



July 11, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016

RECEIVED
By ESEC at 7:29 am, Jul 14, 2022

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

I'm writing to express the urgent need for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to administer all green cards allotted by Congress this year. At Amazon, thousands of our employees are stuck in the green card backlog. The limbo from the ever-growing green card backlog tremendously impacts their lives and families. Ensuring all allotted green cards are distributed by the end of the fiscal year—which is quickly approaching—is the most important step USCIS can take to help them.

In 2021, more than 65,000 employment-based green cards went unused. In FY 2022, Congress allotted 281,000 employment-based green cards to be issued, but based on current data, only 53% have been approved through the end of May. Based on this projection, the agency's green card approval rate is concerning, and they will likely fail to meet the allotment by the September 30 deadline.

Ensuring that high-skilled immigrants in this country can obtain the legal permanent residency they desire is imperative to our American competitiveness. Congress intends for all of the annual allotment of green cards to be approved, and allocation delays result in thousands of green cards going unused. Our backlog of green card eligible employees already live in the U.S. and contribute to their local economies.

Our employees have come to this country in pursuit of the American Dream and to build a life for their families. Yet after all their hard work, they are limited in professional growth because they are waiting for a green card. On behalf of the thousands of Amazon employees impacted by the USCIS delays, I urge you to dedicate the proper resources needed to meet the annual allotment of green cards by September 30, 2022.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with our employees to hear directly from them how the green card backlog impacts their lives and how allocating all of this year's green cards will help them and their families.

Sincerely,

Brian Huseman
Vice President, Public Policy



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

October 6, 2022

Brian Huseman
Vice President, Public Policy
Amazon
bhuseman@amazon.com

Dear Mr. Huseman:

Thank you for your July 11, 2022 letter to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security concerning the utilization of all available employment-based immigrant visas in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. Secretary Mayorkas asked that I respond on his behalf.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and U.S. Department of State (DOS) have been intent on using all the available employment-based immigrant visas for FY 2022. This is our goal every fiscal year. USCIS has taken every viable policy and procedural action to achieve this goal while ensuring the quality and integrity of our adjudications. We appreciate your shared commitment to this goal and thank you for your support.

The FY 2022 employment-based annual visa limit was 281,507—more than double the statutory annual allotment—due to unused family-based visa numbers from FY 2021 being added to the current fiscal year's available employment-based limit. Based on preliminary FY 2022 data, DOS and USCIS have used these employment-based immigrant visas.

Looking ahead, USCIS and DOS are committed to using all of the approximately 200,000 available employment-based visas in FY 2023 (estimate is preliminary and subject to change) and will continue to take every viable policy and procedural action to achieve this goal. For more information about employment-based adjustment of status and our efforts in FY 2023, please see our [Fiscal Year 2023 Employment-Based Adjustment of Status FAQs](#) webpage.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. Should you require any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ur M. Jaddou". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ur M. Jaddou
Director