General H-1B Process and Timeline

1. Department prepares H-1B request and submits it to ISSS.
2. ISSS requests prevailing wage assessment from U.S. Department of Labor (up to 60 days).
3. ISSS files Labor Condition Application with U.S. Department of Labor (up to 7 business days).
4. Department posts LCA in two conspicuous locations (10 business days).
5. ISSS prepares I-129 and I-907 if premium processing is requested.
6. Department returns completed Certificate of Posting to ISSS and arranges meeting with ISSS to prepare H-1B petition for submission to USCIS.
7. USCIS receives petition, issues and mails Receipt Notice (1-2 weeks).
8. USCIS processes H-1B petition (3-5 months, 15 calendar days if premium processing is requested).
9. If approved, USCIS issues and mails Approval Notice (1-2 weeks).
10. If abroad, H-1B employee applies for visa at U.S. consulate (processing times vary).
11. If in U.S., H-1B employee makes ISSS appointment to collect approval documents.

NOTE: All times are approximate and subject to change.