this 20 year timeframe. Indicate the full legal name of the employer and address of employment, job title, and dates of employment for each position.

### Your Entry Into The United States

If you are currently in the United States, provide the following information:

**Item Number 21. Date of Arrival.** Provide the date you arrived in the United States in a month/day/year format.

**Item Number 22. Place of Arrival or Port-of-Entry.** Provide the city/town and state where you arrived in the United States.

**Item Number 23. Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record.** If U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) or USCIS issued you a Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record, provide your I-94 admission number and date that your authorized period of stay expires or expired (as shown on the Form I-94). The I-94 admission number also is known as the Departure Number on some versions of Form I-94.

**NOTE:** If you were admitted to the United States by CBP at an airport or seaport after April 30, 2013, CBP may have issued you an electronic Form I-94 instead of a paper Form I-94. You may visit the CBP website at [www.cbp.gov/i94](http://www.cbp.gov/i94) to obtain a paper version of an electronic Form I-94. CBP does not charge a fee for this service. Some travelers admitted to the United States at a land border, airport, or seaport, after April 30, 2013 with a passport or travel document, who were issued a paper Form I-94 by CBP, may also be able to obtain a replacement Form I-94 from the CBP website without charge. If you cannot obtain the Form I-94 from the CBP website, you may do so by filing Form I-102, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Document, with USCIS. USCIS does charge a fee for this service.

## **Part 2. Information About Your Spouse and Children**

**Item Number 1. Full Name.** Provide the full legal name of your spouse in the spaces provided. If you do not have a spouse, provide the full legal name of your child, if you have one.

**Item Number 2. Date of Birth.** Provide the date of birth for the person in a month/day/year format.

**Item Number 3. Country of Birth.** Provide the country where the person was born.

**Item Numbers 4. - 5. Country(ies) of Citizenship.** Provide the name of the country where your spouse is a citizen and/or national. If your spouse is a citizen of more than one country, has had more than one citizenship, or the nationality differs from your spouse's citizenship, provide the information in **Part 10. Additional Information**. Indicate whether your spouse is a citizen or national of each country you list. This is not necessarily the country where your spouse was born. If you do not have citizenship in any country, write "stateless" and provide an explanation in **Part 10. Additional Information**.

**Item Number 6. Relationship.** Indicate the relationship the person has with you (spouse or child).

**Item Numbers 7. - 8. Permanent Residence.** Indicate whether the person will seek lawful permanent resident status by selecting the appropriate boxes to indicate whether the person will apply for adjustment of status or for an immigrant visa abroad.

**NOTE:** An annotation of a dependent's intention to either apply for adjustment of status or an immigrant visa abroad in **Part 3.** of the Form I-526 is not binding, but should reflect the dependent's intent at the time you file the Form I-526 petition.

**Item Numbers 9. - 38.** These data collections are provided for you to fill out for all of your children. They collect the same information as **Item Numbers 1. - 8.**

## **Part 3. Information About the New Commercial Enterprise (NCE)**

Provide all requested information about the new commercial enterprise (NCE). If the NCE is a holding company and its wholly owned subsidiaries, provide information about the top-level holding company in **Item Numbers 1. - 12.** and all wholly-owned subsidiaries, including names, and dates and jurisdiction of formation in **Item B.** in **Item Number 2.**

### **Type of NCE**

**Item Number 13.** Select **only one** of the options.

Select **Item A.** in **Item Number 13.** to indicate that the NCE was formed after November 29, 1990.

Select **Item B.** in **Item Number 13.** to indicate that the NCE resulted from the purchase of a business formed on or before November 29, 1990, that is restructured or reorganized.

Select **Item C.** in **Item Number 13.** to indicate that the NCE resulted from a capital investment in and substantial expansion of a business formed on or before November 29, 1990.

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**Item Number 14. Troubled Business.** Indicate whether you have invested or are actively in the process of investing in a troubled business and, if yes, provide an explanation of how the NCE qualifies as a troubled business. Troubled business means a business that has been in existence for at least two years, has incurred a net loss for accounting purposes (determined on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles) during the 12- or 24- month period prior to the priority date on the alien investor's Form I-526, and the loss for such period is at least equal to twenty percent of the troubled business's net worth prior to such loss. For purposes of determining whether or not the troubled business has been in existence for two years, successors in interest to the troubled business will be deemed to have been in existence for the same period of time as the business they succeeded.

