

## **U.S. L-1 VISA**

### **DESCRIPTION:**

The L-1 Visa is available to Intra company Transferees who have been employed outside of the United States for at least one of the prior three years. This foreign corporation must have a U.S. affiliate; the affiliate petitions for the transfer of the employee through L-1 visa status. Pursuant to the Immigration Act of 1990, "L" visa holders are exempted from the requirement of having to establish their continued non-immigrant intent, greatly facilitating the transition to an immigrant employment based visa, leading to a "green card" in the U.S. L-1 visas are available to transfer executives, managers, or employees with specialized knowledge and their families.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- The foreign Company must have been operating for at least one year and must remain in operation after the opening of the U.S. divisions;
- The annual sales volume or gross revenues of the foreign Company must exceed \$250, 000;
- The foreign company must have at least 3 employees;
- The people eligible in the transfer are: owners, executives, managerial staff and skilled workers;

The transferee must have worked for the foreign company for at least 1 year over the past three years as an employee.

### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

If the company is Canadian and the employees being transferred are Canadians, the visa may be obtained at the port of entry. If the company is in a country other than Canada, the application must go through a US Immigration Service Center. Once the application is approved, the applicant to be transferred will need to obtain his or her visa at the US Consulate in their country of origin, or in any country where they have legal status.