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## Family Visas – Permanent Residence What is a Family Visa?

U.S. Immigration Law encourages family unification and therefore allows certain relatives of U.S. citizens or US legal permanent residents to be petitioned for immigration from abroad or sometimes from within the United States. This visa has a path to U.S. citizenship and allows for issuance of a work permit

## How do you qualify for a Family Visa?

There are specific requirements which must be met by applicants to qualify for a family visas. There are a few categories where relatives can fall.

- 1. Immediate Relatives of U.S. Citizens (Parents, Spouse, under 21 children)
- 2. Unmarried children of U.S. Citizens
- 3. Spouses, children, unmarried adult children of Legal Permanent Residents
- 4. Married Children of U.S. Citizens
- Brothers and Sisters of U.S. Citizens

## How do you apply for the Family Visa?

There are several steps, but all cases start with a petition from the U.S. citizen relative or legal permanent resident. After that, the steps often depend on the location of the beneficiary of the petition, the category of the beneficiary and whether there are issues regarding the beneficiaries past. An affidavit of support by the petitioner (or other person) is required under all categories of family based visas.

If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment regarding a Tourist Visa please contact my office.