#### **Part 4. Information About Your Investment**

##### **Submission of Required Initial Evidence**

You must select one of these options for the submission of required initial evidence. If you select to submit evidence through a myUSCIS account, you will receive instructions with your receipt notice. We strongly encourage you to submit the evidence as soon as practicable after receiving the instructions.

##### **Investment Type and Required Capital Investment**

You must select at least one of the following options, and provide the requested information. If your investment meets more than one of these categories, select all that apply.

**Item Number 1. Rural Area.** Select this box if your investment is in a rural area. A rural area is an area outside a metropolitan statistical area (MSA) (as designated by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget) and outside the outer boundary of a city or town with a population of 20,000 or more (based on the most recent decennial census of the United States).

**Item Number 2. High Unemployment Area.** Select this box if your investment is in a high unemployment area. A high unemployment area is an area comprised of the census tract or contiguous census tracts where the NCE is principally doing business and may include any directly adjacent census tracts if the weighted unemployment average of the area identified is at least 150% of national average rate.

**Item A. in Item Number 2.** Provide any directly adjacent census tract(s) used in your calculation to establish an area of high unemployment. Enter the 11-digit FIPS code (2-digit state code, 3-digit county code, and 6-digit tract code format) that uniquely identifies each census tract.

**Item B. in Item Number 2.** Provide the weighted unemployment average calculated for the high unemployment area you identified.

**Item C. in Item Number 2.** Indicate the national average unemployment rate at the time of your investment.

**Item D. in Item Number 2.** Identify the data sources used for the calculations provided in **Items B. - C. in Item Number 2.**

**Item Number 3. High Employment Area.** Indicate whether your petition is based on an investment in an area experiencing unemployment significantly below the national average unemployment rate. The investment amount required in a high employment area is the same as the standard investment amount.

**Item Number 4. Non-TEA/ Non-High Employment Area.** Indicate whether your petition is based on an investment in an area that is not in a targeted employment area or high employment area.

##### **Composition of Your Investment, Administrative Costs and Fees, and Your Net Worth**

**Item Number 5. Dates and Amounts of Your Investment.** Provide the date(s) and amount(s) of your investment in the NCE in a month/day/year format. If you are actively in the process of investing capital, provide the date(s) and amount(s) you anticipate making the investment.

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**Item Number 6. U.S. Bank Account.** Indicate the total amount of money you have deposited or committed to deposit in U.S. business account(s) for the NCE, including money placed into escrow with a U.S. or foreign bank. If you have not transferred any funds to a U.S. business account for an NCE, please provide an explanation in **Part 10. Additional Information**.

**Item Number 7. Total Value of Assets Purchased.** Indicate the total value of all assets purchased for use in the NCE.

**Item Number 8. Total Value of All Property.** Indicate the total value of all property transferred from abroad for use in the NCE.

**Item Number 9. Total of All Debt Financing.** Indicate the total of all debt financing for which the investor is personally and primarily liable and which is secured by assets owned by the investor provided to the NCE. Any indebtedness must be documented with evidence of the **investor's** ownership of the assets used to secure the indebtedness, as well as the fair market value of the **investor's** ownership interest in such assets.

**Item Number 10. Total Stock or Other Equity.** Indicate the total value of all stock or other equity purchased in the NCE.

**Item Number 11. Other Capital.** Indicate any other capital invested or in the process of being invested in the NCE. Provide an explanation for such capital in **Part 10. Additional Information**.

**Item Number 12. Administrative Costs and Fees.** Provide the date(s) and amount(s) of any administrative fees you paid associated with your investment in the NCE in a month/day/year format.

**Item Number 13. Your Net Worth.** Indicate **your current net worth**.

**Item Number 14. Sources of the Capital You Have Invested.** Identify the sources of the capital you have invested or are actively in the process of investing into the NCE, as well as any funds used to pay administrative costs and fees associated with your investment. Select all that apply.

