

Each H-1B case is unique. There may be factors beyond the control of the Office of International Services (OIS), the hiring department, and the H-1B applicant that delay the preparation and filing of an H-1B petition.

All JHU H-1B petitions are filed using Premium Processing [PP]. With PP, USCIS is required to review the petition and take action within 15 business days of receipt.

It is important to consider the many steps that must be completed **before** a department can initiate an H-1B request with OIS, including, but not limited to:

- Recruitment
- Employment offer extended and accepted
- Review and approval of appointment [*academic positions only*]
- Licensure/Certification [*when applicable for the position*]
- Submission of OIS H-1B eForms

Key to Abbreviations:

OIS – Office of International Services
DOL – Department of Labor
DOS – Department of State
USCIS – US Citizenship and Immigration Services
LCA – Labor Condition Application
PP – Premium Processing
RFE – Request for Evidence

Understanding JHU's H-1B Timelines

Timeline 1:

Individuals who are presently in the U.S. in a non-immigrant status *other than H-1B* and eligible to change status to H-1B. Eligible for H-1B status via Pre-Flight Inspection or Port of Entry (POE) notification.

Timeline 2:

Individuals who are in the U.S. in H-1B status and require one of the following:

- Extension of JHU sponsored H-1B; *or*
- Amendment to JHU sponsored H-1B due to a material change in the terms of employment (may include extension); *or*
- Presently in H-1B status with another employer and need a JHU sponsored H-1B.

Timeline 3:

Individuals who are *not* presently in the U.S.

or

Individuals who are in the U.S. but are not eligible for a change of status to H-1B.

Further Action:

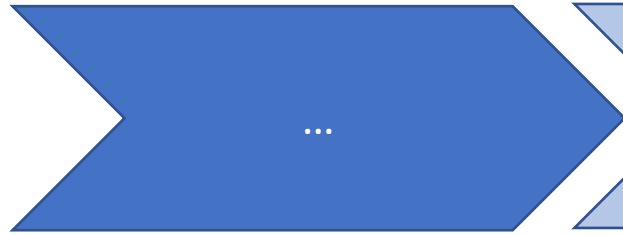
This occurs when USCIS issues an RFE for additional information or evidence. When an RFE is issued, JHU/OIS will have approximately 60 days to prepare and submit a response to USCIS. When USCIS receives the RFE response, USCIS will resume processing the H-1B petition.

If you have questions about these timelines or H-1B sponsorship, please email H1B-Employment@jhu.edu

Timeline 1

Change of Status in the United States or Eligible for Pre-Flight/POE notification – 3-4 Months

Case Initiation



JHU department and applicant gather documents and complete eForms.

Case Assigned



H advisor reviews eForms and documents and performs wage analysis.

Labor Condition Application



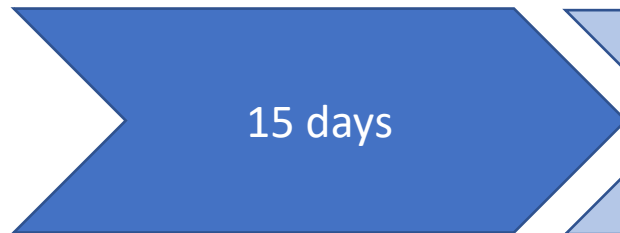
LCA submitted to DOL and notice posted electronically for 10 days. DOL reviews and certifies LCA.

Petition Preparation



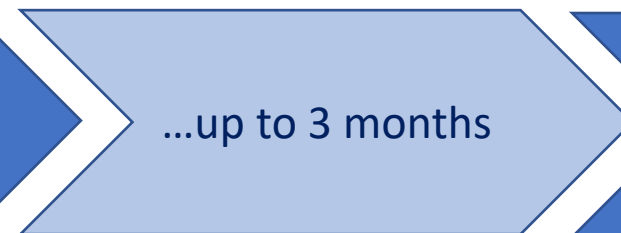
H advisor prepares the petition and files the petition with USCIS.

USCIS Premium Processing



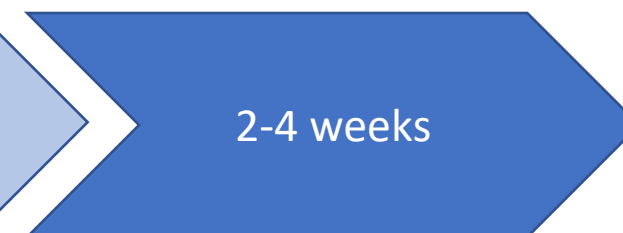
USCIS will take action (approval, RFE or denial) within 15 business days.

