

Event: “Get support on your immigration plan to the USA, open up a world of opportunity”

Part 02: Overview of immigration schemes and the latest update on today's migration to America & The benefits of EB5 Immigrant Investor visa Program for businesspersons and their families

The 1st topic will help our customers get an overview of today's immigration schemes to the USA, and American immigration programmes for Vietnamese, especially if you've already had a successful business and career. We're going to find out which programmes best suit your advantages.

Please welcome Ms. Quyen Ho, Investment Advisor from ImmiCa who'll be sharing with us her presentation.

Quyen would like to say hi to all HSBC Premier and ImmiCa's valued customers and all other participants in this webinar.

Before we move on to the overview on Vietnamese immigrants to the USA and the popular visa forms, Quyen'd like to invite you to a quick update on a country known as the land of the immigrants, which is the United States of America.

When it comes to immigration, the USA is no longer a strange name to all of us, am I correct? The Vietnamese community in the USA is the 4th largest, after the Chinese, Indian and Philippine ones. This is a statement for the attraction of the USA to immigrants around the world in general, and to Vietnamese in particular.

The USA is the 3rd largest country in the world, and as a result it boasts diverse living environments and cultures. It's widely known as the strongest economy in the world, making up 1/4 of the world's economy. When it comes to the USA, we immediately think of the 5 conglomerate giants: Apple, Amazon, Facebook, Netflix and Alphabet.

Together with Germany and the Netherlands, the USA is ranked among the 3 top countries for business and startups. And it's obvious to entrepreneurs and investors that the American dollar is the most powerful currency in the world. Its exchange rate has always had a stable growth, yes?

It's also the most widely used currency for international trades and the most popular one for reserves.

That's why keeping money or investing in form of the USD is a safe option to maintain our property. The USA's also renowned for its world-class education and health services.

These are the top 3 factors for millions of immigrant families in the world to choose the USA as their second homeland. And the special thing is that Vietnam's ranked among the 6 countries with the greatest number of international students in the USA. It's clear that we Vietnamese always invest heavily on our children's education; am I correct?

We've been totally convinced by the USA's education, with its focus on practicality to help students build an active attitude, a quick mind and develop their strengths. The USA has 6 universities among the top best universities in the world, and these 6 always occupy the very highest numbers.

It's true when it comes to the hottest professions on the market, American universities always prioritize their slots for American residents or students with American nationality. International students still have to face fairly intense competition to be accepted by the universities.

The health service sector in the USA is the gathering place of the most advance medical technologies in the world and of the top healthcare experts and professionals. That's why in the USA there are health insurance programs provided by private companies.

Because of the competition in pricing and quality of healthcare service, American citizens have a lot of choices for the most suitable and the best insurance packages for themselves and their families. And Quyen'd like to emphasize once again that due to the very open and diverse immigration atmosphere, the USA offers great chances of success for immigrants.

In the USA, there are big names like Elon Musk, the boss of Tesla, or Sergey Brin, Co-founder of Alphabet, the parent company of Google, and even Ebay, Whatsapp.

Or the Zoom platform that we're using at this very moment. It was developed by immigrants to the USA. And there are many, many more successful immigrant entrepreneurs or immigrant researchers of outstanding influence. They all choose the USA as their destination.

We're proud to say that the Vietnamese people have achieved success in the USA. We know that the Orange County now has its first Vietnamese senator. The Vietnamese-American businessman Tran Dinh Truong is famous for being one of the richest Vietnamese in the world.

And we should not forget Ms. Le Duy Loan, an electronics engineer who graduated from the University of Texas at the age of 19. She's known as one of the Asian women who hold the highest technical position in an American corporation.

Quyen believes that there are many, many more Vietnamese of the next generations who have inherited the success and prosperity of Vietnamese in the USA. And Quyen believes that the chances are for everybody.

There's a saying that Quyen's quite fond of, "The USA is not a paradise, but it has all the chances and tools we need to build a paradise for our own."

Quyen'd like to invite you to our next part, and we'll take a look at the general information on Vietnamese immigration to the USA, illustrated in the 2 charts on the screen behind me.

In the left chart, we can see that Vietnamese people have immigrated to the USA since the 1970s, and in the 1990s the Vietnamese immigrated to the USA mainly as family reunification.

As of 2017, there has been 3 million Vietnamese people as American citizens. The Vietnamese communities have seen tremendous growth in the USA, concentrated chiefly in California, Texas and Washington.

