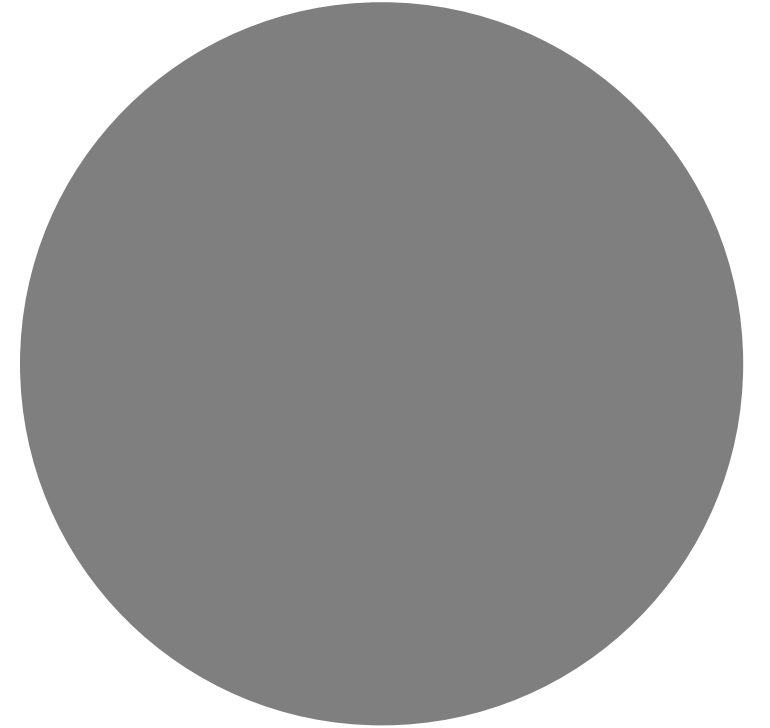


Immigration for Ph.D.s

Making a Plan for Your
Future

What's After the Ph.D. or Postdoc?

Three Major Pathways



Staying in Academia

Permanent job

- Tenure track
 - or
- Long-term research position

The ISO is your best resource

Timing Considerations

Joining an Existing Company

Have they sponsored others?

- Get the information in the recruitment stage

Will you be the first sponsoree?

- Find the information for them

Timing – Very Important!

Starting a New Company

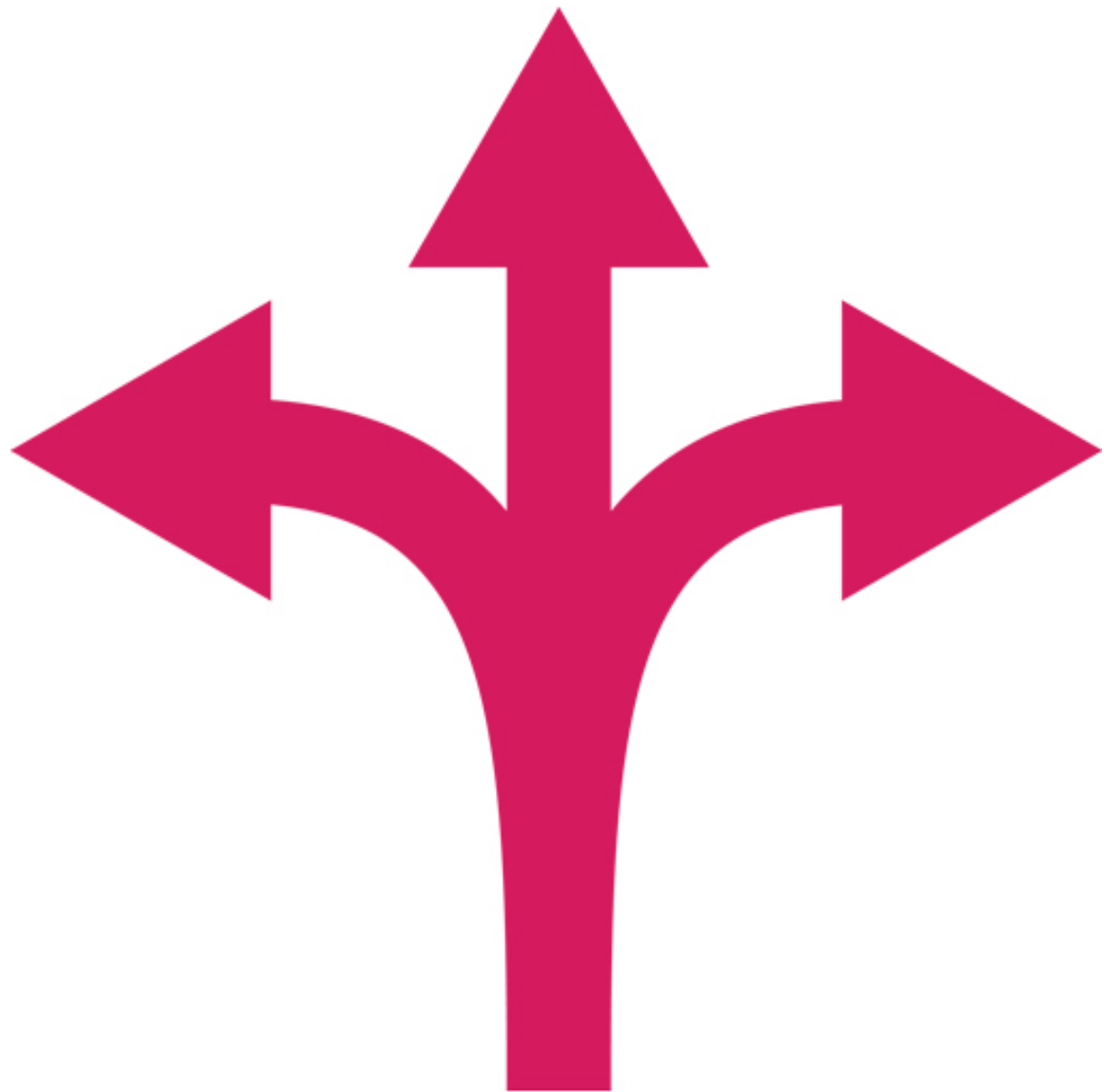
A brand new adventure!

