

San Diego Regional Investment Center

5440 Morehouse Drive, Suite 4400, San Diego, CA 92121

EB-5 Overview

The EB-5 Immigrant Investor Visa Program, created in 1990, encourages investment in projects that stimulate US job growth while providing an opportunity for foreign nationals to become lawful permanent residents of the US. In 1992, Congress enhanced the program by permitting USCIS designated EB-5 Regional Centers to coordinate and substantiate foreign investments in job-creating projects within a designated geographic area. EB-5 allows qualified foreign nationals to obtain a green card for themselves, their spouse and children under 21 by investing a minimum of \$500,000 in a project that will benefit the US economy and create or save at least 10 full-time jobs. Currently, EB-5 is enhancing economic development across the county.

What EB-5 Can Do for South County

1. Provide funding for new businesses, expanding businesses and businesses that are restructuring*
2. Create jobs in economically disadvantaged areas**
3. Encourage economic development

*A new business is defined as created after 11/29/90 and restructured or expanded businesses are defined as having a 40% increase in net worth or # of employees.

**Projects are located in a targeted employment area (an area at the time of the investment that has an unemployment rate of 150% of the national average).

San Diego Regional Investment Center's Role

San Diego Regional Investment Center, based in San Diego, California, is a US government approved Regional Center that is authorized to sponsor projects in San Diego and Imperial counties in California. San Diego Regional Investment Center can help improve and enhance South County by offering funding opportunities to businesses whose projects demonstrate public/private partnerships and create jobs. Because the primary goal of the EB-5 Program is to create jobs, the requirement is that for every \$500,000 of EB-5 funds invested, 10 full-time jobs (direct or indirect) must be created. Using EB-5 funds as part of their financing allows businesses greater flexibility, lower costs and the unique advantage of utilizing direct and indirect jobs for the job-creation requirement.

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