

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

A visa abroad versus changing status inside the United States

Does a USCIS change of status give me a new visa?

No. USCIS change of status and Department of State visa issuance are different processes. A person may receive a domestic classification decision without a new visa stamp; a later trip creates separate document and admission questions.

Check the boxes on screen or by hand. Use the notes area for records to find and questions to ask.

Your preparation checklist

- ☐ The person's actual location frames which process question is being asked.
- ☐ Record the proposed activity and category without treating a label as an eligibility conclusion.
- ☐ Keep visa-related instructions from the post distinct from domestic benefit notices.
- ☐ Preserve the whole USCIS decision rather than assuming it creates a new visa.

Notes and questions to follow up

Source links and current instructions

Sources checked October 25, 2026. Follow current instructions at the linked institution.

USCIS: Changing nonimmigrant status: approval and activity distinction

<https://www.uscis.gov/visit-the-united-states/change-my-nonimmigrant-status>

U.S. Department of State: Visa information: frequently asked questions

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/frequently-asked-questions.html>

USCIS: I-539: Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status

<https://www.uscis.gov/i-539>

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Return to the complete guide

<https://immigrantinsider.com/status/consular-change/>

General information

This free organizer is not a government form and does not submit an application, establish eligibility, preserve a deadline or replace individual legal advice. Government filing fees and professional services are separate.