

## USCIS Announces Plans to Raise Filing Fees Again

By [Andrew M. Wilson](#)

November 11, 2019 | **IMMIGRATION**

USCIS is publishing a proposed rulemaking to raise filing fees again. Citing increased screening and vetting procedures, fraud detection efforts and the need to "ensure recovery of the full cost of administering the nation's immigration laws", the overall fee schedule will go up by a weighted average of 21%. (USCIS last updated its fee schedule in FY 2017 by a weighted average increase of 21%)

As part of the proposal, different I-129 filings will have different filing fees (i.e. H-1B \$560; L-1 \$815; O-1 \$715). Also, I-765s and I-131s will no longer be part of one lumped I-485 filing. They will be separate, and an I-485 filing that includes the I-765 and I-131 will now be a filing fee of \$2,195.

USCIS is also looking to change the premium processing adjudication time from 15 calendar days to 15 business days.

This feels like an example of the further disconnect between the needs of U.S. employers and our current immigration system. It feels more punitive than budgetary driven.

## Related Team



**Andrew M. Wilson**

Partner | Chief  
Advisory Officer |  
Team Co-Leader -  
Immigration



**Andrew M. Wilson**

Partner | Chief  
Advisory Officer |  
Team Co-Leader -  
Immigration

**Disclaimer:** *The information in this post is provided for general informational purposes only, and may not reflect the current law in your jurisdiction. No information contained in this post should be construed as legal advice from our firm or the individual author, nor is it intended to be a substitute for legal counsel on any subject matter. No reader of this post should act or refrain from acting on the basis of any information included in, or accessible through, this post without seeking the appropriate legal or other professional advice on the particular facts and circumstances at issue from a lawyer licensed in the recipient's state, country or other appropriate licensing jurisdiction.*