

Immigration
HELP



For more information, visit
ftc.gov/immigration



FEDERAL TRADE
COMMISSION

Where do I get immigration forms?

You can:

- go to www.uscis.gov/forms
- call USCIS at 1-800-870-3676, or
- visit your local USCIS office

Immigration forms are free.

But the U.S. government may charge you a fee when you file your forms.

Who can help me fill out my forms?

Only a lawyer or an accredited representative can give you legal advice about which forms to use or what to write on your forms. Anyone can help you write down what you tell them.

Do not pay anyone to give you immigration help if they are not authorized by the U.S. government to give it.

See the other side of this paper to learn about **lawyers** and **accredited representatives**.

How do I find out more about my lawyer?

You can look online to see if the lawyer you chose really is a lawyer. You also can find out if the lawyer has broken any rules for lawyers:

- For a list of lawyers who are **not** allowed to practice immigration law, go to www.justice.gov/eoir/discipline.htm
- You can call your state bar association to ask about a specific lawyer. Go to www.statebarassociations.org and click on the state where you live to find the phone number to call.

Is there anyone else who can help me?

Sometimes, people in your community can talk to USCIS for you. This is called representing you. These people **cannot** charge you a fee. Before someone like this can represent you, the U.S. government official who is working on your case has to approve the person.

Does USCIS have my forms?

You will need the receipt you got from USCIS when you turned in your paperwork. Then:

- Go to www.uscis.gov or
- Call 1-800-375-5283 to talk with the USCIS National Customer Service Center

I might have been scammed. How can I find out about my immigration status?

Go to www.uscis.gov and type your receipt number in the “Case Status” box.

If you don't have your receipt, make an appointment with USCIS:

- Go to www.infopass.uscis.gov
- Call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283



I want to report an immigration scam.

Immigration scams are against the law. Report them to:

- the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) www.ftc.gov/complaint or 1-877-382-4357
- the attorney general of your state. Find the name at www.naag.org. Click on your state.
- the EOIR Fraud and Abuse Prevention Program at (703) 305-0470 or email EOIR.Fraud.Program@usdoj.gov

The more information you can give, the more helpful your report is to the investigator.

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I need immigration help. Who can help me?

Who can give me legal advice?

Only someone authorized by the U.S. government can give you legal advice. Usually, that means:

a lawyer or **an accredited representative**

Lawyers

A lawyer can help you. A lawyer:

 may be called an attorney.

 must be licensed by a state or territory of the U.S., or the District of Columbia.

 may charge you a fee for giving you legal services.

Find **free and low-cost lawyers**:

- www.justice.gov/eoir/probono/states.htm
- The American Bar Association
<http://apps.americanbar.org/legalservices/findlegalhelp/home.cfm>
- Or call USCIS at 1-800-375-5283 for lawyers in your area

Find other immigration **lawyers who charge fees**:

- The American Immigration Lawyers Association
www.aialawyer.com

Accredited Representatives

An accredited representative:

-  is not a lawyer.
-  is authorized to help you with your immigration case.

EOIR must work for an organization recognized by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR). The organization may charge you a small fee.

Find an accredited representative:

- www.justice.gov/eoir/ra/raroster.htm



Notarios

Notarios, notarios públicos, and notary publics are **NOT** lawyers or accredited representatives. They are not authorized by the U.S. government to give you legal advice.

Do **not** pay them for legal help. You may lose your money.

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