

# USCIS Citizenship/Civic Integration Resources for State and Local Governments

## Outreach/Community Engagement

- Local USCIS field offices regularly conduct free naturalization information sessions for aspiring citizenship applicants. To find a session in your area, visit [www.uscis.gov/citizenshipsessions](http://www.uscis.gov/citizenshipsessions). To request that an event be held in your area, contact [USCIS-IGAO outreach@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:USCIS-IGAO outreach@uscis.dhs.gov).
- Local USCIS field offices also host naturalization oath ceremonies. If you are interested in participating in a ceremony, please contact [USCIS-IGAO outreach@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:USCIS-IGAO outreach@uscis.dhs.gov).
- Through the *Outstanding American by Choice* initiative, USCIS recognizes naturalized citizens who have demonstrated their commitment to this country and to the common civic principles that unite us as Americans. To nominate an individual, please contact a local USCIS field office or the Office of Public Engagement by visiting [www.uscis.gov/outreach](http://www.uscis.gov/outreach) and clicking “Contact Us.”
- In June 2011, USCIS launched the Unauthorized Practice of Immigration Law (UPIIL) Initiative to combat immigration service scams by equipping applicants, legal service providers and community-based organizations with the knowledge and tools they need to detect and protect themselves from dishonest practices. A variety of educational tools, public service announcements, and information on finding authorized legal assistance is available at [www.uscis.gov/avoidscams](http://www.uscis.gov/avoidscams).
- USCIS has community relations officers in each of its 26 districts. USCIS has field offices in 73 cities and 40 states. To locate a USCIS field office, visit [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) and click “Find a USCIS Office.”

## Training and Technical Assistance

- USCIS offers free [training workshops](#) for adult educators, volunteers, and teachers. These workshops are designed to enhance the skills needed to teach U.S. history, civics, and the naturalization process to immigrant students. USCIS often partners with state and local agencies when hosting these events and is looking to expand its training opportunities in both new immigrant gateways and established immigrant population centers. To request a training event, please send an email to [office.of.citizenship@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:office.of.citizenship@uscis.dhs.gov).
- A [start-up guide](#) that provides organizations with an overview and recommendations on designing and implementing ESL and civics/citizenship classes for immigrants along with lesson plans and teaching strategies for novice and seasoned ESL instructors are available for download at [www.uscis.gov/citizenship](http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship).

## Citizenship Education and Naturalization Preparation Grants

- Public schools, local public education agencies and state and local governments are eligible to apply for federal funding under the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program as long as they have demonstrated experience in providing citizenship and/or naturalization preparation services to lawful permanent residents. Future funding opportunities are dependent upon congressional action. For the most current information, visit [www.uscis.gov/grants](http://www.uscis.gov/grants).

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U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

[www.uscis.gov/citizenship](http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship) ★ 1 800 375 5283

## Educational Resources

- USCIS offers one free copy of the *Civics and Citizenship Toolkit* to immigrant-serving organizations, including state and local governments. The *Toolkit* contains a prepackaged set of educational materials designed to help permanent residents learn more about the United States and prepare for the naturalization process. Organizations can request a copy of the *Toolkit* at [www.citizenshiptoolkit.gov](http://www.citizenshiptoolkit.gov).
- The Citizenship Resource Center, located at [www.uscis.gov/citizenship](http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship), provides citizenship information, study materials, and resources for adult learners, teachers, and immigrant-serving organizations. The site also includes downloadable public service announcements and advertisements promoting the rights, responsibilities, and importance of citizenship.
- USCIS also maintains [www.welcometousa.gov](http://www.welcometousa.gov), the federal government's primary Web portal for new immigrants to find basic information on how to settle in the United States.
- An orientation guide entitled, *Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants* is available in 14 languages at [www.uscis.gov/newimmigrants](http://www.uscis.gov/newimmigrants).