

## How to Check If Your Immigrant Visa is Available

These are the steps to determine whether the priority date of your immigrant visa is “current”, meaning whether your immigrant visa is available. **It is your responsibility to track when your immigrant visa becomes available.** If your immigrant visa is available and your parole period has not expired, you may be eligible to apply for a Green Card (lawful permanent residence):

1. **Determine your Priority Date.** This is the date that your approved Form I-130 was filed. This date appears on the Form I-797 that USCIS issued to your petitioner when the Form I-130 was approved (refer to the “Receipt Date”).
2. **Determine which Preference Category you fall under based on the definition.** This is the relationship between your Form I-130 petitioner and you. For example, if you have a U.S. citizen mother who filed a Form I-130 for you, as her 19-year-old child, then you would fall into the “F1 Preference Category”.

Preference Category	Definition of Category
F1	Unmarried sons and daughters of U.S. citizens, and their minor children, if any
F2A	Spouses and children under 21 of LPRs
F2B	Unmarried sons and daughters (21 years of age or older) of LPRs

Preference Category	Definition of Category
F3	Married sons and daughters of U.S. citizens, and their spouses and minor children
F4	Brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens, and their spouses and minor children, provided the U.S. citizens are at least 21 years of age

3. **Open the Visa Bulletin.** Open the Department of State visa bulletin at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-bulletin.html>. Click on the month of the “Current Visa Bulletin”.
4. **Find your Table.** After you click on the month, find the chart, “**Final Action Dates for Family-Sponsored Adjustment of Status Applications**”. (Unless otherwise indicated at <https://www.uscis.gov/visabulletininfo>, you must use the “Final Action Dates for Family-Sponsored Adjustment of Status Applications” chart. Otherwise, you would use the “**Dates for Filing for Family-Sponsored Adjustment of Status Applications**” chart.)
5. **Find the date for your “Family-Sponsored Preference Category.”** Within the chart, locate your Preference Category (F1, F2A, F2B, F3, F4) and the corresponding date under “All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed.”
6. **Compare this date to your Priority Date.** If your Priority Date is before the date on the bulletin chart, then your immigrant visa is available. You may apply for a Green Card by filing Form I-485.

For example, if your I-130 was approved because you are a spouse of an LPR, then your Preference Category is F2A and you would refer to the date under the column called “All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed”. See red box.

Family-Sponsored	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
F1					
F2A					
F2B					
F3					
F4					

If your Priority Date is after the date on the bulletin, then your immigrant visa is not yet available and you are not yet eligible to apply for a Green Card. Continue to check online regularly to find out when you can apply for a Green Card. The dates in the chart change monthly.