

BEFORE YOU PAY FOR A WORK VISA

Three things to get **in writing** before you pay.

- 1** Your provider's fee and the government's fee, on separate lines
- 2** A fixed price for each type of case
- 3** What extra work costs, before it happens

US public universities already get all three from their immigration lawyers. Their fee lists are public.

WHY IT MATTERS

Same petition. Up to three times the fee.

Lawyer’s fee for one new H-1B petition (the US work visa an employer sponsors), as printed on each university’s fee list.

University of Florida

2021 fee schedule · one H-1B line



\$1,000

Stony Brook University (SUNY)

Current page, read 11 Oct 2026 · extension \$1,650



\$1,785

Winthrop University

Schedule file dated Apr 2026 · extension \$2,800



\$3,000

Lawyer’s fee only. The government’s fees are extra and listed separately.

Three fee lists, not a market survey.

1

Different years. Florida's list is from 2021. Fees may have moved since.

2

Winthrop's \$3,000 is the outside-lawyer price. Its own international office handles most cases. The fee applies only when a case is sent out.

3

The lists don't say what each fee includes, so the work behind each price may differ.

4

Nobody explains the gap. We don't guess at it either.

What the three lists **do** share is more useful than the gap. Three habits, next.

The lawyer and the government are separate lines.

You see exactly what goes to the lawyer and what goes to the state.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA · 2021 FEE SCHEDULE

Legal fees	\$1,000
Made payable to the university's law firm	

Government filing fees	Separate line
Made payable to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security	

Why it matters: if a case fails, these two lines can be treated differently. **Ask which part you could get back.**

A price for each type of case, set before the work starts.

A sample of lines from one public fee list. University of Florida, 2021, legal fees only.

H-1B or TN work visa New petition	\$1,000
I-140, employer's green card petition Labor-certification route	\$2,000
I-140, outstanding professor or researcher EB-1 route	\$4,750
I-485, green card application Includes work and travel permits	\$2,600
Waiver backed by a government agency Interested-government-agency waiver	\$8,500

Extra work: a price, or at least a warning.

When the government asks for more evidence, answering costs extra.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA · 2021 · A PRICE

\$1,500–2,000

The price of answering a request for more evidence on an H-1B. It is on the fee list before anyone files.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY · CURRENT PAGE · A WARNING

“Your department will be notified in advance of any additional fees.”

No price is listed. The promise is notice before any extra fee is charged.

A price is stronger than a warning. **Ask for the price. At minimum, get the warning in writing.**

YOUR TURN

Ask your EOR or immigration lawyer for the same three things.

1

Can you split the quote into the government's fee, your fee and other costs?

Habit 1. You see where every dollar goes.

2

What is not included, and what does each extra cost?

Habit 2. A price per task, agreed before work starts.

3

If the authority asks for more evidence, what will that cost, and will you tell me before you charge it?

Habit 3. A price for extra work, or at least notice first.

HOLDING A VISA QUOTE?

Hiring someone abroad through an EOR or a law firm?

Message me the fee lines from your quote. No documents needed.

- 1** You send the figures and what each line covers.
- 2** I send back what the quote leaves out.
- 3** Plus three questions, written for you to send your provider.

Free. Facts and questions only, not legal advice.

SOURCES

Every figure, as printed.

University of Florida, Fee Schedule 2021 (14 October)

hr.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/UNIVERSITY-OF-FLORIDA-FEE-SCHEDULE-2021_October-14.pdf

Stony Brook University, H-1B Legal and Filing Fees (read 11 Oct 2026)

stonybrook.edu/visa/departments/hiring-and-hosting/sponsoring-an-h-1b-employee/legal-and-filing-fees.html

Winthrop University, Fee Schedule: H-1B, TN Visas and Permanent Residency (file dated 21 Apr 2026; footer prints 2024)

winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/international/facultystaffresources/FEESCHEDULEH1BPRTN.pdf

Lawyers' fees as printed by each university, for its own hiring departments. Three published lists, not a survey of the market. Nothing here is advice on any person's visa.