Focus on immediate work authorization

Plan for the future

Personal vs. Employer sponsorship

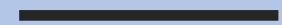
- Personal will always be better if possible
- Employer needs to be a long-term goal



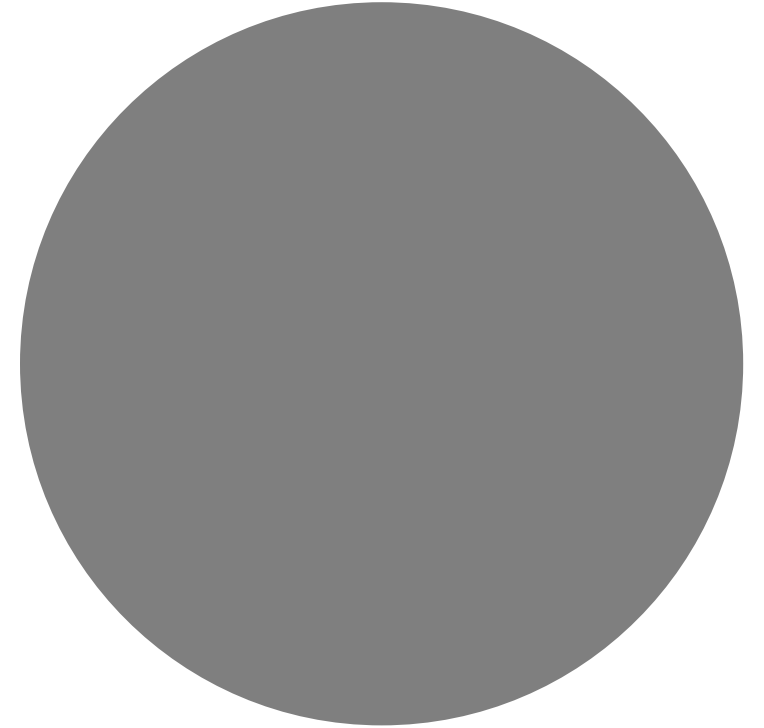
Quick Q&A

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Nonimmigrant Visa Options



Temporary Options



O-1 Extraordinary Ability

High level required

Indefinite renewals available, but travel is tricky

Quick option with premium processing

Criteria

- Awards
- Association Membership
- Media Attention
- Original Contributions
- Authorship
- High Salary
- Judge/Review Work
- Employment in Lead/Critical Capacity

