# EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2005 DIRECT MAIL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERSONS FILING FORM I-485

If you live in one of these states or territories, please read this notice to determine your filing location:

ALASKA, CALIFORNIA, IDAHO, IOWA, KANSAS, MARYLAND, MISSOURI, MONTANA, NEBRASKA, NEW MEXICO, OKLAHOMA, OREGON, TEXAS, AND WASHINGTON

# AS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED AND REMAINS IN EFFECT - EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2004 DIRECT MAIL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERSONS FILING FORM I-485

If you live in one of these states or territories, please read this notice to determine your filing location:

ALABAMA, ARIZONA, ARKANSAS, COLORADO, CONNECTICUT, DELAWARE, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, HAWAII, ILLINOIS,INDIANA, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA, MAINE, MASSACHUSETTS, MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, MISSISSIPPI, NEVADA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, NORTH CAROLINA, NORTH DAKOTA, OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA, RHODE ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA, SOUTH DAKOTA, TENNESSEE, UTAH, VERMONT, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, WISCONSIN, WYOMING, AS WELL AS THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, PUERTO RICO, AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

The mailing address has changed for certain applicants living in the locations above, and filing under certain categories - please review the list below to determine if you should use this direct mail address.

This affects aliens residing in the locations above who are filing Form I-485 under the following categories:

- Aliens who are immediate relatives of a U.S. citizen, as defined by section 201(b) of the Act, and are filing based upon an approved, concurrently filed, or pending Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative;
- Aliens who are widow/widowers of a U.S. citizen, as described by section 201(b) of the Act (I-360 petition or an I-797 notice for the I-360 must be filed concurrently);
- Aliens described by section 203(a) of the Act as the qualifying relative of a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident alien, and are filing based on an approved Form I-130;
- Aliens described by section 203(d) of the Act as the derivative relatives of aliens described by section 203(a)
  of the Act:
- Aliens described by section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act as the fiancé of a U.S. citizen or the minor child(ren) of such fiancé, and are filing based on an approved Form I-129F, Petition for Alien Fiancé(e);
- Aliens eligible for registry under section 249 of the Act;
- Aliens eligible under the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1965;
- Aliens described as special immigrants under sections 101(a)(27)(J), and (K) of the Act (if filing under section 101(a)(27)(J) of the Act, an I-360 petition may be filed concurrently; if filing under section 101(a)(27)(K) of the Act, I-360 petition or I-797 notice for the I-360 must be filed concurrently);
- Aliens described as Amerasians under section 204(f) of the Act (I-360 petition may be filed concurrently);
- Aliens who are beneficiaries of an approved Form I-360 as a battered spouse or child;
- Aliens who are beneficiaries of Private Bills;
- Aliens who are winners of the Diversity Visa lottery;
- Aliens from certain former Soviet and Southeast Asian countries who were paroled into the United States as
- public interest parolees and are eligible to adjust under Public Law 101-167, "the Lautenberg Amendment;" Aliens eligible under section 646 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of
- 1996 (IIRIRA);
- Aliens eligible under section 13 of the Act of September 11, 1957; and Aliens eligible for creation of record under 8 CFR section 264.2.

These aliens must submit their Form I-485, and all supporting evidence to the Chicago Lockbox Facility listed below.

The Direct Mail address for the aliens mentioned above, applying for adjustment of status is:

U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services P.O. Box 805887 Chicago, IL 60680-4120

Or, for non-United States Postal Service (USPS) deliveries (e.g. private couriers):

U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Attn: FBASI 427 S. LaSalle - 3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60605-1098

# Instructions for I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status

## **Updated filing Address Information**

The filing addresses provided on this form reflect the most current information as of the date this form was last printed. If you are filing Form I-485 more than 30 days after the latest edition date shown in the lower right-hand corner, please visit our website at **www.uscis.gov** before you file, and check the Forms and Fees page to confirm the correct filing address and version currently in use. Check the edition date located at the lower right-hand corner of the form. If the edition date on your Form I-485 matches the edition date listed for Form I-485 on the online Forms and Fees page, your version is current and will be accepted by USCIS. If the edition date on the online version is later, download a copy and use the online version. If you do not have internet access, call the National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** to verify the current filing address and edition date. **Improperly filed forms will be rejected, and the fee returned, with instructions to resubmit the entire filing using the current form instructions.** 

## What Is the Purpose of This Form?

This form is used by a person who is in the United States to apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to adjust to permanent resident status or register for permanent residence.

