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

- 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
  - Mean earnings: $57,077
  - Median earnings: $35,000
- U.S. Population
  - Mean earnings: $51,812
  - Median earnings: $36,000

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