

Visa workers updates Changes in laws New realities

What is H-2B program?

- The H-2B nonimmigrant program permits employers to temporarily hire non-immigrants to perform non-agricultural labor or services in the United States.
- The employment must be of a temporary nature for a limited period of time. Such as a one-time occurrence, **seasonal need**, peak load need or intermittent need.
- The H-2B visa holder can work for an employer no more than 10 consecutive months in any given season.
- The H-2B visa holder can stay in the USA transferring to different companies for up to 3 years.

Who uses the H-2B Program?

Hospitality workers

 Hotels / Motels, Chefs, Resorts and Theme Parks, Ticket Sales, Cruise Ships, Maids and House keeping, Ski Resorts, Restaurants and Bars, Water Parks, Janitorial, Ride Operators, Retail Stores

• Food Industry

- Meat, Poultry and fish cutters. Crabbing, Fishing etc.
- Construction workers/ Maintenance.
 - Landscaping, Golf Courses, Security, Warehouse, and of course **Reforestation companies**, and many more.



- Hopefully started ge ago by sending the a
- Must have enough S
- Every vehicle needs still need to be inspe
- Provide the insurance
 - 100,000 per pass
- Provide WC and GL

Farm Labor Contractor Certificate of Registration WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION FLC-I-WE-ID-60749908-0921 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SSN: *** - ** - 3266 | EIN: 82-0534879 Representative Name Valid Dates: 9/10/2020 - 9/9/2021 Amended: 7/27/202 HA SERVICES, LLC Address e is registered pursuant to the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Prote 141 N. 3rd St. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814 - 3211 **Driving: Not Authorized** Transportation: Authorized | Housing: Not Authorized Driving Authorization is valid only on the condition that the person issued this o maintains a current valid driver's license for the type of vehicle being driven.



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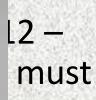
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Items needed to get an FLCE

U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division	Amended: 09/11/2018 12:03:3
FLCE Certificate of Registr No. E-09-026457-I-19-R Expires 09/09/2019	ation
	ove is registered pursuant to the
Employer's Name ALPHA Registration Number C-09-53	SERVICES, LLC. 34879-I-19-R
Approved Adriana V. Iglesias (Program Manager	Date 0
	it valid driver's license for the typ
Dr	
	Wage and Hour Division FLCE Certificate of Registr No. E-09-026457-I-19-R Expires 09/09/2019 Name JUAN L. GARCIA GRAN I certify that the person named abord Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural authorized to perform the following solicit, furnish, hire and employ. Employer's Name ALPHA Registration Number C-09-53 Driving x Authorized Approved Adriana V Iglesias (Program Manager Driving Authorization is valid of registration maintains a current

11/2018 12:03:37 PM	Social Security Account No. Permanent Home Address Coeur d Alene		tais (Famas Gamas Gamas (Famas Famas Famas)			
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	(City or Town)			(State)	(Zip	Code)
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Not Authorized	This certificate is b Worker Protection application for regi renewal denied, fo noncompliance ma	Act and reg stration. It i r noncompli	ulations issued may be revoked ance with the A	thereunder, a or suspended act or regulatio	nd on my	
Date 09/11/2018						
Form WH-513 (6/84) on that the person issued this certificate of ense for the type of vehicie being driven.	(Sigr	nature of Ho	older)		(Ті	tle)



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ll take

While we wait for PWD

- Seasonality statement and supporting documents.
- •Letters of Intent
- Staffing chart
- Tax Information to match the Staffing chart
- Did I mention Letters of Intent?!?

