E3 Visa and F1 Visa

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E3 visa is only available to Australian citizens who wish to work in a specialty occupation in the United States. A specialty occupation is an occupation that requires relevant work experience and at least the attainment of a bachelor degree or its equivalent. Your spouse and dependant children aged below 21 years may accompany you to the United States and spouse is entitled to work and may apply for an employment authorization document through US citizenship and immigration service. Such spousal employment may be in a position other than a specialty occupation.

To be eligible for an E3 visa you must:

Have a job offer from the US before you apply

Be qualified to work in a specialty occupation

Have the required education or work experience

Meet certain health and character requirements

Have the necessary license to practice in the specialty occupation.

E3 visa is valid for 2 years and is renewable indefinitely provided you are able to demonstrate that you do not intend to remain in the United States permanently. There is an annual limit of 10, 500 new visas per year. E3 is a multiple entry visa, as long as you have not changed the employers you may travel in and out of US.

F1 visa is for international student who wish to study a full-time course at a school, college, university approved by US immigration. The visa is valid for as long as it takes the student to finish his or her course of study. An F1 visa also allows you to work on campus and in some situations even off campus.

As a student you are eligible to apply for employment authorized practical training after completion of your studies. This training is usually limited to 12 months but may be extended to as much as 29 months for students who are pursuing a degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. You can transfer schools and change focus of study while pursuing a degree in the United States. Once you have completed your course of study, you have sixty days in which to depart the US.

To be eligible for an F1 visa you must:

â€¢ Be enrolled in an academic educational program, a language training program or a vocational program.

â€¢ The school must be approved by US citizenship and immigration services.

â€¢ Be enrolled as a full time student at the institution.

â€¢ Be proficient in English or be enrolled in courses leading to English proficiency.

â€¢ Have sufficient funds for self support during the entire proposed course.

â€¢ Maintain a residence abroad which you have no intention of abandoning.

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