In the 2nd chart on the right corner, you can see the popular forms of migration of legal residents in the USA. As of today, the majority are sponsorship and family reunification.

The US government's increased the number of immigration types and the immigration applicants, as we can see with the employment visa. These 2 topics will be covered later on.

Now please follow me closely as Quyen shares about the 2 most typical immigration types.

Investment is family sponsorship. It's the type that we're most familiar with. For family sponsorship, there are different categories of visa and different quotas. For example, an American citizen can sponsor his or her siblings, children and spouse.

Permanent residents can sponsor their single children. This is actually the hardest visa to get, because every year the number of documents submitted keeps increasing and increasing. That's why the US government's tightened the rules and regulations for sponsorship and visa approval.

The next type, as we can see, we can seek visa approval to the USA under employment, but it also has limitations. You should also distinguish the different categories of visa, which is for immigration and which is not, to best suit your current needs.

The 1st visa category Quyen wants to share is the B1, for tourism and business. This visa category allows us to visit the USA, but the approved period of stay is limited. If you want to immigrate as an employee, Quyen'd like to introduce the EB1 category.

This category's meant for employees, and is further divided into 3 smaller groups. For example, you may have heard of EB1A, for workers of extraordinary abilities, and EB1B for outstanding professors and researchers, recognized by the US government.

And especially the EB1C, for high-level staff and multinational managers or executives. These staff members immigrate to the USA to continue working and will be issued EB1C visa for their and their family's immigration.

The next category is L1, also for businesspersons. Its requirements are quite similar to those of EB1C, but it's a non-immigrant visa. It's for entrepreneurs or high-level managers in Vietnam who wish to go to the USA to develop their business.

Investors and their families also have a chance to immigrate to the USA after submitting documents in the EB1C category.

Quy'en'll go on to the next visa category that we've heard of in recent years. It's the E2 category, or visa for countries that maintain a treaty of commerce with the USA. It's also a non-immigrant visa.

If we have this visa, we can go to the USA to do business or work. However, visa owners must have a nationality of countries that maintain a treaty of commerce with the USA, like Grenada or Turkey. In Asia, Vietnam's yet to sign a similar treaty with the USA, only Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines have, among other countries.

With E2 visa, we must invest indirectly, and have a nationality before we seek a visa to go to the USA, and it won't directly help you get a Green card. After we arrive, we'll have to find a way to join other EB categories to become an immigrant in the USA.

If you want to get an immigrant visa for yourself and your family, only by proving your own ability or the capability of your family, without relying on other factors, you should really consider the EB5 category.

The EB5 visa covers an extensive group of applicants: you can be business owners, high-level managers, self-employed entrepreneurs or private household businesses. ImmiCa even has investor customers applying for EB5 while being an international student.

And then we'll apply for an immigrant visa to the USA as a foreign investor, by proving the legal status of our funds and our cash flow.

We've gone through some visa categories to the USA. And next we'll switch to another important topic: today's immigration situations to the USA. As you've known, the 2019, 2020 immigration policies have caused some impact on many people's immigration plans cross the world, not just those of Vietnamese people.

But since the beginning of 2021, the USA has carried out many changes, resulting in more open immigration policies, such as the removal of the ban on immigrant visas, and family reunification has been opened again, and interviews are being conducted.

The USA has, in particular, made adjustments to the quotas of sponsorship and employment-based immigration. Most notably, the EB5 visa in 2021 and 2022 has received double quotas compared to the previous years.

As of today, how are Vietnam and other countries in the world affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?

Dear valued customers, the National Visa Center (NVS), under the United States Department of State, has been actively working on built-up visas. But the Consulate Generals and Embassies in other countries have also experienced delays from the complexity of COVID-19. That's why the US Consulate General in Vietnam has halted all normal activities, except for emergencies.

This is also the common situation in all countries affected by COVID-19. So if you're waiting for interviews to immigrate under family sponsorship or employment-based, please be patient and keep tracking the latest information from the Consulate General and the Vietnam government.

If you're looking into the suitable programs, then we'll have more time to apply different plans and methods, to get the most suitable one for our family. Please continue to follow the latest information and updates.

And you should follow Directive 16 from the government in the best way we can, and maintain good mental health, so we can be ready at any time for our immigration plans once the situation improves.