**Item Number 15.** Provide details about the documentation included with the petition in the space provided. If you need additional space, use the space provided in **Part 10. Additional Information**.

**Item Number 16.** If the capital used for your investment was a gift or loan, identify the donor or lender and describe the documentation provided with the petition to demonstrate the lawful source of funds. Any gifted or loaned funds invested in the NCE must have been gifted or loaned in good faith to the investor and were not gifted or loaned to circumvent limitations on permissible sources of capital, including proceeds from illegal activity.

**Item Number 17.** Provide the identity of any third-party you used to transfer capital into the United States on your behalf. This may include any money-service business or third-party exchanger, such as a hawala. For businesses, you should include the name and address of the entity, a copy of the business license or registration information, and any other information that confirms the identity of the business. For individuals, you should include the person's full name, date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship, and a copy of the person's state-issued identification document, passport, birth certificate, or other documents to confirm the identity of the person.

## **Part 5. Employment Creation Information**

**Item Number 1.** Indicate if you are employed by the NCE in which you have invested. If you are employed, provide your position, office or title and your duties, activities, and responsibilities with the NCE.

**Item Number 2. Full-Time Direct and Qualifying Employees at Initial Investment.** Indicate the number of full-time direct and qualifying employees who were working in the NCE at the time of your initial investment. A direct and qualifying employee is an individual who provides services or labor for the NCE, who receives wages or other remuneration directly from the NCE, and who is a United States citizen, United States national, lawful permanent resident, or other immigrant lawfully authorized to be employed in the United States, excluding you, your spouse, and your sons and daughters. This definition does not include independent contractors.

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**Item Number 3. Current Full-time Direct and Qualifying Employees.** Indicate how many full-time direct and qualifying employees are working in the NCE currently.

**Item Number 4. Difference In Number of Full-Time Direct and Qualifying Employees.** Subtract the number in **Item Number 5.** from the number in **Item Number 6.** and provide the difference here.

**Item Number 5. Estimated Full-Time Positions That Will Be Created.** Indicate how many estimated direct full-time positions for qualifying employees will be created by the **NCE.**

**Item Number 6. Total Investment Made Available to Job-Creating Business(es) of the NCE.** Indicate the total amount of your capital that has been or will be made available to **the job-creating business(es) of the NCE.**

## **Part 6. Visa Processing and Immigration Proceedings**

**Item Numbers 1. - 5. Permanent Residence.** Indicate how you will seek lawful permanent resident status by selecting the appropriate box for either immigrant visa processing abroad or an application for adjustment of status. If you intend to seek an immigrant visa abroad, indicate your country of citizenship or nationality and country of current residence. If you are currently in the United States and intend to apply for adjustment of status, indicate the country of your last permanent residence abroad and provide the address and telephone number of your last permanent residence abroad. If your native alphabet is other than Roman letters, write your foreign address in your native **alphabet.**

**Item Number 6.** Indicate if you are submitting any additional forms with your petition, including an application to adjust status, obtain employment authorization, or obtain a travel document. You may file an application to adjust status concurrently with or subsequent to this Form I-526 if approval of your Form I-526 petition would make an immigrant visa immediately available to you. Consult the U.S. Department of State Visa Bulletin and the USCIS website to determine if an EB-5 immigrant visa is immediately available to you.

**Item Numbers 7. - 10. Immigration Proceedings.** Indicate whether you **are or have you ever been in removal,** exclusion or deportation proceedings before the **DHS** or the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Immigration Court or the Board of Immigration Appeals, and, if so, the location of the proceedings. **Indicate whether you ever been unlawfully present or overstayed a visa and if you ever been denied a visa or deported.** Provide an explanation for why you are in proceedings in **Part 10. Additional Information** and under what grounds you **were denied a visa or deported.** Also indicate whether you are currently subject to a final order of exclusion, deportation, or removal, or subject to reinstatement of such an order.