Further Action



****Does not apply to all H-1B cases****
See explanation included in the "Understanding H-1B Timelines" section.

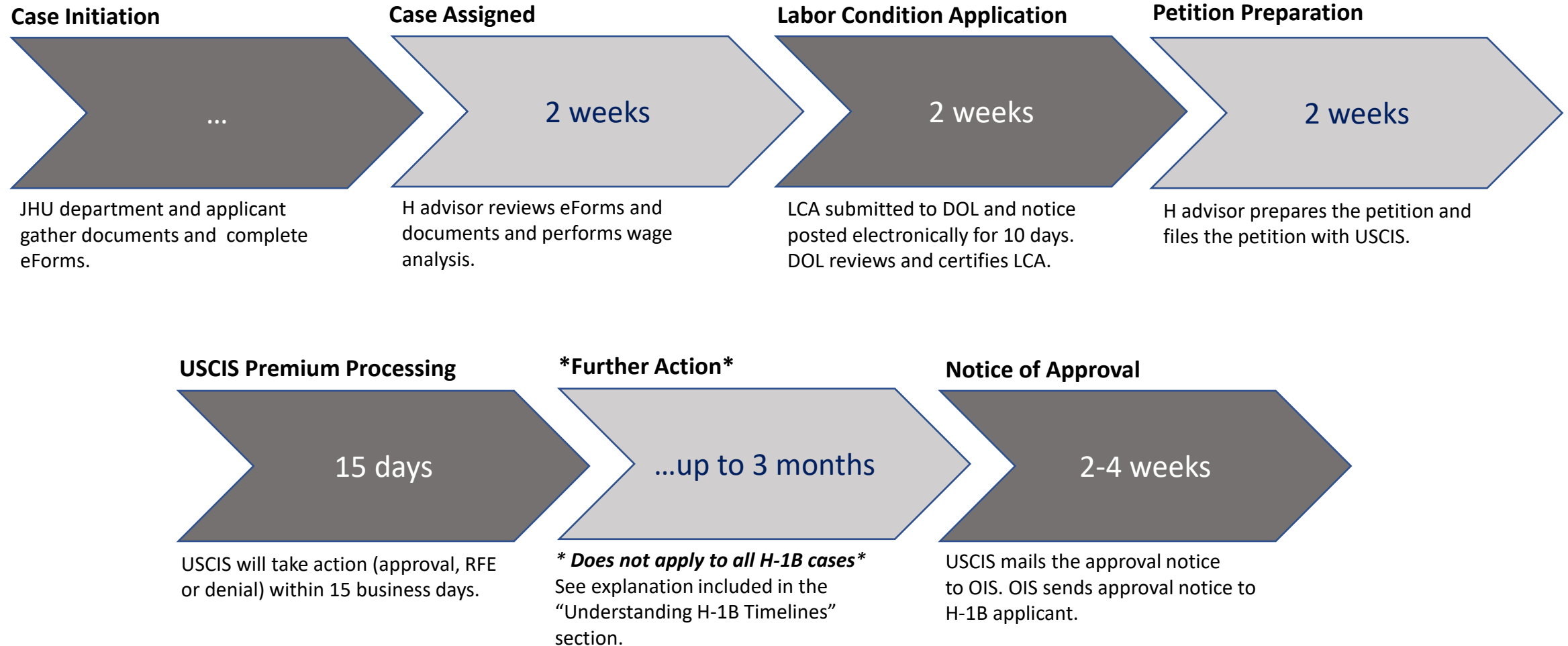
Notice of Approval



USCIS mails the approval notice to OIS. OIS sends approval notice to H-1B applicant.