This form may also be used by certain Cuban nationals to request a change in the date that their permanent residence began.

## Who May File This Form I-485?

### 1. Based on an immigrant petition.

You may apply to adjust your status if:

- **A.** An immigrant visa number is immediately available to you based on an approved immigrant petition; or
- **B.** You are filing this application with a completed relative petition, special immigrant juvenile petition or special immigrant military petition which if approved would make an immigrant visa number immediately available to you.
- 2. Based on being the spouse or child (derivative) at the time another adjustment applicant (principal) files to adjust status or at the time a person is granted permanent resident status in an immigrant category that allows derivative status for spouses and children.
  - A. If the spouse or child is in the United States, the individual derivatives may file their Form I-485 adjustment of status applications concurrently with the Form I-485 for the principal applicant, or file the Form I-485 at anytime after the principal is approved, if a visa number is available.

- B. If the spouse or child is residing abroad, the person adjusting status in the United States should file the Form I-824, Application for Action on an Approved Application or Petition, concurrently with the principal's adjustment of status application to allow the derivatives to immigrate to the United States without delay if the principal's adjustment of status application is approved. The fee submitted with the Form I-824 will not be refunded if the principal's adjustment is not granted.
- 3. Based on admission as the fiancé(e) of a U.S. citizen and subsequent marriage to that citizen.
  - **A.** You may apply to adjust status if you were admitted to the United States as the K-1 fiancé(e) of a United States citizen and you married that citizen within 90 days of your entry.
  - **B.** If you were admitted as the K-2 child of such a fiancé(e), you may apply to adjust status based on your parent's adjustment application.

#### 4. Based on asylum status.

You may apply to adjust status after you have been granted asylum in the United States if you have been physically present in the United States for one year after the grant of asylum, provided you still qualify as an asylee or as the spouse or child of a refugee.

#### 5. Based on refugee status.

You may apply to adjust status after you have been admitted as a refugee and have been physically present in the United States for one year following your admission, provided that your status has not been terminated.

#### 6. Based on Cuban citizenship or nationality.

You may apply to adjust status if:

**A.** You are a native or citizen of Cuba, were admitted or paroled into the United States after January 1, 1959, and thereafter have been physically present in the United States for at least one year; or

**B.** You are the spouse or unmarried child of a Cuban described above and regardless of your nationality, you were admitted or paroled after January 1, 1959, and thereafter have been physically present in the United States for at least one year.

# 7. Applying to change the date on which your permanent residence began.

If you were granted permanent residence in the United States prior to November 6, 1966, and are a native or citizen of Cuba, or you are the spouse or unmarried child of such an individual, you may ask to change the date your lawful permanent residence began to your date of arrival in the United States or May 2, 1964, whichever is later.

# 8. Based on continuous residence since before January 1, 1972.

You may apply for permanent residence if you have continuously resided in the United States since before January 1, 1972. This is known as "Registry."

#### 9. Other basis of eligibility.

If you are not included in the above categories, but believe you may be eligible for adjustment or creation of record of permanent residence, contact our National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** for information on how to use the internet to make an application at your local USCIS office.