**Item Numbers 11. - 12. Employment in the United States.** Indicate whether you have ever worked without proper work authorization while in the United States. Also, provide an explanation for why you worked without proper work authorization in the space provided and, if necessary, in **Part 10. Additional Information.**

## **Part 10. Additional Information**

If you need extra space to provide any additional information within this petition, use the space provided in **Part 10. Additional Information.** If you need more space than what is provided in **Part 10.,** you may make copies of **Part 10.** to complete and file with your petition, or attach a separate sheet of paper. Type or print your name and A-Number (if any) at the top of each sheet; indicate the **Page Number, Part Number,** and **Item Number** to which your answer refers, and sign and date each sheet.

**We recommend that you print or save a copy of your completed petition to review in the future and for your records. We recommend that you review your copy of your completed petition before you come to your biometric services appointment at a USCIS ASC.** At your appointment, USCIS will permit you to complete the petition process only if you are able to confirm, under penalty of perjury, that all of the information in your petition is complete, true, and correct. If you are not able to make that attestation in good faith at that time, USCIS will require you to return for another appointment.

## What Evidence Must You Submit?

You must submit all evidence requested in these Instructions with your petition **or through your myUSCIS account shortly after submitting your petition.** If you select to submit evidence through a myUSCIS account, you will receive instructions with your receipt notice. If you fail to submit required evidence, USCIS may reject or deny your petition for failure to submit requested evidence or supporting documents in accordance with 8 CFR 103.2(b)(1) and these Instructions

### Evidence to Accompany Petition

The following evidence must, when applicable, be filed with your petition **or through your myUSCIS account shortly after submitting your petition:**

- 1. Lawful Business Entity.** Evidence that you have invested in, or are actively in the process of investing in, a lawful business entity validly formed after November 29, 1990 and validly operating under the laws of the jurisdiction in the United States in which it is located. If you made an investment in a business formed on or before November 29, 1990, you must submit evidence that your investment resulted in a restructuring or reorganization of the business or has caused a substantial (at least 40 percent) increase in the net worth of the business, the number of employees, or both. Such evidence shall, as applicable, consist of:
  - A.** Copies of articles of incorporation, certificate of merger or consolidation, partnership agreement, certificate of limited partnership, joint venture agreement, business trust agreement, or other similar organizational document;
  - B.** A certificate evidencing authority to do business in a state or municipality, or if such is not required or issued, a statement to that effect; or
  - C.** Evidence that, as of a date after November 29, 1990, the required amount of capital was transferred to an existing business resulting in a substantial increase in the net worth or number of employees. This evidence must be in the form of stock purchase agreements, investment agreements, certified financial reports, payroll records, or other similar instruments, agreements, or documents evidencing the investment and the resulting substantial change.
- 2. Targeted Employment Area.** Targeted Employment Area. Evidence, if applicable, that your enterprise has created or will create employment in a targeted employment area. A targeted employment area is defined as an area which, at the time of investment, is a rural area or **high unemployment area**. A rural area is an area not within a metropolitan statistical area and not within the outer boundary of any city or town having a population of 20,000 or more. **An area of high unemployment includes the census tract(s) where the NCE is principally doing business and may include any directly adjacent census tracts, if the weighted unemployment average of the area is at least 150 percent of the national average rate. In the case of a high unemployment area, a petitioner must submit a listing of the census tract or contiguous census tracts as well as any directly adjacent census tracts used in the calculation to determine the area is experiencing a weighted unemployment average rate of at least 150% of the national average rate. The calculation should use reliable and verifiable data that is internally consistent to calculate the unemployment rate. For example, if you used data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) to determine the unemployment rate for the requested area, you should also rely on ACS data to determine the national unemployment rate to which the area identified is compared.**
- 3. Investment.** Evidence that you have invested or are actively in the process of investing the required amount of capital.



Such evidence may include, but need not be limited to, copies of bank statements showing amounts deposited into the U.S. business accounts for the NCE, evidence of assets that have been purchased for use in the NCE, evidence of property transferred from abroad for use in the NCE, evidence of monies transferred or committed to be transferred to the NCE in exchange for shares of stock that cannot be redeemed at the holder's request, or any loan or mortgage agreement, promissory note, security agreement, or other evidence of borrowing that is secured by assets owned by the petitioner (other than those of the NCE) and for which the petitioner is personally and primarily liable.

