

H-2A and H-2B Foreign Labor Certification

www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov

Analysis

- The percentage of H-2A applications processed within 15 business days increased 42 percentage points from the same period a year ago.
- The percentage of applications processed for the quarter decreased by one percentage point over the past four quarters.

Note: The Office of Foreign Labor Certification has proposed regulations to revise the H-2A program. The issuance of a final rule may affect processing times. Full implementation of the revised H-2B regulation will take several quarters. Once performance data are obtained under the revised regulation, the current target may be reassessed.

Program Performance

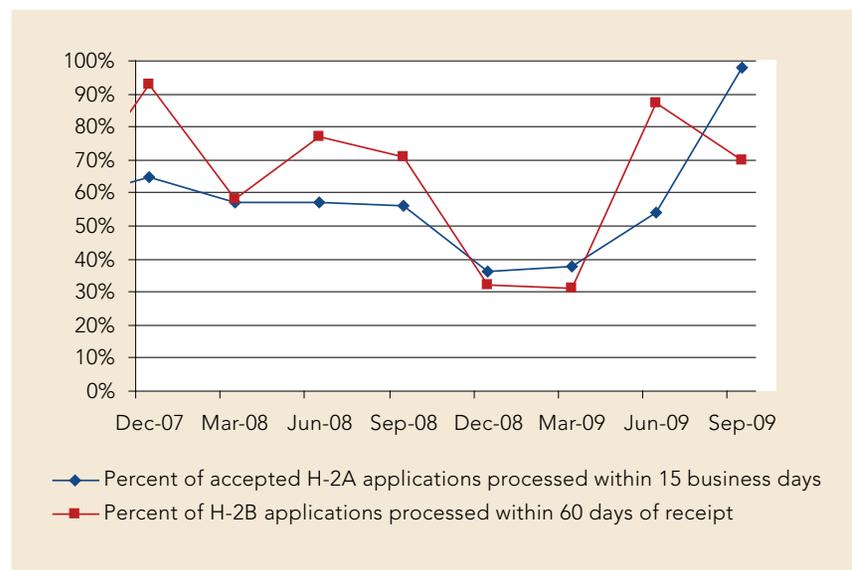
Performance Measures	Four Quarters Ending 9/30/08 ¹	Four Quarters Ending 9/30/09 ¹
Percent of Accepted H-2A Applications Processed within 15 Business Days	56%	98%
Percent of H-2B Applications Processed within 60 Days of Receipt	71%	70%

¹ Cumulative four quarters

Program Description

H-2A certification permits employers to hire foreign workers on a temporary basis for the agricultural sector of the economy. H-2B certification permits employers to hire foreign workers to come to the United States and perform temporary non-agricultural work, which must be one-time, seasonal, peak load, or intermittent in nature.

Performance in the Past Eight Quarters



Program Highlights

Revised final regulations were published for both the H-2A and H-2B programs and became effective in January 2009.