

July 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Application Filing Dates for Immigrant Visa Applicants Chargeable to the Numerically Limited Categories

1. As posts are aware the National Visa Center (NVC) is responsible for the dispatch of virtually all instruction packets. This cable provides a comprehensive listing of all the application filing dates which are currently being used.
2. Background: Application filing dates are the basis for determining whether/when the Agent Choice Form should be sent to the applicant to get the application process started. As final action dates advance, application filing dates are updated to ensure that applicants are offered the opportunity assemble the required documents. This will allow them to be reported to the Visa Office, and eventually issued visas in the order of their preference class and priority date. Application filing dates should not be used to speculate on the future availability of visa numbers, however.
3. At present Agent Choice Letters are being dispatched to applicants with priority dates earlier than the dates below:

FAMILY PREFERENCES:

	All charge-				
-	Ability areas China				
-	Except those	mainland			
	Listed	born	India	Mexico	Philippines
F1	01JAN10	01JAN10	01JAN10	01APR95	22DEC05
F2A	22NOV15	22NOV15	22NOV15	22NOV15	22NOV15
F2B	08FEB11	08FEB11	08FEB11	22MAY96	01FEB06
F3	22AUG05	22AUG05	22AUG05	01MAY95	01AUG95
F4	15JUN04	15JUN04	01MAY04	01JUN98	15JUL93

EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCES:

	All charge-				
-	Ability areas China				
-	Except those	mainland			
-	Listed	born	India	Mexico	Philippines
E1	C	C	C	C	C
E2	C	01JUN13	01JUL09	C	C
E3	C	01MAY15	01JUL05	C	01JAN13
EW	C	01AUG09	01JUL05	C	01JAN13
E4	C	C	C	C	C
(E4 includes Special Immigrant classes SD through SL)					
SR	C	C	C	C	C
C5	C	01MAY15	C	C	C
I5	C	01MAY15	C	C	C
T5	C	01MAY15	C	C	C
R5	C	01MAY15	C	C	C

4. Note: The above-listed application filings dates used in the dispatch of instruction packet letters to applicants should not (repeat, not) be confused with the regular monthly final action dates.

5. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED