ImmiCore Law

A Professional Law Corporation

Consular Processing for Family Based Immigrant Visa (I-130) Schematic

Stage 1: USCIS File I-130

Form I-130: Petition for Alien Relative
Provide proof of relationship.

I-130 Processing Time:

- Immediate Relative: 8 to 12 mos.
- Preference Category Relatives: varies, check USCIS

Stage 2: National Visa Center (NVC)

Once the I-130 is approved, the case will be transferred to the NVC. The transfer process takes approx. 1 month. Once transferred you have 1 year to provide the NVC with:

- Immigrant Visa Application (Form DS-260)
- Affidavit of Support (Form I-864)
- Civil Documents (Birth Marriage, Divorce, Police Clearance)

Stage 3: Consulate Interview

After all the documents are collected at the NVC, the case will be transferred to a U.S. Consulate abroad for Interview. Foreign relative must submit:

- Fingerprints
- Medical Examination
- Passport-style photos
- Public Charge Questionnaire (Form DS-5540)

Immigrant Visa Issued

Foreign National must enter the U.S. within 6 months of the Immigrant Visa being issued.

Lawful Permanent Resident Card "Green Card"

Deemed a Permanent Resident of the U.S. once Foreign National enters the U.S. In the airport an I-551 is stamped into the passport as temporary proof of being a permanent resident. The Green Card is mailed approximately 60 days later to your U.S. address. The Social Security card should follow, but check with the Social Security Administration.