- 4. Lawful Capital.** Evidence that the capital you invested or are actively in the process of investing, as well as any funds used to pay administrative costs and fees, were obtained through lawful means. You must include the following documents, as applicable, with your petition: foreign business registration records, tax returns of any kind filed by you or on your behalf within the last seven years in or outside the United States, evidence of other sources of capital, or certified copies of any judgments, or evidence of all pending governmental administrative, civil or criminal actions, any private civil actions (pending or otherwise) involving monetary judgments against the petitioner from any court in or outside the United States within the past 15 years, and the identity of any person who transferred capital used for your investment into the United States on your behalf. If your investment funds were gifted or borrowed, submit evidence from the donor or, if other than a bank, the lender demonstrating that such funds were obtained through lawful means and that the funds were gifted or loaned in good faith and were not gifted or loaned to circumvent any limitations imposed on permissible sources of capital, including, but not limited to proceeds from illegal activity. Capital does not include:

- Assets directly or indirectly acquired by unlawful means;
- Any capital invested in exchange for a note, bond, convertible debt, obligation, or any other debt arrangement between you and the NCE;
- Any capital invested with a guaranteed rate or return; or
- Any capital invested that is subject to an agreement between you and the NCE that provides you with a contractual right to repayment, such as a mandatory redemption or sell-back option held by you.

- 5. Job Creation.** Evidence that the enterprise has created or will create at least ten full-time positions for qualifying employees. Qualifying employee means a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, lawful permanent resident, or other immigrant lawfully authorized to be employed in the United States. This definition does not include you, your spouse, your sons or daughters, or any nonimmigrant alien. Such evidence must consist of copies of relevant tax records, Form I-9s, or other similar documents, if the employees have already been hired, or a comprehensive business plan showing when such employees will be hired.

For cases involving troubled businesses, the petition must be accompanied by evidence that the number of existing employees is being or will be maintained at no less than the pre-investment level for a period of at least two years. Photocopies of tax records, Forms I-9s, or other relevant documents for the qualifying employees and a comprehensive business plan must be submitted.

- 6. Identification.** Submit a photocopy of government-issued identification, which may include a copy of your passport.

### What Is the Filing Fee?

The filing fee for Form I-526 is **\$3,675**.

**NOTE:** The filing fee is not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on this petition. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.** You must submit all fees in the exact amount.

**Use the following guidelines when you prepare your check or money order for the Form I-526 filing fee:**

1. The check or money order must be drawn on a bank or other financial institution located in the United States and must be payable in U.S. currency; **and**
2. Make the check or money order payable to **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**.

**NOTE:** Spell out U.S. Department of Homeland Security; do not use the initials “USDHS” or “DHS.”

3. If you live outside the United States, contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate for instructions on the method of payment.

**Notice to Those Making Payment by Check.** If you send us a check, USCIS will convert it into an electronic funds transfer (EFT). This means we will copy your check and use the account information on it to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will usually take 24 hours and your bank will show it on your regular account statement.

You will not receive your original check back. We will destroy your original check, but **we** will keep a copy of it. If USCIS cannot process the EFT for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in place of your original check. If your check is returned as unpayable, USCIS will re-submit the payment to the financial institution one time. If the check is returned as unpayable a second time, we will reject your petition and charge you a returned check fee.

### **Payments by Credit Card**

If you are filing your petition at a USCIS Lockbox facility, you can pay your filing fee using a credit card. Please see Form G-1450, Authorization for Credit Card Transactions, at [www.uscis.gov/G-1450](http://www.uscis.gov/G-1450) for more information.

**NOTE:** By completing this transaction, you agree that you have paid for a government service and that the filing fee, biometric services fee and all related financial transactions are final and not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on an application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.** You must submit all fees in the exact amounts.

**NOTE:** The filing fee is not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on this petition. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.** You must submit all fees in the exact amounts.

