



USCIS Update

July 21, 2008

USCIS Clarifies Fee Exemption Eligibility for the Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility (Form I-601)

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) reminds its customers that the fee for an Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility ([Form I-601](#)) is always required. USCIS has received numerous applications filed without the appropriate fee due to an incorrect interpretation of the regulations.

The authority to waive or exempt payment of the \$545 fee as discussed in the Code of Federal Regulations [8 CFR 245.1\(f\)](#) cites an October 1977 law that applied only to applications from certain Vietnamese, Laotian and Cambodian parolees filed by October 28, 1983.

USCIS routinely reviews its fee waiver and exemption policy to ensure that it is not only fair to all applicants, but also reasonable to administer. Detailed guidance on the agency's policy, including for which forms a fee waiver may be considered, is available on the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov/feewaiver.

Applicants who have a specific question about fee waivers or exemption on the Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility (Form I-601) should call the National Customer Service Center at (800) 375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833).