

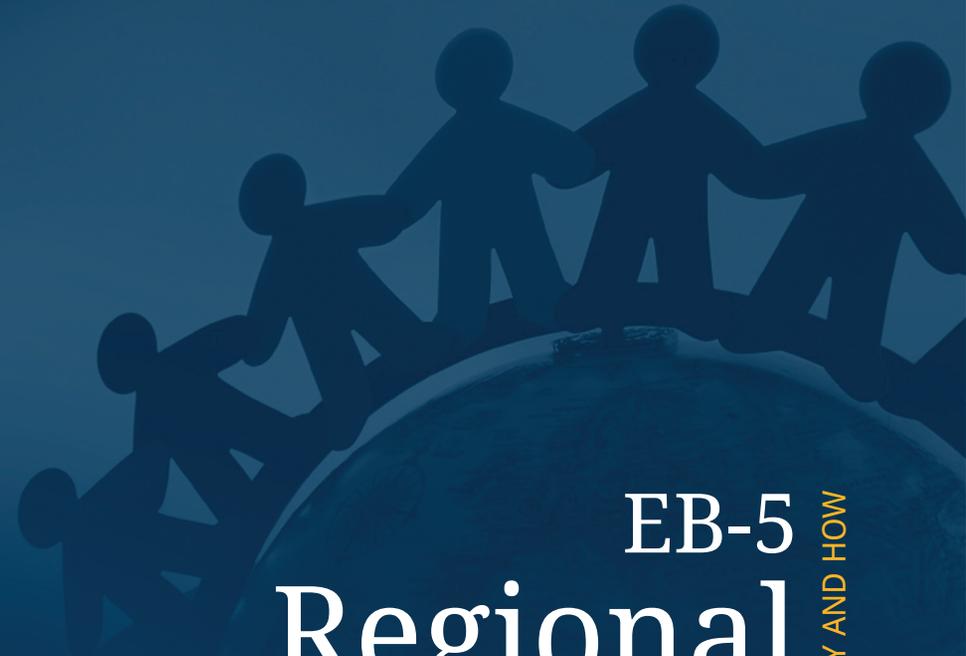
HOW TO BECOME A REGIONAL CENTER? (CONT.)

- How, in verifiable detail (using economic models in some instances), jobs will be created directly or indirectly through capital investments made in accordance with the regional center's overall business plan. The RC may propose actual or hypothetical projects in their RC application.
- The amount and source of capital committed to the regional center and the promotional efforts made and planned for the business project.

The **Immigration Law Office of Los Angeles, P.C.** helps businesses determine whether establishing a Regional Center is appropriate for and beneficial to their business model and growth plans. When establishing a Regional Center is advantageous for a client, ILOLA will prepare the Regional Center application and coordinate the services from third-party professionals in order to prepare the application's supporting documents.



6601 Center Dr. West, Suite 500 Los Angeles, CA 90045
Phone: 800.792.9899 Fax: 800.628.5605
www.immigrationhelpla.com



EB-5
**Regional
Center**
WHAT, WHY AND HOW

What, Why & How

WHAT IS A REGIONAL CENTER?

A Regional Center (RC), generally structured as a Limited Liability Company, is defined as any economic entity, public or private, which is involved with the promotion of economic growth, improved regional productivity, job creation and increased domestic capital investment.

The EB-5 Regional Center program was created by Congress in 1992 under its formal name the "Immigrant Investor Program." The Congress has since repeatedly extended the RC program, most recently through year 2015.

WHY INVEST IN A REGIONAL CENTER-SPONSORED PROJECT (FOR INVESTOR) AND WHY SET UP A RC (FOR PROJECT)?

From an **investor's perspective**, the requirements for investing in a Regional Center-sponsored program are essentially the same as in the "standard" EB-5 investor program. For the job-creation reasons, discussed below, investors may feel more confident that a RC-sponsored project will create the required number of jobs thereby increasing the likelihood the investor will successfully remove the conditions on the green card. Investments in

a RC-sponsored project generally have an additional cost, in form of an administrative fee.

From a **project's perspective**, there are several advantages to operating under a RC, including:

- RC-sponsored projects can take advantage of a more expansive concept of job creation including both "**indirect**" and "**direct**" jobs
 - claiming indirect jobs results in higher job count and therefore in eligibility for higher amount of EB-5 investment
 - claiming indirect jobs is often beneficial for marketing/fundraising purposes as investors can be wary of projects that rely on direct, W-2 jobs
- RC-sponsored projects can take advantage of equity and fund provider capital structures thereby providing projects with greater operational flexibility
- RC-sponsored projects may enjoy a degree of USCIS pre-approval

HOW TO BECOME A REGIONAL CENTER?

Preparing a RC application is a complex undertaking requiring the services of an EB-5 attorney, a securities attorney, economic analyst and a business plan writer. The organizers of a regional center must obtain a RC designation from USCIS by submitting an application showing:

- How the regional center plans to focus on a geographical region within the United States and how the regional center will promote economic growth in that region.