### **How To Check If the Fees Are Correct**

Form I-526’s filing fee is current as of the edition date in the lower left corner of this page. However, because USCIS fees change periodically, you can verify that the fees are correct by following one of the steps below.

1. Visit the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov), select “FORMS,” and check the appropriate fee; or
2. Visit the USCIS Contact Center at [www.uscis.gov/contactcenter](http://www.uscis.gov/contactcenter) to get answers to your questions and connect with a live USCIS representative. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833)**. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

## **Where To File?**

Please see our website at [www.uscis.gov/i-526](http://www.uscis.gov/i-526) or visit the USCIS Contact Center at [www.uscis.gov/contactcenter](http://www.uscis.gov/contactcenter) to connect with a USCIS representative for the most current information about where to file this petition. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833)**. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

## **Address Change**

A petitioner who is not a U.S. citizen must notify USCIS of his or her new address within 10 days of moving from his or her previous residence. For information on filing a change of address go to the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov/addresschange](http://www.uscis.gov/addresschange) or reach out to the USCIS Contact Center at [www.uscis.gov/contactcenter](http://www.uscis.gov/contactcenter) for help. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833)**. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

**NOTE:** Do not submit a change of address request to USCIS Lockbox facilities because these facilities do not process change of address requests.

## Processing Information

**Initial Processing.** Once USCIS accepts your petition we will check it for completeness. If you do not completely fill out this petition, you will not establish a basis for your eligibility and USCIS may reject or deny your petition.

**Requests for More Information.** We may request that you provide more information or evidence to support your petition. We may also request that you provide the originals of any copies you submit. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

**Requests for Interview.** We may request that you appear at a USCIS office for an interview based on your petition. At the time of any interview or other appearance at a USCIS office, we may require that you provide your fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature to verify your identity and/or update background and security checks.

**Decision.** The decision on Form I-526 involves a determination of whether you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing.

## USCIS Forms and Information

To ensure you are using the latest version of this petition, visit the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) where you can obtain the latest USCIS forms and immigration-related information. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833)** and ask that we mail a form to you. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

Please visit us at [www.uscis.gov/contactcenter](http://www.uscis.gov/contactcenter) to get basic information about immigration services and ask questions about a pending case. Through our digital self-help tools and live assistance, the USCIS Contact Center provides a pathway for you to get consistent, accurate information and answers to immigration case questions.

## Penalties

If you knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document with your Form I-526, we will deny your Form I-526 and may deny any other immigration benefit. In addition, you will face severe penalties provided by law and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

## DHS Privacy Notice

**AUTHORITIES:** The information requested on this petition, and the associated evidence, is collected under Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) sections 101, 103, 203, 204, 216A, and 245 (as amended), the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act of 2022, Div. BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Pub. L. No. 117-103), and 8 CFR parts 103 and 204.6.

**PURPOSE:** The primary purpose for providing the requested information on this petition, and the associated evidence, is to demonstrate that you have invested, or are actively in the process of investing, lawfully obtained capital in a new commercial enterprise in the United States that will create full-time jobs for not fewer than ten qualifying employees. DHS will use the information you provide to grant or deny the immigration benefit you are seeking.

**DISCLOSURE:** The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information, including your Social Security number (if applicable), and any requested evidence, may delay a final decision or result in denial of your petition.

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**ROUTINE USES:** DHS may **share** the information you provide on this petition and any additional requested evidence with other Federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations. DHS follows approved routine uses described in the associated published system of records notices [DHS/USCIS-001 - Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records and DHS/USCIS-007 - Benefits Information System] and the published privacy impact assessments [DHS/USCIS/PIA-003 Integrated Digitization Document Management Program and DHS/USCIS/PIA-016(a) Computer Linked Application Information Management System and Associated Systems], which you can find at [www.dhs.gov/privacy](http://www.dhs.gov/privacy). DHS may also share the information, as appropriate, for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.

### Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid **Office of Management and Budget (OMB)** control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 1 hour and 50 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the petition, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the petition. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, 5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop #2140, Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009; OMB No. 1615-0026. **Do not mail your completed Form I-526 to this address.**

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