

The Shapiro Law Group

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Practice Areas

BUSINESS

L-1 Visas

H-1B

H-1B Transfers

Visas

TN Visas (NAFTA)

Special Visas for Other Countries:

- Australia
- Chile / SingaporeE-1

E-1 Visas

E-2 Visas

PERM Labor Certification

HOSPITALS /HEALTHCARE

H-1C Visas

H-1B Visas for Doctors

FAMILY

Spouse / Fiancée Visas

Permanent Residence for Family within U.S.

Naturalization /Citizenship

AMNESTY

FY 2012 Door Closes on H-1B Advanced Degree Visas

November 2nd, 2011 by [admin](#)

According to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (the "USCIS"), as of October 21, 2011, at least 20,000 petitions were filed by employers seeking to sponsor foreign workers who have "advanced degrees" (master's degree or higher) under the H-1B visa program for fiscal year 2012 (which runs from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012).

Thus, at least one door has shut on advanced degree candidates for H-1B visas; however, individuals with advanced degrees can still be sponsored by employers pursuant to the regular H-1B program for as long as spots remain open. As of October 21, there were still 18,800 cap-eligible slots remaining open under that program.

But once that door is closed, employers will no longer be able to sponsor workers under the H-1B program until fiscal year 2013. So employers seeking highly-skilled specialty workers for FY 2012, with or without advanced degrees, should move quickly now.

If you are an employer or employer's representative in charge of hiring, please feel free to check out the pertinent section of [our Website](#) to see how we can help you, and/or call our offices at (847) 564-0712 for an appointment.