#### 10. Who Is Not Eligible to Adjust Status.

Unless you are applying for creation of record based on continuous residence since before January 1, 1972, or adjustment of status under a category in which special rules apply (such as 245(i) adjustment, asylum adjustment, Cuban adjustment, special immigrant juvenile adjustment, or special immigrant military personnel adjustment), you are not eligible for adjustment of status if any of the following apply to you:

- **A.** You entered the United States in transit without a visa;
- **B.** You entered the United States as a nonimmigrant crewman;
- **C.** You were not admitted or paroled following inspection by an immigration officer;
- **D.** Your authorized stay expired before you filed this application;
- **E.** You were employed in the United States, without USCIS authorization, prior to filing this application;
- **F.** You failed to maintain your nonimmigrant status, other than through no fault of your own or for technical reasons; unless you are applying because you are:

- 1. An immediate relative of a United States citizen (parent, spouse, widow, widower or unmarried child under 21 years old);
- **2.** A K-1 fiancé(e) or a K-2 fiancé(e) dependent who married the United States petitioner within 90 days of admission; or
- An H or I nonimmigrant or special immigrant (foreign medical graduates, international organization employees or their derivative family members);
- 7. You were admitted as a K-1 fiancé(e), but did not marry the U.S. citizen who filed the petition for you, or you were admitted as the K-2 child of a fiancé(e) and your parent did not marry the United States citizen who filed the petition;
- **8.** You are or were a J-1 or J-2 exchange visitor and are subject to the two-year foreign residence requirement and you have not complied with or been granted a waiver of the requirement;
- 9. You have A, E or G nonimmigrant status or have an occupation that would allow you to have this status, unless you complete Form I-508 (I-508F for French nationals) to waive diplomatic rights, privileges and immunities and, if you are an A or G nonimmigrant, unless you submit a completed Form I-566;
- **10.** You were admitted to Guam as a visitor under the Guam visa waiver program;
- 11. You were admitted to the United States as a visitor under the Visa Waiver Program, unless you are applying because you are an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen (parent, spouse, widow, widower or unmarried child under 21 years old); or
- 12. You are already a conditional permanent resident.

#### **General Instructions.**

#### Fill Out the Form I-485

- 1. Type or print legibly in black ink.
- 2. If extra space is needed to complete any item, attach a continuation sheet, indicate the item number, and date and sign each sheet.
- **3.** Answer all questions fully and accurately. State that an item is not applicable with "N/A." If the answer is none, write "none."
- 4. You must file your application with the required Initial Evidence described below. Your application must be properly signed and filed with the correct fee. If you are under 14 years of age, your parent or guardian may sign your application.

**Translations.** Any document containing foreign language submitted to the Service shall be accompanied by a full English language translation which the translator has certified as complete and accurate, and by the translator's certification that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English.

**Copies.** Unless specifically required that an original document be filed with an application or petition, an ordinary legible photocopy may be submitted. Original documents submitted when not required will remain a part of the record, even if the submission was not required.

#### **Initial Evidence.**

You must file your application with the following evidence:

#### 1. Criminal history.

**A.** If you have ever been arrested or detained by any law enforcement officer for any reason, and no charges were filed, submit:

An original official statement by the arresting agency or applicable court order confirming that no charges were filed.

**B.** If you have ever been arrested or detained by any law enforcement officer for any reason, and charges were filed, or if charges were filed against you without an arrest, submit:

An original or court-certified copy of the complete arrest record and/or disposition for each incident (e.g., dismissal order, conviction record **or** acquittal order).

- C. If you have ever been convicted or placed in an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program (such as a drug treatment or community service program), submit:
  - 1. An original or court-certified copy of the sentencing record for each incident, and
  - **2.** Evidence that you completed your sentence, specifically:
    - **a.** An original or certified copy of your probation or parole record, or
    - **b.** Evidence that you completed an alternative sentencing program or rehabilitative program.
- **D.** If you have ever had any arrest or conviction vacated, set aside, sealed, expunged or otherwise removed from your record, submit:
  - 1. An original or court-certified copy of the court order vacating, setting aside, sealing, expunging or otherwise removing the arrest or conviction, or
  - **2.** An original statement from the court that no record exists of your arrest or conviction.

NOTE that unless a traffic incident was alcohol or drug related, you do not need to submit documentation for traffic fines and incidents that did not involve an actual arrest if the only penalty was a fine of less than \$500 and/or points on your driver's license.

#### 2. Birth certificate.

Submit a copy of your foreign birth certificate or other record of your birth that meets the provisions of secondary evidence found in Title 8, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 103.2(b)(2).

## 3. Copy of passport page with nonimmigrant visa.

If you have obtained a nonimmigrant visa(s) from an American embassy or consulate abroad within the last year, submit a photocopy(ies) of the page(s) of your passport containing the visa(s).

#### 4. Photos.

You must submit two identical color photographs of yourself taken within 30 days of the filing of this application. The photos must have a white background, be printed on thin paper with a glossy finish, and be unmounted and unretouched. They must show your full-frontal facial position with your head bare. You may wear a headdress, if required by a religious order of which you are a member. NOTE: Digital photos are not acceptable.

Pass-style photos must be 2" x 2". the photos must be in color with full face, frontal view on a white to off-white background. Head height should measure 1" to 1 3/8" from top of hair to bottom of chin, and eye height is between 1 1/8" to 1 3/8" from bottom of photo. Using pencil or felt pen, lightly print your name and Alien Receipt Number on the back of the photo.

#### 5. Biometric services.

If you are between the ages of 14 and 79, you must be fingerprinted as part of the USCIS biometric services requirement. After you have filed this application, USCIS will notify you in writing of the time and location where you must go to be fingerprinted. If necessary, USCIS may also take your photograph and signature. Failure to appear to be fingerprinted or for other biometric services may result in a denial of your application.

## 6. Police clearances.

If you are filing for adjustment of status as a member of a special class described in an I-485 supplement form, please read the instructions on the supplement form to see if you need to obtain and submit police clearances, in addition to the required fingerprints, with your application.

#### 7. Medical examination.

When required, submit a medical examination report on the form you have obtained from USCIS.

# A. Individuals applying for adjustment of status through a USCIS service center.

#### 1. General:

If you are filing your adjustment of status application with a USCIS service center, include your medical examination report with the application, unless you are a refugee.

#### 2. Refugees:

If you are applying for adjustment of status one year after you were admitted as a refugee, you only need to submit a vaccination supplement with your adjustment of status application, not the entire medical report, **unless** there were medical grounds of inadmissibility that arose during the initial examination that you had overseas.

# B. Individuals applying for adjustment of status through a local USCIS office.

If you are filing your adjustment of status application with a local USCIS office include your medical examination report with the application.

## 8. Fiancé(e)s.

If you are a K-1 fiancé(e) or K-2 dependent who had a medical examination within the past year as required for the nonimmigrant fiancé(e) visa, you only need to submit a vaccination supplement, not the entire medical report. You may include the vaccination supplement with your adjustment of status application.

# 9. Persons not required to have a medical examination.

The medical report is not required if you are applying for creation of a record for admission as a lawful permanent resident under section 249 of the INA as someone who has continuously resided in the United States since January 1, 1972 (registry applicant).

#### 13. Form G-325A, Biographic Information Sheet.

You must submit a completed Form G-325A if you are between 14 and 79 years of age.

#### 14. Affidavit of Support/Employment Letter.

#### A. Affidavit of Support.

Submit an Affidavit of Support (Form I-864) if your adjustment of status application is based on your entry as a fiancé(e), a relative visa petition (Form I-130) filed by your relative, or an employment based visa petition (Form I-140) related to a business that is five percent or more owned by your family.

#### **B.** Employment Letter.

If your adjustment of status application is related to an employment based visa petition (Form I-140), you must submit a letter on the letterhead of the petitioning employer which confirms that the job on which the visa petition is based is still available to you. The letter must also state the salary that will be paid.

**NOTE:** The affidavit of support and/or employment letter are not required if you are applying for creation of a record based on continuous residence since before January 1, 1972, asylum or refugee adjustment, or a Cuban citizen or a spouse or unmarried child of a Cuban citzen who was admitted after January 1, 1959.

#### 15. Evidence of eligibility.

#### A. Based on an immigrant petition.

Attach a copy of the approval notice for an immigrant petition that makes a visa number immediately available to you, or submit a complete relative, special immigrant juvenile, or special immigrant military petition which, if approved, will make a visa number immediately available to you.

# B. Based on admission as the K-1 fiancé(e) of a U. S. citizen and subsequent marriage to that citizen.

Attach a copy of the fiancé(e) petition approval notice, a copy of your marriage certificate and your Form 1-94.

#### C. Based on asylum status.

Attach a copy of the letter or Form 1-94 that shows the date you were granted asylum.

# D. Based on continuous residence in the United States since before January 1, 1972.

Attach copies of evidence that shows continuous residence since before January 1, 1972.

#### 16. Based on Cuban citizenship or nationality.

Attach evidence of your citizenship or nationality, such as a copy of your passport, birth certificate or travel document.

# 17. Based on derivative status as the spouse or child of another adjustment applicant or person granted permanent residence based on issuance of an immigrant visa.

File your application with the application of the other applicant, or with evidence that the application is pending with USCIS or was approved, or with evidence that your spouse or parent was granted permanent residence based on an immigrant visa, and:

If you are applying as the spouse of that person, also attach a copy of your marriage certificate and copies of documents showing the legal termination of all other marriages by you and your spouse;

If you are applying as the child of that person, attach also a copy of your birth certificate and, if the other person is not your parent, submit copies of evidence (such as a marriage certificate and documents showing the legal termination of all other marriages and an adoption decree) to demonstrate that you qualify as his or her child.

## 18. Other basis for eligibility.

Attach copies of documents proving that you are eligible for the classification.

#### Where Should You File Form I-485?

# Form I-485 USCIS Lockbox Filing Address for Local Office Filings:

If you are applying for adjustment of status under one of the eligibility categories listed below, file your Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status with the USCIS Lockbox Facility.

- Spouse, parent, unmarried son/daughter under age 21 of a U.S. Citizen with an approved or concurrently filed Form I-130;
- 2. Beneficiary of an approved Form I-130 filed by a qualifying relative;
- 3. Qualifying derivative, family-based beneficiary;
- **4.** K-1 Fiancé(e) (and K-2 dependents) whose Form I-485 is based on an approved Form I-129F;
- **5.** Applicants who are beneficiaries of an approved Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant, as a battered spouse or child;
- **6.** Widow/widower of a U.S. Citizen with an approved or concurrently filed Form I-360;
- 7. Special Immigrant Military filing Form I-485 based on honorable active duty service in the U.S. armed forces with an approved or concurrently filed Form I-360;
- **8.** Special Immigrant juvenile with a pending or concurrently filed Form I-360;
- **9.** Amerasians with an approved or concurrently filed Form I-360;

- **10.** Applicants eligible under the Cuban Adjustment Act of November 2, 1965.
- 11. Diversity lottery winner eligible to file Form I-485;
- **12.** Public Interest Parolees from certain former Soviet and Southeast Asian countries filing Form I-485 under Public Law 101-167 (the "Lautenberg Amendment");
- **13.** Registry applicant filing Form I-485 based on birth in the U.S. to a foreign diplomatic officer;
- **14.** Former diplomat filing Form I-485 under Section 13 of the Immigration and Nationality Act;
- **15.** Registry applicant filing Form I-485 based on continuous residence in the U.S. since before 01/01/72 or
- 16. Applicants who are beneficiaries of Private Bills:

#### **USCIS Lockbox Addresses:**

For United Postal Service (USPS) deliveries:

USCIS P.O. Box 805887 Chicago, IL 60680-4120

For private couriers (non-USPS) deliveries:

USCIS Attn: FBASI 427 S. LaSalle - 3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60605-1029

#### Form I-485 Service Center Filing Addresses:

1. Form I-485 is Based on an Underlying Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker:

Adjustment of status applications filed based on a concurrently filed, pending, or approved Form I-140 must be filed with the Nebraska Service Center or the Texas Service Center, depending on where the applicant lives. If you wish to concurrently file your Form I-485 and Form I-140 an immigrant visa number must be immediately available at the time of filing.

**NOTE:** To facilitate acceptance and processing of Form I-485 when Form I-140 has already been approved, submit a copy of the I-140 approval notice. If Form I-140 is pending, submit copies of the Form I-140 receipt notice and the page of the DOL labor certification showing the priority date (if labor certification is required) or just a copy of the Form I-140 receipt notice (but only if a labor certification is not required).

If you live in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin or Wyoming, the mailing address you should use is:

USCIS Nebraska Service Center P. O. Box 87485 Lincoln, NE 68501-7485

If you live in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisianna, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, U.S. Virgin Islands, West Virginia or Washington, DC, the mailing address you should use is:

USCIS Texas Service Center P. O. Box 851804 Mesquite, TX 75185-1804

2. Form I-485 is Based on an Underlying Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant:

## A. Filing Address for International Organization Employee or Family Member:

Adjustment of status applications filed based on a concurrently filed, pending, or approved Form I-360 for International Organization Employee or eligible family member must be filed with the Nebraska Service Center (see address below).

## B. Filing Address for Afghan and Iraqi Translators:

Adjustment of status applications filed based on an approved Form I-360 for Afghan and Iraqi Translators must be filed with the Nebraska Service Center (see address below). You cannot concurrently file Forms I-360 and I-485 for this classification.

#### C. Filing Address for Other I-360 Categories:

Other adjustment of status applications filed based on an approved Form I-360 for the following classifications **must** be filed with the Nebraska Service Center or the Texas Service Center, depending on where the applicant lives. **NOTE:** You **cannot** concurrently file Forms I-360 and I-485 for the following classifications:

- 1. Religious Worker or Minister;
- 2. Panama Canal Company Employment;
- 3. U.S. Government in Canal Zone Employment;
- 4. Special Immigrant Physician; or
- 5. International Broadcasters.

If you live in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin or Wyoming, send your application to the Nebraska Service Center:

USCIS Nebraska Service Center P.O. Box 87485 Lincoln, NE 68501-7485

If you live in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisianna, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, U.S. Virgin Islands, West Virginia or Washington, DC, send your application to the Texas Service Center:

USCIS Texas Service Center P.O. Box 851804 Mesquite, TX 75185-1804

3. Form I-485 is Based on an Underlying Form I-526, Immigrant Petition by Alien Entrepreneur:

If you are an immigrant investor with an approved Form I-526, you **must** file Form I-485 with the Texas Service Center, regardless of where the business enterprise is located.

**NOTE:** You **cannot** concurrently file form I-526 and I-485.

USCIS Texas Service Center P.O. Box 851804 Mesquite, TX 75185-1804

# 4. Filing Address for Asylee Adjustment of Status applicants:

All asylee adjustment of status applications must be filed with the Nebraska Service Center or the Texas Service Center, depending on where the applicant lives. If you are filing Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, to enable you to travel outside the U. S. while your adjustment of status application is pending, you should indicate that you are requesting a refugee travel document. The relating Form I-131 for a Refugee Travel document is filed with the Nebraska Service Center, regardless of the Form I-485 filing location.

