

International students are exempt from the new \$100K H-1B fee

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A preferred path to a work visa is created for international students with the announcement of this exemption

- ✓ New guidance from the federal government clarifies that companies can hire international students who are studying in the US or have recently graduated **without** paying the new \$100,000 H-1B visa fee.
- ✓ This supports the administration's desire to remain globally competitive and allow top talent to stay and contribute to the US economy.
- ✓ Who this applies to:
 - Current international students wishing to apply for H-1B after graduation
 - Current OPT students wishing to apply for H-1B
 - Prospective international students wishing to enroll in 2026
- ✓ Who is not eligible:
 - Students who graduate, end their F1 visa, and return home are not eligible for the exception because they are located outside the US.
 - General guidance is that the \$100k fee will be applied for companies that hire workers who are currently living outside the US.
- ✓ There are aspects of the rule that are still being challenged in court, so there could be further changes, but for now this new guidance is great for students.

Today there are more than one million international students studying at thousands of great US universities



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