So Quyen has finished sharing with you an overview and update on immigration to the USA. I hope we can help you answer more questions at the end of this event.

Thank you To Quyen!

Hi everybody. Nhai's very happy to be here today to share with you information about the chances to immigrate to the USA, through the EB5 program, which most of us have heard about.

At the moment, the program's getting more and more popular among Vietnamese people, especially the ones who're working for foreign companies, or business owners. For them, this EB5 immigration program's a particularly attractive option.

The EB5 immigration program was passed by the United States Congress in 1990, which is 31 years ago as of today. This program aims at creating more jobs for American citizens, and that's it's named EB5.

And this program targets all investors in the world who have a total net worth from 1 million dollars. It works when we invest an amount of 500,000 US dollars in projects approved and assigned by the US government.

Through this program, you as investors have a chance to get the Green card for your whole family, including your spouse and children, under 21 years old and single. It's worth noting that our 500,000 US dollars will be returned 2 years after we move to the US, during an estimated period of 5.5 to 7 years.

The EB5 program's been a huge success and brought tremendous benefits to the USA's economy. Today, and especially after the 2008 economic crisis, thanks to the EB5 program that the USA's attracted a dozen billion dollars' worth of foreign investment, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs for the locals.

That's why the EB5 program's always been supported by the United States

Congress, law makers, and private-sector developers. In any given period, be it under the Democratic or Republican Party's regime, the program has always been promoted.

And the EB5 program's getting more and more popular among Vietnamese people, and every year nearly 1.000 Vietnamese families participate in the EB5 American immigration program. So how can we start investing in an EB5 project?

The first step, dear valued customers, is called the I-526 process. At this stage, we, as investors, will need to choose a project that meets the requirements from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service. What does that mean?

It means that the project must be in an area that can generate new jobs. It can be in a rural area with a population under 20,000; or in an area with an unemployment rate higher than the average number of the country.

We may have heard of projects in New York City, or California, or rural regions like Montana.

After we've chosen the project, we'll move on to investing an amount of 500,000 dollars into it, and we have to prove the legal status of our investment fund.

At this state, the Immigration Services will assess 2 main factors: the 1st is the legal status of our investment funds, and the 2nd is that the invested project must be in an area that can create new jobs.

After we invest and submit the documents to the Immigration Services, the Services will approve of your submission. After approval, our documents will be sent to the National Visa Center.

We'll go on with completing other procedures like judicial records. Or you can add other dependant family members. For example, during the process, you may get married or give birth to a baby. These pieces of information can be added at this stage.

When we complete the above stage, which is called MPC, then our documents will be transferred to the US Consulate General. We'll have health checkups to

prepare for the immigration interview at the US Consulate General in HCMC, or the US Embassy in Hanoi.

This interview is different from interviews before we travel or go to study abroad. For instance, travel interview carries the element of luck. But this immigration is different, because ImmiCa and lawyers will help you practice beforehand.

Most investors are successful at this stage, have their documents approved and receive the visa right after the interview. Your immigrant visa will have a 6-month stay period.

During this time, you can arrange your schedules and prepare to purchase flight tickets to the USA. We can arrive at any state we wish for, like California or Texas or New York. It doesn't need to be the state where our invested project is.

After our arrival in the USA, the first day of our entry to the USA is also the first day our Green card kicks into effect, and our Green card will have a stay period of 2 years. It'll be sent to your house or to the lawyer's office that you've registered with.

Now as we have the Green card, we have the full rights to live, study and enjoy all the benefits as American citizens. Quyen will share with you the rights of a Green card owner later on.

After arriving in the USA for nearly 2 years, or in the 21st month of the Green card whose condition is 2 years, we'll move on to the last stage of the EB5 investment program. We'll submit the Form I-829 to switch from a 2-year Green card to a 10-year one.

The Immigration Services then will assess 2 factors: If your investment is still in the project or not; and if the invested project has created at least 10 new jobs. After we meet these 2 conditions, our family will receive the permanent residence Green card, and we'll also get our invested money back.

The EB5 program has quite a lot of advantages on its own for our consideration. If you're interested in immigration to other countries in the world, like Australia,

Canada or European countries, there 'll be many conditions to apply to an immigration program.

However, with the EB5 there is no requirements for language, degree or business. We can all join the program, at any age and with any education background.

And in particular, we don't need to a family member to join the EB5 program.

