

Form I-129F Petition Process flowchart

From petition to consulate processing

1. Meet Fiance(e) within the last 2 years

- Gather proof of relationship having physically met (airline tickets, receipts, pictures, other documented proof)
- Note: you don't necessarily have to be engaged

2. Prepare documents for form I-129F

- Gather all required documents as per instructions.

3. Mail the I-129F petition for Alien fiance(e) to the USCIS

- Send package to USCIS
- Receive "Notice of Action" (NOA1 form I-797C) confirming your petition is received.

4. USCIS processes I-129F

- Petition is forwarded to your designated USCIS service center
- Petition I-129F is reviewed and adjudicated
- You may receive a "Request for Evidence" (RFE) for any clarifications.
- I-129F is approved and you receive NOA2 (I-797) confirming your approval.
- Case is forwarded to the National Visa Center

5. NVC Processes case (approved I-129F)

- The NVC performs some functions including background checks.
- NVC issues a case # to your case.
- Then petition is sent to the closest US Embassy to your fiance(e)

6. Further steps...

- approved petition I-129F is valid for 4 months
- US Embassy/consulate will process the case as a K-1 visa petition for fiance(e).

Average time: 1-5 months

Average time: 1 Month

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I-129F flowchart
and timeline

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