We will send the

- PWD
- Itinerary (expla
- MSPA Informa
- Seasonality an
- Staffing chart
- Tax informatio
- Letters of Inter

Alpha Services LLC TEMPORARY NEED SHOWING 1141 N 3rd St Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 ND

Designated Occupation: Forest Conservation Worker Payroll Reporting Period: 2018

	Perm	anent Employ	yment	Temporary Employment			
Month	Total Workers	Total Hours Worked	Total Earnings Received	Total Workers	Total Hours Worked	Total Earnings Received	
January				418	30136	468743	
February				484	57716	920886	
March				438	30567	1076337	
April				425	39085	673747	
May				353	55015	911560	
June				314	17062	257442	
July				0	0	0	
August				0	0	0	
September	1.		1	0	0	0	
October		12000					
November							
December							

Designated Occupation: Forest Conservation Worker Payroll Report Period:

Sec. 1.	Perm	anent Emplo	yment	Temporary Employment		
Month	Total Workers	Total Hours Worked	Total Earnings Received	Total Workers	Total Hours Worked	Total Earnings Received
January		1				
February						
March						
April	-					
May						
June						
July			2000	1		
August						
September				-		
October						
November		1				
December						

I certify that the information contained on this monthly payroll report and its supporting pages is accurate and based upon the individual payroll records maintained by Alpha Services LLC for Calendar Year 2015-2016

Juan Garcia, HR Manager Alpha Services LLC

Will it be a NOA or a NOD?

- If DOL decides you have proven the need for workers you will get a NOA (Notice Of Acceptance)
- If not you will get a NOD (Notice Of Deficiency) you will have 10 business days to respond to whatever they decided was missing.
- If you fail to respond to the deficiency **satisfactorily** and you get denied, you have to start from the beginning again.

If You Get A NOA

- If you succeed and get a NOA the SWA (State Work Agency) in every state involved will post your job, which will stay open until 21 days from date of need.
- Until a year ago we had to run expensive News Paper ads. Now we do not do the ads but instead DOL post the jobs on their site http://seasonaljobs.dol.gov/
- We will recruit for 14 days and at the end you will send proof that you posted the ad in a public place and your office and shop (pics) and any information on people that applied for the job. For every domestic person that accepts the job, we lose one visa. They will likely never work for Alpha
- At this point, the DOL will certify you for the amount of people you asked for, or for a reduced amount, depending on how many domestic people accepted the job.

Time for USCIS

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

- Once you have the certificate you can do 2 different things with it.
 - Petition to bring people in on a new visa, If the CAP has not been met.
 - Petition to transfer people to the new certificate. These people are already in the country and you can transfer them from your company or other companies. Not part of the CAP

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The first step to certificate from (I-797B) this will

- 1. \$1410 Premi
- \$ 460 Form I
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 Total \$2,020
- As noted previo processed in 15
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1-797B | NOTICE OF ACTION | DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

Receipt Number WAC1827051185		Case Type 1129 - PETITION FOR A NONIMMIGRANT WORKER		
Received Date 08/27/2018	Priority Date	Petitioner . ALPHA SERVICES LLC		
Notice Date 09/07/2018	Page 1 of 2	Beneficiary 545 WORKERS		
ALPHA SERVICE c/o JUAN GARCIA 1141 N 3 ST		Notice Type: Approval Notice Class: H2B Valid from 10/15/2018 to 03/31/2019		

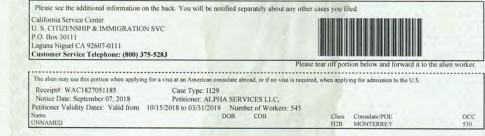
The above petition has been approved, and notification has been sent to the listed consulate. You may also send the tear-off bottom part of this notice to the worker(s) to show the approval. Please contact the consulate with any questions about visa issuance. THIS FORM IS NOT A VISA AND MAY NOT BE USED IN PLACE OF A VISA.

Petition approval does not authorize employment or training. When the workers are granted status upon admission to the United States, they can then work for the petitioner, but only as detailed in the petition and for the period authorized. When seeking admission to the United States, the following classifications may be eligible for a grace period of up to 10 days before, and up to 10 days after the petition validity period: CW-1, E-1, E-2, E-3, H-1B, H-2B, H-3, L-1A, L-1B, O-1, O-2, P-1, P-2, P-3, TN-1, and TN-2, H-2A nonimmigrants may be eligible for a grace period of up to one week before and 30 days after the petition validity period. If provided at admission, this grace period will be annotated on the beneficiary's 1-94 by Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The grace period of sup to one week before and admission, they are provide the beneficiary authorization to work beyond the petition validity period. If provided at admission, this grace period will be annotated on the one week before and 30 days after the petition validity period of sup to one week before and admission to be period of sup to one week before and the petition validity period. If provided at admission, this grace period will be annotated on the beneficiary's 1-94 by Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The grace period of authorized stay but does not provide the beneficiary authorization to work beyond the petition validity period. Please contact the IRS with any questions about tax withholding.