In addition, we can fully maintain our work in Vietnam, and move between the 2 countries without any restrictions, as long as we return to the USA every 6 months.

If you have a plan to stay outside the USA for more than 12 months, we can apply for a re-entry permit.

The biggest advantage of this program, which is loved by the majority of customers Nhai has met, is that it has a longer residence period compared to other countries' immigration programs.

The EB5 program doesn't require to live full time in the USA. And one of the driving forces that has convinced investors to join the EB5 program is the American Green card's benefits.

If we have the Green card, we won't have to pay for school fees for our kids, from elementary to high school. The public school system in the USA is highly regarded, and it's certain we can pick the best for our children.

Then you can choose a house or apartment in the neighborhood. And when our children go to university, there will be more chances to apply to a university, compared to international students.

As international students, your chance to go to big universities like Harvard or MIT or Stanford will be limited. If your children have the permanent residence card, their chances will increase, and there are the advantages of scholarships, and lower school fees, even only 1/3 of what international students have to pay.

And one more advantage is that when your children graduate, they'll have the rights to stay and work, and get paid as the natives. This is different from international students. International students can only stay and work for 1 year, and have to return to Vietnam if there is no company there who sponsor them.

The investment amount of the EB5 program, compared to other immigration programs, is more favourable. If we look at Australia, the investment amount is 1.5 million to 5 million Australian dollars, in form of government bonds.

Or Singapore, a country right next to us, the number is 2.5 million Singaporean dollars. Or in UK, we'll need 2 million pounds to obtain nationality. But for this program, we only need 500,000 USD, and the money will be refunded to us.

Besides, if you're already successful in Vietnam, we can absolutely go on and developing our advantages and achievements in the USA.

The USA is a country with plentiful chances, from work opportunities to business development chances. We can even bring our products to develop them further in the USA.

We'll come back again to the requirements of this program. The most important thing is still proving your finance. How can we do that? The Immigration Services wants to know how we legally get the 500,000 USD we use for investment.

There are several to prove our legal funds. If you have a business, you can prove your funds by the profit from your business, which you use for investment.

If you receive salary, and you're HSBC customers, I believe that you work for big companies and you get considerable payment. You can prove the funds through the accumulation of your income through the years. Or properties that you're given or have inherited, they all can be used as proof for your funds.

And the most popular method is we sell or mortgage real estate to get the 500,000 USD for investment.

With more than 12 years of experience in immigration consultancy, I myself have 4 years of experience in supporting hundreds of families to get their American

Green card through the EB5 program, Nhai wants to share with you the deciding factors for your success when joining the EB5.

When you join the program, of course you won't do it alone, but with a team of experts to help you in your investment stages. The experts Nhai mentioned are your consultancy agency.

The agency must understand Vietnamese culture, the habit of buying real estate and the living style of the Vietnamese people, so it can help you prove your investment fund in the most effective way.

Secondly, the agency must have plenty of experience in assessing the projects which will be offered to you, because these 2 factors are very important in helping you get the Green card and get your investment money back.

The 2nd factor that decides your success is the project you invest in. We'll have to consider if the project meets the requirements from the EB5 Immigration Services or not.

Is the developer of the project trustworthy? Do they have any experience in designing EB5 projects that can guarantee your success, create 10 new jobs and refund the money that you invested?

The 3rd factor is the lawyer office who will represent you to submit your documents to the Immigration Services. They need to have experience to support you, and they need to have success in helping your document get approved, among the thousands submitted every year.

And for immigration agencies, it's obvious that we must choose the one who understands the market and American immigration rules.

Another factor that's indispensable from the successful outcome of the EB5 program you join, is the investor - which means you.

You need to build trust between you and the agencies that accompany you, because the EB5 program is not an overnight success.

It's a long-term program that lasts from 3 years to 5 years, even 7 years. You have to trust the agencies that go with you along the way and support you in the process of the EB5 program.

ImmiCa is proud of our 12 years of experience in supporting thousands of families to realize their American immigration plans and American dreams. Every year ImmiCa handles hundreds of documents, making up the majority of documents submitted to the Immigration Services in Vietnam.

In the course of our operation, ImmiCa has introduced more than 38 projects to our customers, helping them receive their Green card and get back their invested money.

ImmiCa is very happy to welcome you as our new customers, so we can help you achieve your American dreams. Thank you for your attention.

Nhai Nguyen and To Quyen will come back to you later on, in the Q&A section.