

main performer(s). There is less of an emphasis on the long-standing relationship between supporter and performer than in the O-2 context.

There are some special rules applicable to P-1 entry.

Waiver from International Recognition Requirement You can request a waiver if your group has an outstanding national reputation, and you can demonstrate that certain factors, such as limited access to the news media or geography, have hindered the attainment of recognition outside Canada. This provision is of specific benefit to Canadian performers.

One-Year Relationship Requirement You must provide evidence that your entertainment group has been established with 75 percent of its current members for at least one year. However, this requirement may be waived for members who:

1. replace an essential member of the group due to illness or other unanticipated and exigent circumstances;
2. augment the group by performing a critical role; or
3. enter the United States to perform in an integral and essential role as part of a nationally recognized circus act.

When requesting a waiver from either the international recognition or one-year relationship requirement, be sure to support your claim with documented evidence, even written expert opinions if necessary.

A P-1 visa is approved for up to a maximum of one year for a specific performance or tour. Extensions for continuing or completing the same activity must be requested on a new I-129 Form and may be approved in one-year increments.

P-2 *Participant in a Reciprocal Exchange Program Between a Canadian and U.S. Organization and its (or their) Essential Support Personnel from the American Federation of Musicians or Actors Equity*

You qualify for a P-2 visa if you are an individual performing artist or member of an entertainment group participating in a temporary exchange program between a Canadian and U.S. organization for artists and entertainers (e.g., the American Federation of Musicians and the Actors Equity Association exchange between Canadian and American chapters). The American Federation of Musicians will be the petitioner, and you should contact the Toronto office for details. Actors Equity will provide the necessary exchange documentation for your presenter to submit. You must submit the following documentation: