## **U.S. Gets H-1B Applications**

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## **LABOR**

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said it had received more than 150,000 applications from companies, universities and nonprofit organizations that want to hire foreign workers through a special visa program. The immigration agency began accepting applications Monday for 65,000 professional visas, known as H-1B, that are issued to foreign college graduates. An additional 20,000 visas are available to holders of master's and doctorate degrees.

Because the government has received more requests for visas than the quota allows, the agency will dole the visas out using a computer-generated lottery, said spokeswoman Chris Rhatigan.