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Rush For Highly Skilled Visa Applications

SAN FRANCISCO (KCBS) -- Immigration attorneys are racing to finish visa applications for companies that are hoping to hire thousands of foreign engineers, doctors, lawyers, and other highly skilled workers.

The coveted H1B visas are handed out in October, but high demand is prompting early applications.

"Basically, all of the immigration attorneys working with their clients are advising them to do this because we believe the quota is going to be reached within the first day or two," said immigration attorney Gali Schaham Gordon.

She said the H1Bs have been going faster each year since 2004, when the cap was dropped from 195,000 to 65,000.

While many companies claim there aren't enough talented Americans to fill high-tech jobs, critics say the visas allow foreign workers to take away jobs from qualified Americans.



(RdD)

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