

# E-2 EB-5 Investor Visa

- **What is the E-2 EB-5 visa?**
- **How to qualify for the E-2 EB-5 visa?**
- **What is the minimum investment amount?**
- **Advantages of investing in franchise business**

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# What is the E-2 Investor Visa?

- **Allows foreign entrepreneurs to live and work in the U.S. through investment in a U.S. business**
- **Spouse and unmarried children under age 21 may accompany investor to the U.S.**
- **Treaty Nationals only. Currently available to citizens of 80 countries.**
- **Usually granted in 2 to 5 year increments depending on treaty between the foreign country and the U.S.**
- **Renewable indefinitely as long as business continues**

# Must be a Treaty National

- **Must be Citizen of Treaty Country. Major countries include: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Taiwan, United Kingdom, and many more.**

# What's the Minimum Investment?

- **Make a Substantial Investment in a qualifying business in the United States**
- **Law does not specify minimum investment amount**
- **In practice, should invest at least \$100,000 to have a strong E-2 case**
- **Smaller investments possible, depending on nature of business**

# Qualifying Business

- **May invest in new or existing business**
- **Minimum 50% Controlling Ownership**
- **Any type of business can potentially qualify, except home-based businesses**
- **Qualifying business must:**
  1. **Generate sufficient income to provide investor and family with comfortable living in the U.S.**
  2. **Create jobs for U.S. workers, usually at least 2 employees, not including owner**
- **New business given reasonable time to reach profitability and job creation**

# Active Commercial Enterprise

- **Must be active operating for-profit business**
- **Passive and speculative investments do not qualify.**
- **New business must be close to operating when submitting visa application.**

# How to Apply for the E-2 Visa?

- **Apply at the U.S. Embassy in investor's home country**
  - Requires visa interview
  - Usually 1 to 3 months processing time
  - Possible multiple entry visa
- **Apply for change of visa status directly in the United States**
  - Process within the U.S. without leaving the country
  - No interview. Decision based on paperwork only.
  - Usually 3 months processing time
  - Expedited processing available
  - No travel authorization

# Alternatives to the E-2 Visa

- **EB-5 Investment Green Card**

- Minimum \$1 million investment in commercial enterprise in the U.S.
- Amount may be reduced to \$500K if business is located in high unemployment or rural area
- Must create at least 10 new full-time jobs for U.S. workers within 2 years through direct employment



# Advantages of Franchise Business

- **Successful business model**
- **Tried and true system**
- **Training and support**
- **Marketing and business operations materials**
- **Franchise name recognition**

**Thank you for viewing the E-2 EB-5  
visa seminar. Feel free to contact  
me for any questions.**

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