

# **U.S.** Citizenship & **Immigration Services**

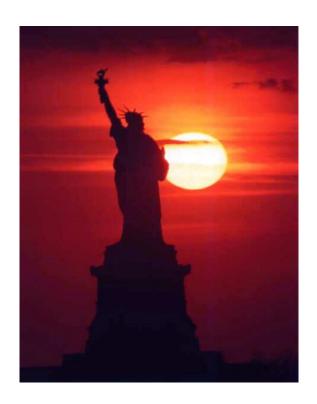


# Albuquerque Field Office

September 24, 2019

# **IMMIGRATION 101**





- □ Overview U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS)
- ☐ Immigration Categories & Visas
- ☐ Customer Service Tools

# **USCIS MISSION**

"U.S. Citizenship and **Immigration Services** administers the nation's lawful immigration system, safeguarding its integrity and promise by efficiently and fairly adjudicating requests for immigration benefits while protecting Americans, securing the homeland, and honoring our values."





U.S. Citizenship

and Immigration



Acting Director Kenneth T. Cuccinelli

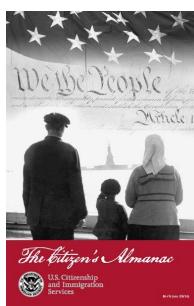
#### WHAT WE DO



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is the federal agency that oversees lawful immigration to the United States. We are a component of the Department of Homeland Security.

Some of the services we provide include:

- ☐ Citizenship (Includes the Related Naturalization Process)
- ☐ Immigration of Family Members
- ☐ Working in the U.S.
- ☐ Verifying an Individual's Legal Right to Work in the United States (E-Verify)
- ☐ Humanitarian Programs
- Adoptions
- ☐ Civic Integration
- □ Genealogy



# **IMMIGRATION CATEGORIES**





- **☐** Non-Immigrants
  - ☐ Temporary stay in the United States
- **□** Immigrants
  - □ Permanent Residents
- Naturalized U.S. Citizens

# **VISAS**



- ☐ Visas are issued through the Department of State
- ☐ A visa allows a person to apply for admission to the United States of America.
- □ A visa does NOT guarantee entry to U.S.
- Visas can be cancelled



## **VISITORS**



- B-1 Visas: A foreign national traveling to the United States to conduct temporary business needs a visitor visa (B-1) unless qualifying for entry under the Visa Waiver Program.
  - Examples of temporary business include:
    - Attending business meetings or consultations
    - Attending a business convention or conference
    - Negotiating contracts
- <u>B-2 Visas:</u> A foreign national traveling to the United States for tourism needs a visitor visa (B-2) unless qualifying for entry under the Visa Waiver Program. Tourism is a short visit for vacation, for visiting family and friends, or for medical treatment.
- <u>Visa Waiver Program:</u> Most citizens of participating countries may travel to the United States for short visits for temporary business without a visa. Travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program requires ESTA approval.

#### LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENCE THROUGH EMPLOYN



An employer may use Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker to ask USCIS to classify a foreign national as someone who is eligible for an immigrant visa based on employment. The employer generally files the Form I-140 for the foreign national.

There are three categories for immigrant workers.

- ☐ First preference immigrant workers
  - Have extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business or athletics, or
  - Are an outstanding professor or researcher, or
  - Are a multinational manager or executive who meets certain criteria
- □ Second preference immigrant workers
  - Are a member of a profession that requires an advanced degree, or
  - Have exceptional ability in the sciences, arts, or business, or
  - Are seeking a national interest waiver
- □ Third preference immigrant workers
  - A skilled worker (meaning your job requires a minimum of 2 years training or work experience), or
  - A professional (meaning your job requires at least a U.S. bachelor's degree or a foreign equivalent and you are a member of the profession), or
  - An unskilled worker (meaning you will perform unskilled labor requiring less than 2 years training or experience)

## **NEED HELP**



USCIS offers a wide variety of resources & tools to answer any and all questions.

- Website: <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/">https://www.uscis.gov/</a>
  - □ Ask Emma
- ☐ Contact Us: https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/contact-us
  - Case Status Web Page: gives you the same information you would get by speaking to a representative, and it's available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from a cell phone, tablet, or computer
  - Contact Center: If you need to talk to a representative for another reason and you're in the United States or a U.S. territory
    - Dial 800-375-5283 (for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability: TTY 800-767-1833) to access automated information through an interactive menu 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
    - If you are outside the United States or a U.S. territory, you can call 212-620-3418.
    - You can get live help from a USCIS representative Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern except on federal holidays.

