



Immigration Law Tampa Bay

Steven A. Culbreath, Esq.

5027 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, FL 33710

steve@ImmigrationLawTampaBay.com || www.ImmigrationLawTampaBay.com

A detailed chart comparing the four options using different criteria that may be relevant or critical to the individual investor follows:

	E-2	L-1	Regional Center EB-5	Individual EB-5
Amount of investment	Any amount, but usually over \$100,000	Any amount	Usually \$500,000	\$500,000 or \$1,000,000
Must Create Jobs?	Can be small	Can be small	10 direct or indirect jobs	10 direct jobs
Investors' Employment	Manager or essential skills, unless investor	Manager or Specialized Knowledge	Limited partner	Policy making
Timing	1-2 months or more	Can be < 15 business days with premium processing	Approximately 1 year	Approximately 1 year
Procedure	Can go direct to consul	CIS 1st, unless blanket	CIS, then consul or I-485	CIS, then consul or I-485
Can your spouse work?	Yes	Yes	3 months after I-485	3 months after I-485
Permanent Residence	Can be EB-1 after 1 year	Can be EB-1 after 1 year	Start now	Start now
Can family/investor attend school?	Yes	Yes	In-state tuition sooner	In-state tuition sooner
Employment authorization	Immediate	Immediate	Usually 5-9 months	Usually 5-9 months
Can investment be a gift?	Can be problem	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can investment funds be a loan?	Enterprise cannot be collateral	Yes	Enterprise cannot be collateral	Enterprise cannot be collateral
Expedite	Depends on consul or premium process	Premium Process	No	No
Relevance of country	Only Treaty country	Not relevant	Source and tracing of funds issue	Source and tracing of funds issue
Necessity of overseas company	No	Yes	No	No
Buying existing company	OK	OK	No	Must add 10 jobs
Geographical area	Any	Any	Rural/high unemployment for \$500,000	Rural/high unemployment for \$500,000
Prior employment overseas required?	No	Yes, 1 year	No	No
Initial length of visa	Up to 5 years	1 year start-up	2 year conditional permanent residence, then permanent residence	2 year conditional permanent residence, then permanent residence
Maximum period	Unlimited extensions available	5 or 7 years	Permanent	Permanent