

USCIS Advisory on Processing Times

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USCIS has received a significant increase in the number of applications filed. In July and August, nearly 2.5 million applications and petitions of all types were received. This compares to 1.2 million applications and petitions received in the same time period last year. This fiscal year, we received 1.4 million applications for naturalization; nearly double the volume we received the year before. The agency is working to improve processes and focus increased resources, including hiring approximately 1,500 new employees, to address this workload.

As a result, average processing times for certain application types may grow longer. In particular, naturalization applications filed after June 1, 2007 may take approximately 16-18 months to process.

USCIS has several informational services to keep you apprised of the agency's progress. We encourage you to take advantage of information posted on our website and to create and monitor your profile in our Case Status Online system to properly track your case. You will find a link to Case Status Online in the Related Links section of this page.

We will continue to provide additional information on application processing times as it becomes available.

Note from Lorenzo: I am sure many of you saw the newspaper stories concerning the slow processing during the holiday weekend. Although the advisory and the newspaper stories highlighted Naturalization applications, it is important to note that we are seeing slower processing times across the board. The lone exception appears to be EADs and Advanced Paroles.

For those of you with Adjustment of Status petitions pending, please remember that your priority date must be current in order for your petition to be approved. You can always check the monthly priority date movements at http://travel.state.gov/visa/frvi/bulletin/bulletin_1360.html or simply go to "Priority Dates" in our website.