

**Subject:** USCIS Premium Processing Fee Increase Effective March 1, 2026

Dear UAMS Community,

We would like to inform you of upcoming increases to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Premium Processing fees that may impact international employees, students, and departments supporting immigration-related filings. Premium processing is an optional fee that significantly shortens the processing time for select applications submitted to USCIS.

**Effective Date:**

This rule takes effect on **March 1, 2026**. Any affected petition postmarked on or after this date must include the new applicable fee.

**Premium Processing Fee Increases to Note:**

Form	Previous Fee	New Fee
Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker (including including H-1B, E-3, O-1, TN)	\$2,805	\$2,965
Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker, employment-based classifications.	\$2,805	\$2,965
Form I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status, (requesting F-1, F-2, J-1, J-2 status):	\$1,965	\$2,075
Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, for applications for OPT and STEM OPT	\$1,685	\$1,780

For a comprehensive list of all processing fee increases, please visit the USCIS announcement page:

<https://www.uscis.gov/newsroom/alerts/uscis-to-increase-premium-processing-fees>

Please take these changes into consideration when planning future immigration filings. If you have questions about how these updates may affect cases at UAMS, we encourage you to consult with the appropriate administrative or international services office.

Sincerely,

UAMS Immigration Team