If you live in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin or Wyoming, the mailing address you should use is:

USCIS Nebraska Service Center P.O. Box 87485 Lincoln, NE 68501-7485

If you live in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisianna, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, U.S. Virgin Islands, West Virginia or Washington, DC, send your application to the Texas Service Center:

USCIS Texas Service Center P.O. Box 852211 Mesquite, TX 75185-2211

# **5. Filing Address for Refugee Adjustment of Status applicants:**

All refugee adjustment of status applications must be filed with the Nebraska Service Center:

USCIS Nebraska Service Center P.O. Box 87209 Lincoln, NE 68501-7209

#### 6. Filing Address for HRIFA dependents:

Only the dependents spouse and children of the principal granted legal status under HRIFA are eligible to apply for benefits under HRIFA. The filing period for principal HRIFA applicants has closed. All HRIFA applications for <u>dependents</u> must be filed at the Nebraska Service Center.

USCIS Nebraska Service Center P.O. Box 87245 Lincoln, NE 68501-7245

#### **Questions Regarding Form I-485**

For additional information about Form I-485, including how to file your application or filing locations not mentioned, call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or visit our website at www.uscis.gov.

## What Is the Filing Fee?

The filing fee for a Form I-485 is \$930.00.

An additional biometric fee of \$80.00 is required when filing this Form I-485. After you submit Form I-485, USCIS will notify you about when and where to go for biometric services.

The fee is \$930.00 only (no biometrics fee required) for applicants under 14 years who submits Form I-485 independent from other family members.

The fee for a child under the age fourteen years will be **\$600.00** when submitted concurrently for adjudication with the application of a parent under sections 201(b)(A)(i), 203(a) (2)(A) and 203(d) of the INA.

You may submit one check or money order for both the application and biometric fees, for a total of \$1010.00.

Use the following guidelines when you prepare your check or money order for the Form I-485 and the biometric service fee:

- 1. The check or money order must be drawn on a bank or other financial institution located in the United States and must be payable in U.S. currency; and
- 2. Make the check or money order payable to U.S. **Department of Homeland Security**, unless:
  - **A.** If you live in Guam and are filing your petition there, make it payable to **Treasurer of Guam**.
  - **B.** If you live in the U.S. Virgin Islands and are filing your petition there, make it payable to **Commissioner** of Finance of the Virgin Islands.

**NOTE:** Please spell out U.S. Department of Homeland Security; do not use the initials "USDHS" or "DHS."

**Notice to Those Making Payment by Check.** If you send us a check, it will be converted into an electronic funds transfer (EFT). This means we will copy your check and use the account information on it to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will usually take 24 hours, and will be shown on your regular account statement.

You will not receive your original check back. We will destroy your original check, but we will keep a copy of it. If the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in place of your original check. If the EFT cannot be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer up to two times.

#### How to Check If the Fees Are Correct.

The form and biometric fees on this form are current as of the edition date appearing in the lower right corner of this page. However, because USCIS fees change periodically, you can verify if the fees are correct by following one of the steps below:

- 1. Visit our website at www.uscis.gov, select "Immigration Forms" and check the appropriate fee;
- 2. Review the Fee Schedule included in your form package, if you called us to request the form or
- **3.** Telephone our National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** and ask for the fee information.

**NOTE**: If your Form I-485 requires payment of a biometric service fee for USCIS to take your fingerprints, photograph or signature, you can use the same procedure to obtain the correct biometric fee.

#### **Address Changes.**

If you change your address and you have an application or petition pending with USCIS, you may change your address on-line at www.uscis.gov, click on "Change your address with USCIS" and follow the prompts or by completing and mailing Form AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card, to:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Change of Address P.O. Box 7134 London, KY 40742-7134

For commercial overnight or fast freight services only, mail to:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Change of Address 1084-I South Laurel Road London, KY 40744

# **Processing Information.**

Any application that is not signed or is not accompanied by the correct application fee will be rejected with a notice that the application is deficient. You may correct the deficiency and resubmit the application. An application is not considered properly filed until accepted by USCIS.

#### Initial processing.

Once an application has been accepted, it will be checked for completeness, including submission of the required initial evidence. If you do not completely fill out the form or file it without required initial evidence, you will not establish a basis for eligibility and we may deny your application.

#### Requests for more information or interview.

We may request more information or evidence, or we may request that you appear at a USCIS office for an interview. We may also request that you submit the originals of any copy. We will return these originals when they are no longer required.

