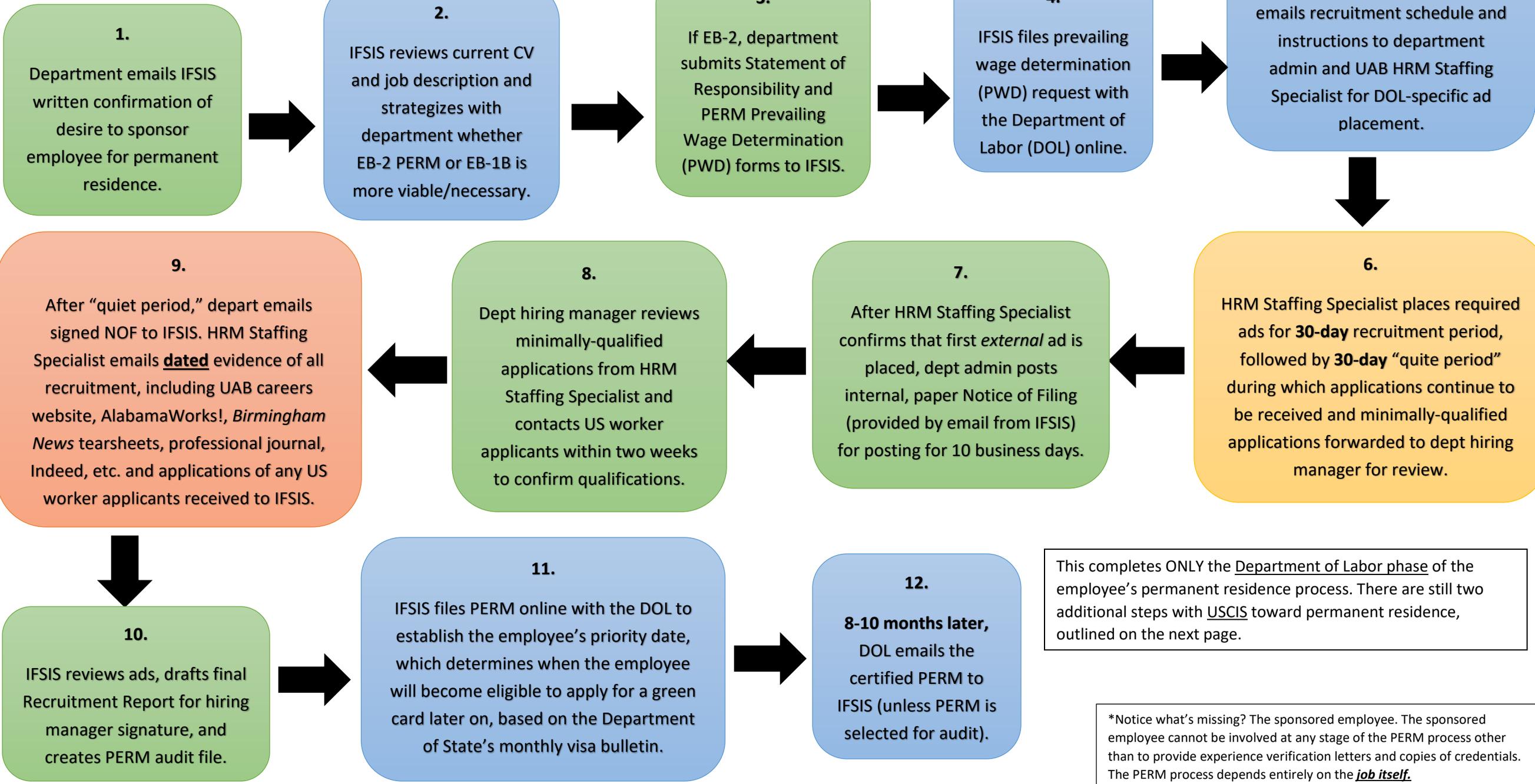




EB-2 PERM Flow Chart



This completes ONLY the Department of Labor phase of the employee's permanent residence process. There are still two additional steps with USCIS toward permanent residence, outlined on the next page.

*Notice what's missing? The sponsored employee. The sponsored employee cannot be involved at any stage of the PERM process other than to provide experience verification letters and copies of credentials. The PERM process depends entirely on the **job itself**.



EB-2 PERM Flow Chart

EB-2 PERM FAQs

1) *Will I receive updates about the various stages in the PERM process?*

Generally, no. The PERM process is a long and complicated one involving almost exclusively the employer and the Department of Labor (DOL). There are often long periods of time (*i.e.*, several months) when the DOL is reviewing forms during which there will be no communication. The vast majority of the work is between the department and IFSIS. IFSIS will let you know if we need anything, but **IFSIS will otherwise not respond to emails asking for updates.** We do not have capacity to respond to update requests when there are no updates. IFSIS will let you know when the PERM is certified.

2) *Why does PERM take so long? Is there premium processing or a way to expedite like with H-1Bs?*

No. There is no way to expedite filings with the Department of Labor. PERM is a waiting game with very few updates. IFSIS will let you know when we need a document from you, or when the PERM is approved. If you want to obsess over DOL processing times, which fluctuate monthly and often have no bearing on when the PERM will actually be certified, you can check online any time here: <https://flag.dol.gov/processingtimes> (scroll down to the PERM section). IFSIS will have no further information.

3) *What if I graduated from UAB and gained most of my experience here “on the job” during OPT?*

This situation can severely complicate a PERM, since a sponsored employee cannot “count” experience gained while working for the sponsoring employer (UAB). If you have *only* worked at UAB and did not have *all* of the required skills for the PERM position **prior** to joining UAB, UAB will not be able to sponsor you for a PERM.

4) *Does the PERM mean that I have a green card?*

NO. A certified PERM means ONLY that the Department of Labor agrees that there were no eligible US workers for your job, so you are *eligible* to become a permanent resident *in the future* after two additional filings with USCIS are completed, as outlined below.

