

L-1 INTRACOMPANY TRANSFEREES

**MSEC offers full service
employment-based
immigration services.**

The L-1 category applies to foreign nationals who have been employed abroad in executive, managerial, or specialized knowledge capacities and who are coming to the United States temporarily to continue rendering services to the same or a related employer.

What companies qualify?

The petitioning company must establish the existence of a foreign operation from which the foreign worker will be transferred to operations in the United States. The foreign and domestic enterprises must be related in one of the following ways:

1. **Parent** – Any business which has subsidiaries;
2. **Branch** – Any office or operating division of the same employer;
3. **Subsidiary** – Parent directly owns more than half or has control;
4. **Affiliate** – One of two subsidiaries both of which are controlled by the same parent.

What foreign workers qualify?

The foreign worker must meet all of the following criteria:

1. must be an employee;
2. must have been employed continuously for at least one year of the three years immediately before transferring to the United States; *and*
3. must be an executive, manager, or a worker with specialized knowledge.

How long may a foreign national work in the U.S. on an L-1 visa?

Intracompany transferees working as executives or managers will be allowed to work in the United States for up to 7 years. Intracompany transferees with specialized knowledge may remain in the United States for up to 5 years.

What is the cost to sponsor a foreign worker for an L-1 visa?

The L-1 has two associated filing fees.

- \$320 petition filing fee, *plus*
- \$500 fraud prevention fee.

Note: A \$1,000 premium processing fee will result in government action on the petition in 15 days.

For more information,
please contact:

Ryan Adair, Manager,
Immigration Services

303.223.5430 (direct)

800.884.1328 (toll free)

303.894.6718 (fax)

radair@msec.org (email)

www.msec.org (web)

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