# EB-5 VISA | STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

# STEP 1 Do You Qualify?

- I am able to invest at least 500,000 USD in the United States.
- Records are available that show such funds were legally obtained (for example tax returns or business, inheritance or gift records).
- ✓ I have never been convicted of a serious crime (felony) in any country.

# **STEP 2 Consultation**

Schedule a free telephone, e-mail, or in-person consultation with a United States Regional Center Group specialist to get detailed information on all aspects of the process, confirm it meets your needs, and review the requirements for the EB-5 Green Card.

This would also be when we would confirm that you are an "accredited investor" under U.S. securities laws or a person otherwise eligible for the EB-5 visa.

## **STEP 3 Select an Attorney**

If you do not already have an experienced immigration attorney to help you prepare and file your "I-526 Petition by Alien Entrepreneur" (I-526 Petition), United States Regional Center Group can assist you in obtaining independent legal counsel that meets your needs and budget.

## **STEP 4 Select an Investment**

Select an investment vehicle and perform thorough due diligence.

## **STEP 5 Gather Information**

Collect the biographical and financial information necessary to prepare the "I-526 Petition".

## **STEP 6 Invest in a New Commercial Enterprise**

Fund the investment account with a minimum of 500,000 USD.

## STEP 7 File the EB-5 Petition

The "I-526 Petition by Alien Entrepreneur" is filed with the USCIS by your attorney. This Petition seeks certification that both you and your investment are eligible for EB-5 status.



Disclaimer:

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## **STEP 8 Complete the Visa Process**

If you are already in the U.S. when the Petition is approved, an "Adjustment of Status to Conditional Resident" is processed through the USCIS. An interview is not customarily required.

If you reside abroad, the Green Card application is generally processed at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your home country, and an interview is required.

The purpose of this step is to ensure that the applicant is not subject to grounds of exclusion, such as a criminal past.

#### **STEP 9 Green Card Issued**

You are issued a conditional permanent green card and are free to live, work, or attend school anywhere in the U.S. Your spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21 receive the same rights. The five year waiting period for full U.S. citizenship commences at this point.

#### **STEP 10 File Form to Remove Green Card Conditions**

Approximately 21-months after the Green Card is issued, Form I-829 is filed with the USCIS by your attorney to confirm that the direct or indirect jobs described in the original Petition have been created. Upon verification by the USCIS, the conditional status of the Green Card is removed.

## STEP 11 Investment Funds Returnable

Once the conditional status of the Green Card has been removed, the investor is free to liquidate the investment without affecting his or her Permanent Resident status (subject to the terms of the specific investment.)

## STEP 12 Optional U.S. Citizenship

The investor has the option of obtaining U.S. Citizenship five years after issuance of the conditional Green Card (Step 8 above)



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