

TN VISA

DOES A TN VISA REQUIRE SPONSORSHIP? THE TN REQUIREMENTS EXPLAINED

TN VISA Requirements

What are the TN visa requirements?

- To qualify for a TN visa, you must meet the following requirements:
 - *You must be a citizen of Canada or Mexico;*
 - *Your profession must appear on the list of professions provided in the TN regulations;*
 - *You must have the required qualifications to practice that profession (education and/or experience);*
 - *You must have a pre-arranged job for a defined length of time with an employer in the U.S.; and*
 - *In that job, you must be employed to engage in professional activities that are consistent with the listed profession.*
 - *The degree must match the job description. The examiner will look at the Department of Labor Handbook to assess which degree is required and what that profession does. (See Next Slide)*

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Department of Labor Handbook Example

The screenshot shows the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, SUBJECTS, DATA TOOLS, PUBLICATIONS, ECONOMIC RELEASES, CLASSROOM, and BETA. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: Bureau of Labor Statistics > Publications > Occupational Outlook Handbook > Life, Physical, and Social Science. The main content area is titled "OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK" and includes a search bar. The specific page is for "Economists" and features a "Summary" tab. A "Quick Facts: Economists" table is displayed, along with a video thumbnail showing a man looking at a computer screen with a bar chart. Below the table, there are sections for "What Economists Do", "Work Environment", and "How to Become an Economist".

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OOH HOME | OCCUPATION FINDER | OOH FAQ | HOW TO FIND A JOB | A-Z INDEX | OOH SITE MAP

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

Search Handbook Go

Economists

PRINTER-FRIENDLY

Summary | What They Do | Work Environment | How to Become One | Pay | Job Outlook | State & Area Data | Similar Occupations | More Info

Summary

Quick Facts: Economists	
2023 Median Pay	\$115,730 per year \$55.64 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education	Master's degree
Work Experience in a Related Occupation	None
On-the-job Training	None
Number of Jobs, 2023	17,500
Job Outlook, 2023-33	5% (As fast as average)
Employment Change, 2023-33	900

[What Economists Do](#)

Economists conduct research, prepare reports, and evaluate issues related to monetary and fiscal policy. They also may collect and analyze statistical data.

[Work Environment](#)

Economists typically work in an office setting, either independently or collaborating with a variety of other workers. Most economists work full time, and some work more than 40 hours per week.

[How to Become an Economist](#)

Economists typically need at least a master's degree to enter the occupation. However, some economists—primarily in government—qualify for entry-level positions with a bachelor's degree. Others need a Ph.D.

TN VISA Sponsorship

What is sponsorship?

- Comparing sponsorship for H1B & L with the TN visa
 - *TN does not require filing any forms with USCIS (unless you are doing a change or extension of status from within the U.S.)*
 - *TNs are not location specific*
 - *No required wage*
- Filing for a TN at a Port of Entry (Canadians) or a Consulate (Mexicans)
- Filing for a TN from within the United States with USCIS

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Canadian and Mexican Nationals

What are the differences for Canadian and Mexican Nationals?

- **Canadians**
 - *Can apply for the TN at a port of entry*
 - *Visas can be issued for 3 years*
 - *If spouse is not Canadian, spouse must go to a Consulate to get the TD (dependent) visa stamp*
- **Mexicans**
 - *Must apply at a U.S. Consulate*
 - *Visa stamps will be issued in increments of 1 year. However, if the employer letter specifies three years, the person can be given 3 years in TN status when they enter the U.S.*
 - *In certain cases, renewals can be done through mail*

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Difficult Categories (Management Consultant & Economist)

What are some difficult TN visa categories?

- **Management Consultant**
 - *Does not require a degree, can qualify with experience (five years' experience as a management consultant; or five years' experience in a field of specialty related to the consulting agreement).*
 - *Often used as a "catch-all" category, so it is heavily scrutinized*
 - *Unless applicant is coming to work for a management consulting firm, the position must be supernumerary (extra) role*

- **Economist**
 - *Previously used for financial analysts and market research analysts*
 - *New Policy Memo from November 2017 narrowed scope of Economist category. Financial Analysts and market research analysts were explicitly excluded*

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Application Process

What is the TN visa application process?

- **Applying at a Port of Entry (Canadians)**
 - *Can apply at any Port of Entry*
 - *Provide the job offer letter and supporting documentation evidencing proof of citizenship, as well as your educational and professional qualifications.*
 - *Some POEs are optimized for faster TN processing. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recommends that if you are a first time TN applicant, you apply for a TN visa at one of the designated ports of entry listed on the CBP website*
- **Applying at a Consulate (Mexicans)**
 - *Must apply at a U.S. Consulate*
 - *File a DS-160 form, pay a visa application fee, schedule biometrics & consular appointment, attend a TN interview*
 - *Renewal applicants may be eligible to apply by mail*
- **Applying from within the U.S. with USCIS (Mexicans & Canadians)**
 - *Employer must file Form I-129 with USCIS with supporting documents*

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Tips and Common Pitfalls

What are some tips and common pitfalls?

- Call ahead to the port of entry if you are unfamiliar with the procedures
- Ensure the employer contact who signed the letter is available and able to answer a call in case the border officer calls to verify the job
- Bring diploma, official transcripts and original signed version of the employer letter if possible (some ports require the employer's original signature on the letter)
- The TN visa is a nonimmigrant visa and requires a showing of nonimmigrant intent. You should be prepared to show ties to your home country if you have been in the U.S. for a long time.

ANY QUESTIONS?
