Employment and Training Administration, Labor

§ 655.81 Application filing transition.

(a) Compliance with these regulations. Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, employers filing applications for H–2B workers on or after the effective date of these regulations where the date of need for the services or labor to be performed is on or after October 1, 2009, must comply with all of the obligations and assurances in this subpart. SWAs will no longer accept for processing applications filed by employers for H–2B workers for temporary or seasonal non-agricultural services on or after January 18, 2009.

(b) Applications filed under former regulations. (1) For applications filed with the SWAs serving the area of intended employment prior to the effective date of these regulations, the SWAs shall continue to process all active applications under the former regulations and transmit all completed applications to the appropriate NPC for review and issuance of a labor certification determination.

(2) For applications filed with the SWAs serving the area of intended employment prior to the effective date of these regulations that were completed and transmitted to the NPC, the NPC shall continue to process all active applications under the former regulations and issue a labor certification determination.

(c) Applications filed with the NPC under these regulations. Employers filing applications on or after the effective date of these regulations where their date of need for H–2B workers is prior to October 1, 2009, must receive a prevailing wage determination from the SWA serving the area of intended employment. The SWA shall process such requests in accordance with the provisions of §655.10. Once the employer receives its prevailing wage determination from the SWA, it must conduct all of the pre-filing recruitment steps set forth under this subpart prior to filing an Application for Temporary Employment Certification with the NPC.


EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 74 FR 25985, May 29, 2009, §655.5 was redesignated as §655.81 and suspended, effective June 29, 2009.

Subpart B—Labor Certification Process for Temporary Agricultural Employment in the United States (H–2A Workers)

SOURCE: 75 FR 6959, Feb. 12, 2010, unless otherwise noted.

§ 655.100 Scope and purpose of subpart B.

This subpart sets out the procedures established by the Secretary of the United States Department of Labor (the Secretary) under the authority given in 8 U.S.C. 1188 to acquire information sufficient to make factual determinations of:

(a) Whether there are sufficient able, willing, and qualified United States (U.S.) workers available to perform the temporary and seasonal agricultural employment for which an employer desires to import nonimmigrant foreign workers (H–2A workers); and

(b) Whether the employment of H–2A workers will adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers in the U.S. similarly employed.

§ 655.101 Authority of the Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC) Administrator.

The Secretary has delegated her authority to make determinations under 8 U.S.C. 1188 to the Assistant Secretary for the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), who in turn has delegated that authority to the Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC). The determinations are made by the OFLC Administrator who, in turn, may delegate this responsibility to designated staff members; e.g., a Certifying Officer (CO).