

Understanding Immigration: Six Key Steps to Help You (or a Loved One) Immigrate to the United States

Successfully immigrating to the United States and becoming an American citizen represents a dream come true for many people. The quality of life in the U.S. is excellent, and the opportunities are endless.

But immigrating into the United States is a challenge – and there are millions more people who desire to immigrate than there are opportunities to do so. To make matters worse, the US immigration system is extremely complicated and difficult to navigate. And it's unforgiving to prospective immigrants who make a mistake during the process – a simple error can result in your application being denied.

In this report, we are going to share six recommended steps which will improve your chances of successfully completing the immigration process. While this report does highlight general tips, it is not a substitute for specific legal advice and should not be relied on as such. If you're attempting to immigrate to the United States, or if you're helping a loved one through the process, we highly recommend that you speak to an experienced immigration attorney. You can contact us to schedule a consultation by telephone at 305-448-0077, or by email at mail@salehlaw.com.

1) Always Be on Time.

Throughout the immigration process, you will have many appointments and meetings to attend. Whether you are going to a meeting with the U.S. embassy in your home country, or the USCIS, make sure you are always on time and bring all necessary documentation. Because there is such a demand for immigration into the U.S., you don't want to miss out on your chance to continue in the process by being late for a meeting and getting rescheduled (or cancelled). In a process that is generally slow moving, the last thing you want to do is slow it down even further.

2) File as Many Visa Petitions as Possible.

The visa petition is one of the most important parts of your immigration effort, so leave no stone unturned when trying to successfully apply. If you have more than one family

member eligible to file a petition for you in the pursuit of a visa, make sure they do so. This way, even if one of the applications is denied for some reason, or the person who filed it becomes deceased or otherwise unavailable, you will have additional options that may be approved.

3) Keep Extra Copies of All Paperwork.

Don't make the mistake of thinking that just because you have filed your paperwork already, that you will never need it again. The USCIS is notoriously disorganized, and you might be asked to submit duplicates of documents that have previously been sent it. Always have extra copies of your paperwork and keep them in a safe place if they should need to be called upon later. Any documentation you can have that proves what you have done and where you are in the immigration process could come in handy at some point along the way.

4) Only Trust Official Sources of Information.

Sadly, there are countless scams related to immigration and many people have been taken advantage of by these criminals. The scams take advantage of people who are desperate to complete their immigration and will do anything to get through the process. Don't trust anyone who tells you that they have a 'shortcut' or other method of getting through USCIS faster. Refer only to official sources, like the U.S. Government itself, and don't believe people who try to sell you expensive immigration shortcuts or tricks.

5) Expect, and Plan For, Delays in Process.

Don't expect the immigration process to move quickly. In fact, you are more than likely going to have to do a lot of waiting along the way before you are able to get the chance to become an American citizen or permanent resident. Make sure that you are planning for these delays and don't build your life around having this completed by a specific date. Be flexible, expect delays, and always be ready to provide any information or documentation that you are asked for.

6) Notify Government of All Changes in Address and Other Key Information.

If you are in the process of immigrating to the United States and something changes with your living situation - such as your address - make sure to notify the government as soon as possible. If you move, and don't tell the USCIS, it could slow down the process,

or even put your application in jeopardy. You can complete the notification online, so make sure you do it as quickly as possible once you move.

It is an exciting, but stressful, process to try and immigrate into the United States. The prospect of a new life for you and your family may be just around the corner, but you need to remain patient and follow all of the applicable rules and laws if you want to be successful in the end. There are no guarantees when it comes to immigration into the U.S., but the six steps above should help you get on the right track and hopefully one day become a resident of the United States of America.

At Saleh Law, we specialize in helping individuals and families make sense of the complicated immigration system. Whether you currently live outside the United States and wish to immigrate, or you're currently residing in the United States but face legal challenges, or you're seeking to help a family member immigrate into the US... we want to help! Please contact us today to discuss your situation further.