



**Infographic**

# The Economic Value of Work Permits For H-4 Visa Holders

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A new rule by the Department of Homeland Security seeks to rescind work authorization for H-4 visa holders who are spouses of H-1B workers—but is this rule good for the U.S. economy? AAF's latest infographic breaks it down.

# THE ECONOMIC VALUE

## OF WORK PERMITS FOR H-4 VISA HOLDERS

A new rule by the Department of Homeland Security seeks to rescind work authorization for H-4 visa holders who are spouses of H-1B workers.

### ? IS THIS RULE GOOD FOR THE U.S. ECONOMY ??

#### H-4 SPOUSES' ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

**\$12.9 BILLION**  
per year



#### H-4 SPOUSES' EDUCATION LEVELS

Compared to the overall U.S. working population, H-4 workers are more educated, on average.

7%  
PROFESSIONAL DEGREE

6%  
DOCTORATE DEGREE

34%  
MASTER'S DEGREE

41%  
BACHELOR'S DEGREE

5%  
SOME COLLEGE

8%  
HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS

**IF EVERY**  
eligible H-4 visa holder were to obtain employment authorization, their economic contribution would be

**\$41 BILLION**  
per year



#### H-4 SPOUSES' EARNINGS

The earnings of H-4 workers are roughly in line with the earnings of the overall population.

##### H-4 WORKERS

**\$57,077**  
MEAN EARNINGS

**\$35,000**  
MEDIAN EARNINGS

VS.

##### U.S. POPULATION

**\$51,812**  
MEAN EARNINGS

**\$36,000**  
MEDIAN EARNINGS

DID YOU KNOW...



**OVER 20%**  
of these workers are employed in the professional, scientific, or technical services industry.

## IT'S NOT GOOD POLICY

to deny H-4 visa holders the right to work when they are legally allowed to live in the United States. This change will ultimately hurt the U.S. economy.

AmericanActionForum.org

