



Fact Sheet

May 26, 2004

USCIS EXPANDS E-FILING SERVICE ONLINE

On May 26, 2004, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) included six new forms for customers to apply for immigration benefits online to expand its E-Filing program. Initially, when the Internet-based customer service initiative began last year (May 2003), it allowed customers to file for two of the most frequently used applications online: Application to Replace a Permanent Resident Card (Form I-90) and Application for Employment Authorization (Form I-765). With the addition of the six new forms online, E-Filing now supports eight forms that account for more than 50% of the total volume of benefits applications USCIS receives annually. Since the establishment of E-Filing, more than 115,000 customers have chosen to apply online for immigration benefits.

Online Forms Launched in 2003:

- Form I-90, Application to Replace a Permanent Resident Card
- Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

New Online Forms:

- Form I-129, Petition for a Non-immigrant Worker
- Form I-131, Application for Travel Document
- Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker
- Form I-539, Application to Extend/Change Non-immigrant Status
- Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status
- Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service

Why Use E-Filing:

- E-Filing is quick, easy and convenient for customers because it allows them to complete and submit applications at any time, from any computer with Internet access.

- After filing online, customers will receive instant electronic confirmation that their applications were received.
- Customers can then schedule an appointment, if necessary, to visit an Application Support Center at a convenient time - by calling the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 - for the collection of a digital photograph, signature, and fingerprints.
- Customers pay fees online with a credit or debit card or through the electronic transfer of U.S. funds from their checking or savings account. Customers do not need to obtain a money order or a cashier's check.
- USCIS intends to add electronic filing capabilities for additional forms by the end of Fiscal Year 2006.
- Filing instructions and eligibility information for E-Filing are available at www.uscis.gov.

Other Customer Service Initiatives

- InfoPass: Allows customers to go online to make an appointment with an Immigration Information Officer, as opposed to standing in long lines. This customer friendly initiative allows customers to make appointments in a manner at a time most convenient to them. InfoPass is currently available in Miami, Los Angeles and Dallas. USCIS plans to expand InfoPass nationwide.
- Case Status Online: This recently expanded system allows customers to track the processing of their applications or petitions for immigration benefits. Customers can build a personal portfolio of their pending applications or petitions, and receive e-mailed responses from USCIS regarding updates to their cases.
- Naturalized more than 8,000 military service members and posthumously naturalized 16 service members who died in service to the United States during the war in Iraq.
- Launched an extensive public education and outreach effort targeting the estimated 37,000 service members who may be eligible to naturalize. Approximately 13,000 have applied to date.
- Waived the oath of allegiance for persons with certain disabilities.