#### Interview.

After you file your application, you may be notified to appear at a USCIS office to answer questions about the application. You will be required to answer these questions under oath or affirmation. You must bring your Arrival-Departure Record (Form I-94) and any passport or official travel document you have to the interview.

#### Decision.

You will be notified in writing of the decision on your application.

#### Selective Service Registration.

If you are a male at least 18 years old, but not yet 26 years old, and required according to the Military Selective Service Act to register with the Selective Service System, USCIS will help you register.

When your signed application is filed and accepted by USCIS, we will transmit to the Selective Service System your name, current address, Social Security number, date of birth and the date you filed the application. This action will enable the Selective Service System to record your registration as of the filing date of your application.

If USCIS does not accept your application and, if still so required, you are responsible to register with the Selective Service System by using other means, provided you are under 26 years of age. If you have already registered, the Selective Service System will check its records to avoid any duplication.

(NOTE: Men 18 through 25 years old who are applying for student financial aid, government employment or job training benefits should register directly with the Selective Service System or such benefits may be denied. Men can register at a local post office or on the internet at http://www.sss.gov).

Travel outside the United States for adjustment of status applicants under sections 209 and 245 of the Act, and Registry applicants under section 249 of the Act.

Your departure from the United States (including brief visits to Canada or Mexico) constitutes an abandonment of your adjustment of status application, unless you are granted permission to depart and you are inspected upon your return to the United States. Such permission to travel is called "advance parole." To request advance parole, you must file Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, with the appropriate fee at the USCIS office where you applied for adjustment of status.

### 1. Exceptions.

#### A. H, L, V or K3/K4 nonimmigrants:

If you are an H, L,V, or K3/K4 nonimmigrant who continues to maintain his or her status, you may travel on a valid H, L, V or K3/K4 visa without obtaining advance parole.

## **B.** Refugees and Asylees:

If you are applying for adjustment of status one year after you were admitted as a refugee or one year after you were granted asylum, you may travel outside the United States on your valid refugee travel document, if you have one, without the need to obtain advance parole.

#### 2. Warning:

Travel outside of the United States may trigger the three and ten year bar to admission under section 212(a)(9)(B)(i) of the Act for adjustment applicants, but not registry applicants. This ground of inadmissibility is triggered if you were unlawfully present in the United States (i.e., you remained in the United States beyond the period of authorized stay) for more than 180 days before you applied for adjustment of status and you travel outside of the United States while your adjustment of status application is pending.

**NOTE:** Only unlawful presence that was accrued on or after April 1, 1997, counts towards the three and ten year bar under section 212(a)(9)(B)(i) of the Act.)

If you become inadmissible under section 212(a)(9)(B)(i) of the Act while your adjustment of status application is pending, you will need a waiver of inadmissibility under section 212(a) (9)(B)(v) of the Act before your adjustment of status application can be approved. This waiver, however, is granted on a case-by-case basis and in the exercise of discretion. It requires a showing of extreme hardship to your United States citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse or parent, unless you are a refugee or asylee. For refugees and asylees, the waiver may be granted for humanitarian reasons, to assure family unity or if it is otherwise in the public interest.

#### Penalties.

If you knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document with this Form I-485, we will deny the Form I-485 and may deny any other immigration benefit.

In addition, you will face severe penalties provided by law and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

## **Privacy Act Notice.**

We ask for the information on this form, and associated evidence, to determine if you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit for which you are filing. Our legal right to ask for this information can be found in the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended. We may provide this information to other government agencies. Failure to provide this information, and any requested evidence, may delay a final decision or result in denial of your Form I-485.

### Paperwork Reduction Act.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 5 hours and 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, completing and submitting the form. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Regulatory Management Division, 111 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., 3rd Floor, Suite 3008, Washington, DC 20529. OMB No. 1615-0023. **Do not mail your application to this address.**