

**DOL'S BACKLOG ELIMINATION CENTERS NEAR COMPLETION OF  
ALL PRE-PERM LABOR CERTIFICATION CASES**



by

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The Department of Labor provided a recent update on the status of pre-PERM labor certification cases at the Backlog Elimination Centers (BEC). As of September 6, 2007, 351,000 pre-PERM labor certification cases have been completed; 11,000 labor certification cases remain to be processed; 6,500 cases are awaiting a response to either a 30-day or 45-day letter from the BEC; 3,000 cases are awaiting a response to a NOF (Notice of Finding); and 1,500 cases are in a variety of other stages of final processing. Although there is no specific date for closing down the Backlog Elimination Centers, the Department of Labor expects that case processing should be completed in October 2007.

As background, old labor certification cases that were pending with the Department of Labor at the time the PERM labor certification process was introduced were transferred to one of two Backlog Elimination Centers operated by the Department of Labor. Since the introduction of PERM, these BECs have been working to complete processing of all of the old, pre-PERM labor certification cases.

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