J-1 Exchange

Limited term but can be renewed

Single-Intent

Two-year residency requirement

- Pay attention to waivers
- Timing is important

H-1B Specialty Occupation

Work related to your education

Easy for Ph.D.s with good chances in the lottery

Timing is tricky

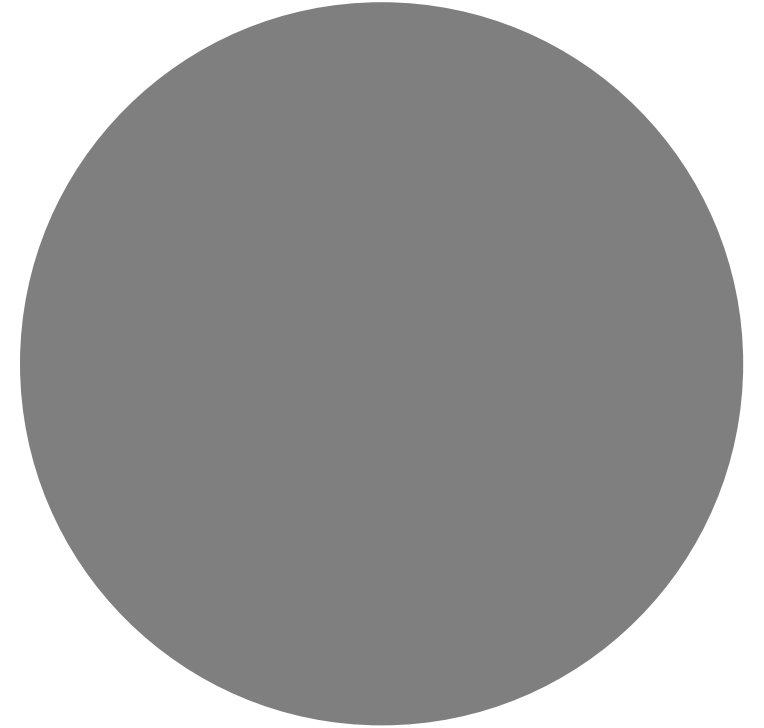
- April lottery
- October start date

Quick Q&A for Nonimmigrant Visas



Permanent Immigration Options

How to qualify for a green card



EB Preference Categories

EB-1

EB-2

EB-3

****Backlogs****

EB-1A Extraordinary Ability

Highest level immigration option

Top 1%

Strict criteria

- Metrics!
- Similar to O-1 criteria

See worksheet

EB-1B Outstanding Professor/Researcher

Employer-Sponsored

- Types of employers

“Outstanding” Not Clearly Defined

- Metrics!

See Worksheet

PERM Labor Certification

Intensive Process

Employer-Sponsored

Pros and Cons

The EB-2 National Interest Waiver

“Exceptional Ability” or “Advanced Degree”

- Common profile: PH.D. holder with memberships in professional associations and some cited publications that show original contributions

Must be above average

- But proving exceptional qualifications is best!

Must be important work

Not eligible for premium processing

EB-5 Investor

Must have minimum investment of \$900,000

Investment must be personal

Frequently changing law

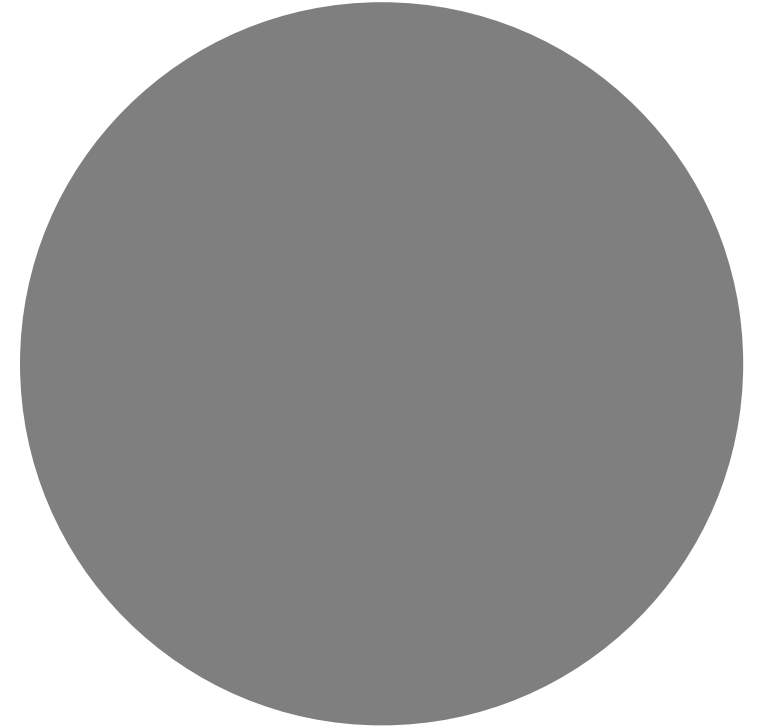
The background of the slide features a series of thin, curved lines in shades of gray, creating a sense of motion and depth. These lines are more prominent on the left side and fade towards the right.

Mini Workshop: NIW Worksheet

- Split into a few groups and discuss the criteria
- How would you successfully define your field of work?
- What kinds of criteria work for your specific field of work?

China and India

Special Considerations



Immigration Backlog in All Categories

Employment-based	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	EL SALVADOR GUATEMALA HONDURAS	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES	VIETNAM
1st	C	01JUN18	C	01JUN18	C	C	C
2nd	C	01MAR16	C	01SEP09	C	C	C
3rd	C	01JUL17	C	15JAN10	C	C	C
Other Workers	C	01DEC08	C	15JAN10	C	C	C
4th	C	C	01AUG17	C	01SEP18	C	C
Certain Religious Workers	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
5th Non-Regional Center (C5 and T5)	C	15AUG15	C	C	C	C	01AUG17
5th Regional Center (I5 and R5)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Choosing the Right Visa

F-1, J-1, L-1 and others have max-out dates

O-1 no max out date

- China single-entry issue

H-1B has a 6-year max-out date

- Exceptions!
 - Having an approved I-140 allows indefinite extensions
 - or
 - Filing a PERM before the 5th H-1B year starts (see information sheet)

Conclusion and Final Q&A

