

O-2 *Performer(s) or Essential Support Personnel Accompanying the O-1 Performer of Extraordinary Ability or Achievement*

You qualify for an O-2 visa if you do not have a lead, starring or critical creative role, but are nonetheless an integral part of the performance, motion picture or television production. You may also be "essential support personnel" of the O-1 alien performer. You must submit documented evidence demonstrating that you possess "critical skills and experience" based on a long-standing working relationship with the O-1 artist or perform an essential role that cannot be readily performed by other persons.

Note that personnel accompanying performers include back-stage assistants, or essential support personnel such as stage technicians and others who may not qualify for O-1 visas individually.

An O-2 visa petition may include more than one name. The application must be made on a separate petition form from the one used to request the O-1 visa, and it must be submitted to USINS in conjunction with the O-1 visa. The duration of the visa is up to a maximum of three years for the event, specific performance, film shoot 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-1 *Member of an Internationally Recognized Entertainment Group and Essential Support Personnel*

You qualify for a P-1 visa if you are a member of an entertainment group that has received international recognition. You must submit documented evidence that demonstrates "international recognition" along the same lines used to demonstrate extraordinary ability (distinction) or achievement for O-1 individual performers (i.e., documented evidence of at least three significant accomplishments).

You must also submit a written statement listing all the members in your entertainment group and the exact dates during which each member has been employed by the group on a regular basis. As a general rule, 75 percent of your members must have been with the group for at least one year (see "One-Year Relationship Requirement" in the paragraph on special rules, below).

If you are an essential support person to the P-1 or P-3 entertainment group, you must submit a separate petition, together with documented evidence establishing your "essential role, critical skills and experience" in association with the group.

Note that essential support visas must be requested separately from the visas for the main performer(s), but can be approved only in conjunction with the visas for the