

**IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE**  
**H-1B VISA ACCOUNT**  
(Dollars in thousands)

	<u>Perm.</u> <u>Pos.</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1999 actuals.....	...	...	\$754
2000 appropriation.....	...	...	1,125
2001 base.....	...	...	1,125
2001 estimate.....	...	...	1,125

<u>Comparison by activity and program</u>	2000 Appropriation			2001 Base			2001 Estimate			Increase/Decrease		
	<u>Perm</u> <u>Pos.</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Perm</u> <u>Pos.</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Perm</u> <u>Pos.</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Perm</u> <u>Pos.</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Immigration Support:												
Adjudications and Naturalizations.....	...	...	\$1,125	...	...	\$1,125	...	...	\$1,125	...	...	...

The American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act, P.L. 105-277, was enacted in 1998. This law increases the number of H-1B visas available annually, and establishes a new fee to pay for the cost of job training and scholarship programs. The H-1B is a temporary visa category for nonimmigrant workers that includes specialty occupations which require a bachelor's degree or higher and fashion models of distinguished merit and ability. Typical H-1B occupations include architects, engineers, computer programmers, accountants, doctors and college professors. The number of visas available annually has been increased from 65,000, to 115,000, for fiscal years 1999 and 2000, and to 107,500 in FY 2001. In FY 2002, the number of H-1B visas available will revert to 65,000. The \$500 fee, charged for this program, is in addition to the \$110 filing fee for H-1B visas. The additional fee is used to help U.S. citizens, legal permanent residents and other U.S. workers with job training, low-income scholarships, grants for mathematics, engineering or science enrichment courses administered by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Labor, and for processing and enforcement.

The amount above represents INS' share (1.5 percent) of the projected revenue stream. INS uses these receipts to cover the costs associated with processing the increased number of temporary worker petitions.