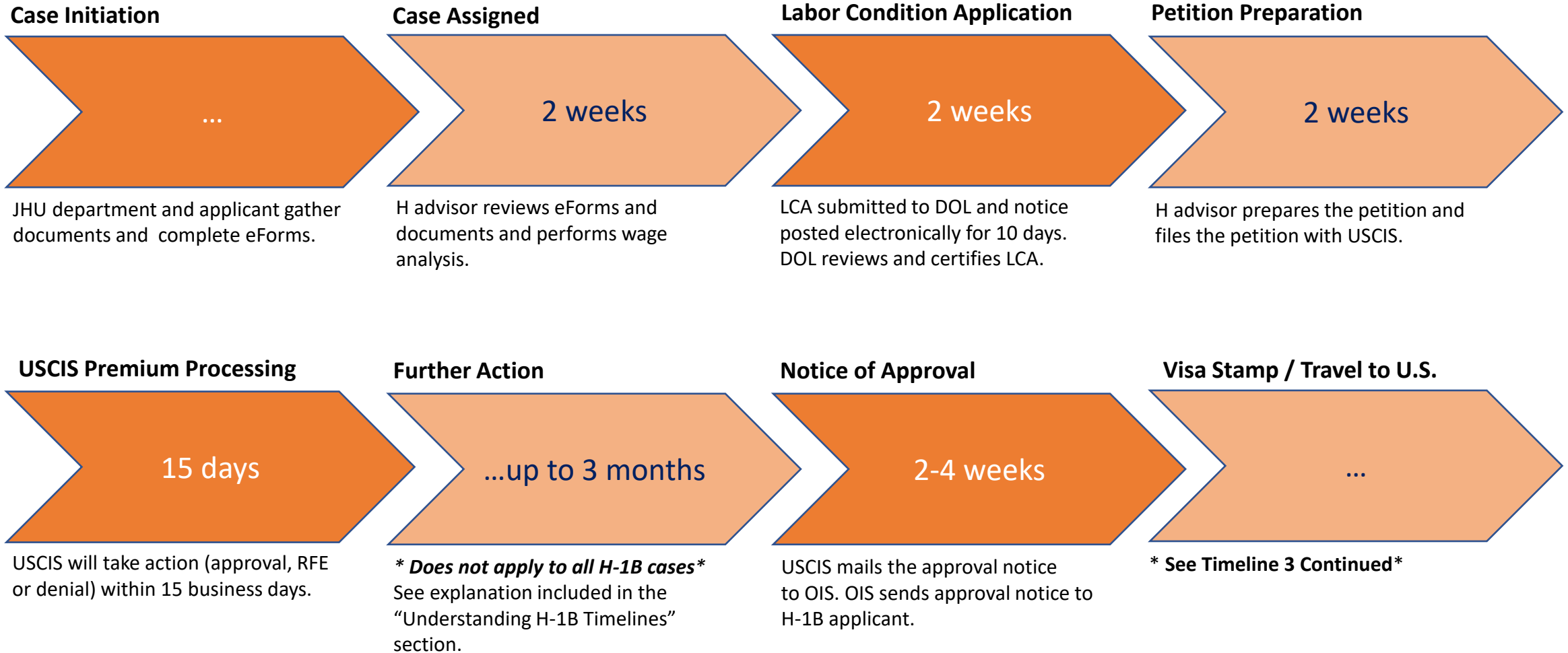
Timeline 2

H1B Extension / Portability / Amendment – 3-4 Months



Timeline 3

Consular Processing – 3 months – 6 months [or longer]



Timeline 3 Continued

Applying for a Visa Stamp and Travel to the U.S.

A citizen of a foreign country who seeks to enter the US in H-1B status must first obtain a visa **stamp** unless otherwise exempt from visa stamping requirements. A visa **stamp** is placed in the traveler's passport by a U.S. Consulate or Embassy.

Important Reminders:

- When selecting the U.S. Consulate to apply for the H-1B visa stamp, it is the **applicant's responsibility** to ensure they meet all eligibility requirements. Consulates may place additional application requirements, and in some cases, prohibit applications based on an applicant's country of citizenship or birth.
- In many instances, an in-person interview is required as part of the visa application. It is the applicant's responsibility to review the visa appointment wait times for the U.S. Consulate where they will apply for the visa.
- Before DOS issues the visa stamp, the U.S. Consulate may require additional time for administrative processing. This can substantially delay entry to the United States. See OIS [website](#) for more information about Administrative Processing.
- Visa applicants should not make travel arrangements until they are in possession of a valid H-1B visa stamp.
- Upon entry to the U.S., the H-1B applicant should immediately retrieve and carefully review their [I-94 record](#) to ensure they were admitted in the correct status and for the proper duration.