If circumstances change, the petitioner can file Form I-824 to have us notify another consulate of this approval. If any of the workers are already in the U.S. the petitioner can file a new Form I-129 to seek to change or extend their status based on this petition. Changes in employment or training may also require a new petition. Include a copy of this notice with any other required documentation.

The approval of this visa petition does not in itself grant any immigration status and does not guarantee that the alien beneficiary will subsequently be found to be eligible for a visa, for admission to the United States, or for an extension, change, or adjustment of status.

Number of workers: 545



FORM 1-7978 [REV. 08/01/16]

Visa

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ng Appointments.

Bring People On A New Visa

Send in list for applicants

Guatemala/ Honduras	1.0.0	Mexico	100
Microbus to Consulate	\$40	Bus Ride from MX city to Monterey and Border	\$100
Visa Application fee	\$190	Visa Application fee	\$190
Subsistence 2 days X \$17	\$34	Subsistence 4 days X \$17	\$68
Bus ride Guatemala Honduras to US border	\$300	Bus from Monterrey to Meridian MS	\$165
Subsistence 3 days X \$17	\$51	Lodging 2 days at Consulate	\$40
Border Entry fee	\$15	Border entry fee	\$15
Total >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	\$630	Total >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	\$578

• If applicants get their visa then they travel to the US (we pay for most resonable travel in to the US plus any sustenance and fees)

- A petition with al USCIS. Document
 94 showing legal
 2 pay stubs from
- Of course the fee
 1. \$1410 Prem
 2. \$460 Form
 - 3. \$ 150 H-2B Total \$2,020
- If there are no pr applicant, with th

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

I-797A, Notice of Action

Form I-797A (Rev. 10/31/05) N

ATTHE UNITATED STATICS OF ANDERICA

WAC-15-123-50089	ummen en e	CASE TYPE 1129 PETITION FOR A NONIMMIGRANT WORKER
RECEIPT DATE April 1, 2015	PRIORITY DATE	PETITIONER ALPHA SERVICES LLC
NOTICE DATE April 22, 2015	PAGE 1 of 2	BENEFICIARY RIVAS MARTINEZ, ABIMAEL O.
ALPHA SERVICES LLC C/O JUAN GARCIA 1141 N 3 ST COEUR D ALENE ID 83814		Notice Type: Approval Notice Class: H2B Valid from 04/17/2015 to 07/31/2015 Consulate:

The above petition for a change in the conditions of the employment or training that was previously authorized in this classification has been approved. It is valid for the farlod shown haves. The named foreign worker(s) are authorized to be employed for this period purguant to the terms and conditions of the petition.

If the petitioner requested that the temporary stay of the named foreign worker(s) be extended, then the named workers' temporary stay has been extended for the period shown above.

Since this employment or training authorization stems from the filing of this petition, separate employment or training authorization documentation is not required.

The petitioner should give the lower portion of this notice to the named foreign worker(s). The worker(s) must keep the lower portion with his or her previous form T-94, Arrival-Departure Document. The worker(s) must show it when requested by OSCIS or any other component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The I-94 portion should be given to the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol when he of she loaves the United States.

The upper portion of this notice should be kept by the petitioner to show that employment or training of the named worker(s) is authorized. It must be shown if requested by USCIS or any other component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The petitioner may file Form I-024, Application for Action on Approved Application or Petition, to request us to notify a new consulate, port of entry or pre-flight inspection office of this approval.

