

Setting Up a Business in the U.S. – Options and Resources

	<u>Option 1: VIE Trainee</u>	<u>Option 2: Distributor</u>	<u>Option 3: Subsidiary</u>	<u>Option 4: Merger/Acquisition</u>	<u>Option 4: Founder / Start-Up</u>
Description	12 to 18-month contract for a young person to represent company or brand in the U.S.	Contract with local distributor or agent to sell or product or represent your brand.	Set up legal entity in the U.S. with headquarters in France.	Acquire existing U.S. company in same sector.	
Visa type	J-1 for Trainee B-1 (ESTA) for French manager traveling to and from the U.S.	None. Hiring U.S.-based representative. B-1 (ESTA) for French manager traveling to and from the U.S.	L-1 visa for French managers coming to the U.S. <i>(W/ minimum of 1 year in the last 3 working for the company. Can't be new hire.)</i>	L-1 or E-2 visas for French managers coming to the U.S.	L-1 or E-2 visa for Founder to set up business EB-5 immigrant investor visa for permanent resident status may be available
Resources	Business France, FACC NY, CIEE	Contract attorney Recruiting Insurance	Business attorney Immigration attorney Recruiting IP / Trademark attorney Insurance	Financing / Investors Business attorney Immigration attorney	Financing / investors Immigration attorney IP / Trademark attorney Insurance
Practical Considerations	Host company / office space	Warehousing Product licensing FDA approvals	Bank account Business license Office or retail space Warehousing Product licensing FDA approvals	Bank account	Bank account Business license Office / Coworking or Incubator space
Initial Budget Considerations	J1 visa fees and Trainee salary. RT travel to the U.S. for VIE supervision	Contract legal fees Insurance Commissions / salary Warehousing / importing	Legal fees for business set-up and visa Recruiting fees Salaries + benefits	Legal fees for business set-up and visa Overall business operation costs	

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Business Development Resources:

Select USA

World Business Chicago

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)

Intersect Illinois

State of Illinois – Business Licenses, permits and registration

U.S. Small Business Administration – Illinois office

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

French American Chamber of Commerce of Chicago

Consulate General of France in Chicago