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L1 Visa and US Work Permit by [Francis](#)

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The L1 visa is available to employees of international companies who are being transferred to parent, branch, affiliate or subsidiary in the United States. To qualify you must be a manager or executive with specialized knowledge who has been employed by the company continuously for at least one of the past three years and show that your non-US employer is currently operating branch, subsidiary, affiliate or joint venture partner of the US Company to which you are transferring. You may legitimately come to the US as an intra company transferee and at the same time, lawfully seek to become a permanent resident.

You can freely travel in and out of the country while on a valid L1 visa and your spouse and dependant children can accompany you to the US with L2 visa. The spouse can apply for a work permit in order to work and children are allowed to attend school. To be eligible to sponsor an L1 visa a qualifying relationship must exist between the US Company and the foreign company abroad and both the foreign company and the US Company must remain open, active and viable for the entire duration of the employment in the US.

There are two types of L1 visa which are:

L1 A is for foreign managers and executives transferring to the US Company while L1 B is for foreign employees with specialized knowledge of the company's products research methods which are important to the company competitiveness. Failure to maintain required levels of operation results in the loss of L1 status. You cannot apply for an L1 visa as an individual, your employer must file a petition with the US citizenship and immigration services on your behalf.

The US work permit is for workers who are not citizens or permanent residents to work in the United States. It is issued by the citizenship and immigration services and is also called employment authorization document (EAD). Six months before the US work permit expires the holder should apply for renewal and replacement documentation can be acquired when you have lost the permit, stolen, mutilated or if the original has incorrect information.

People requiring a US work permit include, but are not limited to asylum seekers, refugees, student seeking certain kinds of employment, applicants to adjust to permanent residence status, people who have temporary protected status, fianc es of American citizens and dependant of foreign government officials. Interim EAD may be requested if USCIS does not approve your application within 90 days.

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[Francis](#) - About Author:

Francis is a professional SEM/SEO, link builder and article writer who writes on different niches. <http://globalvisas.net.au/countries/>

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