



U.S. Citizenship and
Immigration Services

Temporary I-551 Stamps and MRIVs **TEMPORARY I-551 STAMPS AND MRIVS**

A machine-readable immigrant visa (MRIV) usually has the following text on it: "UPON ENDORSEMENT SERVES AS TEMPORARY I-551 EVIDENCING PERMANENT RESIDENCE FOR 1 YEAR." When a new immigrant first enters the U.S., U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will stamp the passport with an admission stamp that indicates the immigrant has permanent resident status and has the date the new immigrant entered the U.S. The employee's foreign passport with the MRIV is evidence the employee has permanent residence status for 1 year from the date of admission. Even if the MRIV is issued without the statement "FOR 1 YEAR," employers should treat the MRIV as an acceptable List A document valid for 1 year from the date of admission.

Here is an example of an immigrant visa with the CBP endorsement:



VIUSA
555123AHC66RR6502056M04122361FLN000AMS8030

If the stamp in the passport is endorsed and is near but not on the immigrant visa, it is still a valid endorsement.

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