9/30/2020 Update: JUDGE BLOCKS USCIS FEE INCREASES

On September 29, 2020, a Federal District Court issued a nationwide preliminary injunction blocking the implementation of the new USCIS fee rule in its entirety pending further litigation. The new fees and form versions associated with that rule that were to be required on October 2, 2020, as well as all other aspects of the rule, are now on hold. You can read more about this case as reported by Forbes here.

The Department of Homeland Security announced a final rule (PDF) on 07/31/2020 that adjusts fees for certain immigration and naturalization benefit requests. The proposed changes were scheduled to become effective on 10/02/2020. USCIS also planned on updating several different forms. These changes are temporarily suspended until further notice as a result of the latest update.

As of now, USCIS’ existing filing fees remain in effect (pending further litigation) and USCIS will continue to accept forms with the current editions and current fees. USCIS will use regulations and guidance currently in place to adjudicate applications and petitions. For more information on current filing fees, please see below:

- Information for Sponsoring Departments
  - H-1B Filing Fees
  - Permanent Residence Filing Fees
    - PERM I-140 Instructions
    - Outstanding Professor/Researcher I-140 Instructions

- Information for International Faculty and Scholars
  - I-539 Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status
  - I-485 Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status
  - I-765 Application for Employment Authorization
  - I-131 Application for Travel Document (Advance Parole)
  - N-400 Application for Naturalization

- Information for International Students
  - I-765 Application for Employment Authorization
  - I-539 Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status
Please remember to always check USCIS’ website prior to filing for the most up-to-date filing fee information and form versions.

Several organizations have sued USCIS over the final fee rule. As of now, the implementation of the final rule has been suspended pending further litigation. We will issue a new alert if this changes.