

IMMIGRATION UPDATE®

January 10, 2012



Immigration Visa Availability Continues to Significantly Advance for EB-2 India & China

The Department of State (DOS) has published the <u>Visa Bulletin</u> for February 2012, announcing that the cutoff dates for the EB-2 India and EB-2 China categories for the month of February will advance one year, from January 1, 2009 to January 1, 2010. This means that, beginning February 1, 2012, applicants born in India and China who have priority dates before January 1, 2010, and who are applying for permanent residency under the Employment-Based, Second (EB-2) category, will be eligible to file Applications to Adjust Status in the United States, or have immigrant visas issued abroad.

For February 2012, EB-3 priority dates for India will advance seven days, to August 15, 2002, and EB-3 priority dates for China will advance 46 days, to December 1, 2004. EB-3 priority dates for all other countries will advance 21 days to February 22, 2006.

The continued significant advancement for EB-2 applicants born in India and China is expected to generate high levels of demand based on new filings for adjustment of status at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The DOS could announce in future Visa Bulletins that cutoff dates have retrogressed due to the increased demand.

Applicants with current priority dates, or priority dates that will become current beginning February 1st, should contact their FosterQuan immigration attorney for additional information regarding application for an immigrant visa at a U.S. Embassy/Consulate abroad, or application for Adjustment of Status with the CIS in the United States.

As always, FosterQuan will continue to monitor the USCIS procedural changes and will make additional updates available via future Immigration Updates© and on our firm's website.