



Agreement between the United States and El Salvador concerning the temporary worker program

On February 6, 2020, the Government of El Salvador signed an agreement with the Government of the United States to establish programs for agricultural and non-agricultural temporary workers, so that Salvadorans can apply for H-2A and H-2B visas to work in the U.S.

The agreement is being executed through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The U.S. Embassy directly supports the Government of El Salvador to vet applicants and conduct a thorough candidate selection process. The H2 program is a top priority for both governments and this cooperation ensures an effective and streamlined program.



Want to hire salvadoran workers?



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H2Visas@escpvisas.com



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GOBIERNO DE
EL SALVADOR

MINISTERIO
DE RELACIONES
EXTERIORES



LABOR MOBILITY PROGRAM

To the United States H-2A, H-2B
and C1/D Visas Program



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EL SALVADOR



How does the program work?



1. Outreaching employers

Identifies employers in need of H-2B, H-2A and C-D1 workers through the Salvadoran consular network in the U.S.



2. Selection and recruitment

The process is designed to ensure suitable candidates, according to the employer requirements.



3. Monitoring placed workers and return

Through our consular network we seek to ensure long term relationships with employers by promoting compliance to the contract terms from both parties



4. Reintegration and impact evaluation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will assist returning workers with job placement, entrepreneurship programs, and line them up for the next year's process.

Workers profile

H-2A workers

The program's prequalified applicants have agricultural experience (including experience in aquaculture, livestock, tobacco, and in greenhouses and nurseries, among others) in crops such as: corn, vegetables, lettuce, fruits, rice, beans, coffee, sugar.



84% Men



16% Women

Percentage of preselected agricultural applicants

- 89%** Farmers and skilled agricultural and forestry workers
- 9%** Agricultural laborers
- 2%** Agronomists and other agricultural trades

H-2B workers

There are applicants with non-agricultural experience in occupations such as: cooks, chefs, and kitchen assistants; restaurant employees; nurses, paramedics, elderly care, and personal care; construction; electricians; waiters; hotels; and aeronautics.



84% Men



40% Women

Percentage of preselected non-agricultural applicants

- 33%** Cooks, chefs, and kitchen assistants
- 25%** Electricians and experience in electricity
- 14%** Nurses, paramedics, elderly care and personal care
- 12%** Cooks, chefs, and kitchen assistants
- 8%** Electricians and experience in electricity
- 8%** Experience in hotels, restaurants, and aeronautics

CD/1 workers

The Maritime Port Authority (MPA) is in charge of applying the STCW'78 Convention, which establishes the minimum requirements applicable to the certification and titling of seafarers who provide their services on board merchant ships.



67.03% Men



32.97% Women

- **30%** count on basic English language proficiency
- MPA has trained personnel to act as waiters, bartenders, cooks.
- Currently, the MPA has certified 1,288 people as merchant seafarers.



Benefits of selecting El Salvador



No recruitment fees for petitioners or workers.



Salvadorans have a reputation for being hard-working, entrepreneurial and highly committed.



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Assistance in filling out of forms and in the application process for a temporary work visa.



Inter-institutional coordination to speed up processes.

Salvadoran workers are required by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs :



Have experience in their field of work



Have a clean criminal record



Have optimal health conditions



Have strong family roots in El Salvador