

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Work Permit Renewals & Automatic Extensions

USCIS FACING MASSIVE DELAYS FOR EADS

Employment Authorization Documents ("EADs" or work permits) are issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to verify that an individual is authorized to work in the United States. EADs can be issued for 1-4 year periods, depending on the underlying eligibility. USCIS is currently experiencing substantial delays in issuing both new and renewal work permits.

8-12 MONTHS

The estimated wait time is now 8 to 12 months, up from about 3 months in 2020, according to USCIS

1M+ WAITING

Over 1 million individuals are currently waiting for a work permit

\$410

The average cost of a work permit is \$410
*Fee waiver available

CERTAIN EADS ARE NOW AUTO-EXTENDED

In May 2022, USCIS announced a new temporary rule in response to ongoing delays. Certain EADs are now "auto-extended" and valid for 540 days after the expiration date on the EAD. To qualify, you must:

- File an I-765 application to renew your work authorization 5-6 months **before** it expires
- File a renewal **before October 26, 2023**
- File a renewal application that matches USCIS' eligibility categories: a(3), a(5), a(7), a(8), a(10), a(12), a(17), a(18), c(8), c(9), c(10), c(16), c(19), c(20), c(22), c(24), c(26), c(31). Look at the category number listed on your work permit to see if you qualify.
- Special circumstances also apply if you have TPS or if you are in U or T status and are applying for your green card

HOW TO SHOW YOU'RE WORK AUTHORIZED

If you are eligible for an automatic extension, your I-765 renewal receipt notice, together with your expired EAD, serves as proof of employment authorization and/or EAD validity during the 540-day automatic extension period.



For more information, you may visit the USCIS website: <https://www.uscis.gov/eadautoextend>