Please read the back of this form carefully for more information. If you have questions concerning tax withholding, please contact the Internal Revenue Service. Changes in employment or training may require you to

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed. U.S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SVC CALIFORNIA SERVICE CENTER P. O. BOX 30111 LAGUNA NIGUEL CA 92607-0111 Customer Service Telephone: (800) 375-5283 Form I797A (Rev. 10/31/05)N. PLEASE TEAR OFF FORM 1-94 PRINTED BELOW, AND STAPLE TO ORIGINAL 1-94 IF AVAILABLE Detach This Half for Personal Records 488438730 30 Receipt# WAC-15-123-50089 Receipt Number WAC-15-123-50089 I-94# 488438730 30 United States Citizenship and Immigration NAME RIVAS MARTINEZ, ABIMAEL O. Services CLASS H2B I-94 Departure Record Petitioner: ALPHA SERVICES VALID FROM 04/17/2015 UNTIL 07/31/2015 RIVAS MARTINEZ PETITIONER: ALPHA SERVICES LLC 15. First (Given) Nur ABIMAEL 16. Date of Birth 03/30/1992 1141 N 3 ST. COEUR D ALENE ID 83814 Country of Citize GUATEMALA

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for each

Transferring People

- If they encountered problems USCIS will issue an RFE (Request For Evidence) You have 7 days to respond.
- Sometimes the RFE is a delay tactic because they ran out of time on the premium processing.
- Sometimes can be an easy fix, like a missing copy of a document, application error, etc.
- Sometimes can be overwhelming. They want you to prove length of stay for an applicant or several applicants.
- If one applicant has a problem, they will not approve anyone on the group until you fix the issue or withdraw the applicant in question.

<u>Absconders</u>

- The absconding rate has been climbing in the last few years.
- As of the end of February we had a 26% absconding rate.
- Some abscond at the arrival airport.
- Some abscond right after they get their reimbursement check.
- Some wait for a few weeks and abscond.
- We are required to give notice to DOL and DHS about their separation.
- Some change their mind and try to come back.
- Some call and see if they can still get their reimbursement check.



H-2B By the Numbers

Increased Fall Visa Demand

- DOL has instituted a lottery for applications during the Spring April 1st allotment for a couple years and the Lottery is now being applied to Fall October 1st allotment.
 - Fall Nov 15 2020 Cap met
 - Fall Sept 30 2021 Cap Met 2,469 Employer Applications
 - 65,717 petitions applied for out of the 33,000 allotments

Spring Allotment

•Spring 2022 136,555 Workers petitions applied for by 7,875 employers

•**Spring** 2021 99,000 worker petitions 7,000 Approx.

DOL Prevailing Wage Determination (PWD)

- •July 1st each year the PWD office updates the prevailing wages.
- •If a contractor is issued a PWD prior to June 31 or earlier, can have different prevailing wages than a contractor issued after July 1st each year

MSPA

•DOL is running 3-4 months behind on issuing MSPA licenses, both FLC & FLCE's. Resulting in many problems......DOL application forms change with out notice, and if a contractor sends in out dated forms they will be rejected.

Steps Alpha is Taking to Protect

its Clients

- The newest Concern for us is the increased demand on the fall, October 1st allocation when Alpha gets its visas.
- We saw this coming for the last couple years and started running 3 separate H-2B Certifications as a safeguard. If we lose one, we can still cover the needs of our PRIMARY clients.

Joint Employment

- •Under Trump's Administration Joint Employment was weakened. With Biden's Administration it has been strengthened again.
- •Your only real defense is finding contractors who are doing their very level headed best to do everything correctly.

<u>H.R. 387</u>

- The industry is lobbying for a Returning Worker Exemptions Act H. R. 387 which we encourage all to please support (See the FRA for details), this can increase the number of visa/workers by 60 to 80%.
- H-2B workers generally come back the next year if they have not absconded, so the percent of absconders obviously reduces the number of returning workers that can be accessed.
- Those who have stated support as of a month ago are:
 - Republicans
 - Rounds, Risch, Crapo, Wicker, Portman, Lummis, Graham, Barrasso, and Collins
 - Democrats
 - King, Coons, Bennet, Menendez, Shaheen, Warnock, Carper, Manchin, Warner, and Hickenlooper

<u>Absconders</u>

- Our Industry is seeing a serious up tick in absconders. Depending on your political perspective, you can assign different reasons for this. My personal belief is that we need to better secure our borders.
- If our government does not take immigration law seriously, why should guest H-2B workers?