

SUBCHAPTER E—VISAS

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Subpart A—General Provisions**§ 40.1 Definitions.**

The following definitions supplement definitions contained in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). As used in the regulations in parts 40, 41, 42, 43 and 45 of this subchapter, the term:

(a)(1) *Accompanying or accompanied by* means not only an alien in the physical company of a principal alien but also an alien who is issued an immigrant visa within 6 months of:

(i) The date of issuance of a visa to the principal alien;

(ii) The date of adjustment of status in the United States of the principal alien; or

(iii) The date on which the principal alien personally appears and registers before a consular officer abroad to confer alternate foreign state chargeability or immigrant status upon a spouse or child.

(2) An “accompanying” relative may not precede the principal alien to the United States.

(b) *Act* means the Immigration and Nationality Act (or INA), as amended.

(c) *Competent officer*, as used in INA 101(a)(26), means a “consular officer” as defined in INA 101(a)(9).

(d) *Consular officer*, as defined in INA 101(a)(9) includes commissioned consular officers and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services, and such other officers as the Deputy Assistant Secretary may designate for the purpose of issuing nonimmigrant and immigrant visas, but does not include a consular agent, an attaché or an assistant attaché. For purposes of this regulation, the term “other officers” in-

cludes civil service visa examiners employed by the Department of State for duty at visa-issuing offices abroad, upon certification by the chief of the consular section under whose direction such examiners are employed that the examiners are qualified by knowledge and experience to perform the functions of a consular officer in the issuance or refusal of visas. The designation of visa examiners shall expire upon termination of the examiners’ employment for such duty and may be terminated at any time for cause by the Deputy Assistant Secretary. The assignment by the Department of any foreign service officer to a diplomatic or consular office abroad in a position administratively designated as requiring, solely, partially, or principally, the performance of consular functions, and the initiation of a request for a consular commission, constitutes designation of the officer as a “consular officer” within the meaning of INA 101(a)(9).

(e) *Department* means the Department of State of the United States of America.

(f) *Dependent area* means a colony or other component or dependent area overseas from the governing foreign state.

(g) *DHS* means the Department of Homeland Security.

(h) *Documentarily qualified* means that the alien has reported that all the documents specified by the consular officer as sufficient to meet the requirements of INA 222(b) have been obtained, and the consular office has completed the necessary clearance procedures. This term is used only with respect to the alien’s qualification to apply formally for an immigrant visa; it bears no connotation that the alien is eligible to receive a visa.

(i) *Entitled to immigrant classification* means that the alien:

(1) Is the beneficiary of an approved petition granting immediate relative or preference status;

(2) Has satisfied the consular officer as to entitlement to special immigrant status under INA 101(a)(27) (A) or (B);

(3) Has been selected by the annual selection system to apply under INA 203(c); or

(4) Is an alien described in § 40.51(c).

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(j) *Foreign state*, for the purposes of alternate chargeability pursuant to INA 202(b), is not restricted to those areas to which the numerical limitation prescribed by INA 202(a) applies but includes dependent areas, as defined in this section.

(k) *INA* means the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended.

(l) *Make or file an application for a visa* means:

(1) For a nonimmigrant visa applicant, submitting for formal adjudication by a consular officer of an electronic application, Form DS-160, signed electronically by clicking the box designated "Sign Application" in the certification section of the application or, as directed by a consular officer, a completed Form DS-156, with any required supporting documents and biometric data, as well as the requisite processing fee or evidence of the prior payment of the processing fee when such documents are received and accepted for adjudication by the consular officer.

(2) For an immigrant visa applicant, personally appearing before a consular officer and verifying by oath or affirmation the statements contained on Form DS-230 or Form DS-260 and in all supporting documents, having previously submitted all forms and documents required in advance of the appearance and paid the visa application processing fee.

(m) *Native* means born within the territory of a foreign state, or entitled to be charged for immigration purposes to that foreign state pursuant to INA section 202(b).

(n) *Not subject to numerical limitation* means that the alien is entitled to immigrant status as an immediate relative within the meaning of INA 201(b)(2)(i), or as a special immigrant within the meaning of INA 101(a)(27)(A) and (B), unless specifically subject to a limitation other than under INA 201(a), (b), or (c).

(o) *Parent, father, and mother*, as defined in INA 101(b)(2), are terms which are not changed in meaning if the child becomes 21 years of age or marries.

(p) *Port of entry* means a port or place designated by the DHS at which an alien may apply to DHS for admission into the United States.

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(q) *Principal alien* means an alien from whom another alien derives a privilege or status under the law or regulations.

(r) *Regulation* means a rule which is established under the provisions of INA 104(a) and is duly published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(s) *Son or daughter* includes only a person who would have qualified as a "child" under INA 101(b)(1) if the person were under 21 and unmarried.

(t) *Western Hemisphere* means North America (including Central America), South America and the islands immediately adjacent thereto including the places named in INA 101(b)(5).

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 56 FR 43552, Sept. 3, 1991; 59 FR 15300, Mar. 31, 1994; 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996; 64 FR 55418, Oct. 13, 1999; 65 FR 54413, Sept. 8, 2000; 71 FR 34520, June 15, 2006; 73 FR 23068, Apr. 29, 2008; 75 FR 45476, Aug. 3, 2010]

§ 40.2 Documentation of nationals.

(a) *Nationals of the United States*. A national of the United States shall not be issued a visa or other documentation as an alien for entry into the United States.

(b) *Former Nationals of the United States*. A former national of the United States who seeks to enter the United States must comply with the documentary requirements applicable to aliens under the INA.

§ 40.3 Entry into areas under U.S. administration.

An immigrant or nonimmigrant seeking to enter an area which is under U.S. administration but which is not within the "United States", as defined in INA 101(a)(38), is not required by the INA to be documented with a visa unless the authority contained in INA 215 has been invoked.

§ 40.4 Furnishing records and information from visa files for court proceedings.

Upon receipt of a request for information from a visa file or record for use in court proceedings, as contemplated in INA 222(f), the consular officer must, prior to the release of the information, submit the request together with a full report to the Department.

Department of State**§ 40.21****§ 40.5 Limitations on the use of National Crime Information Center (NCIC) criminal history information.**

(a) *Authorized access.* The FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) criminal history records are law enforcement sensitive and can only be accessed by authorized consular personnel with visa processing responsibilities.

(b) *Use of information.* NCIC criminal history record information shall be used solely to determine whether or not to issue a visa to an alien or to admit an alien to the United States. All third party requests for access to NCIC criminal history record information shall be referred to the FBI.

(c) *Confidentiality and protection of records.* To protect applicants' privacy, authorized Department personnel must secure all NCIC criminal history records, automated or otherwise, to prevent access by unauthorized persons. Such criminal history records must be destroyed, deleted or overwritten upon receipt of updated versions.

[67 FR 8478, Feb. 25, 2002]

§ 40.6 Basis for refusal.

A visa can be refused only upon a ground specifically set out in the law or implementing regulations. The term "reason to believe", as used in INA 221(g), shall be considered to require a determination based upon facts or circumstances which would lead a reasonable person to conclude that the applicant is ineligible to receive a visa as provided in the INA and as implemented by the regulations. Consideration shall be given to any evidence submitted indicating that the ground for a prior refusal of a visa may no longer exist. The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish eligibility to receive a visa under INA 212 or any other provision of law or regulation.

§§ 40.7–40.8 [Reserved]**§ 40.9 Classes of inadmissible aliens.**

Subparts B through L describe classes of inadmissible aliens who are ineligible to receive visas and who shall be ineligible for admission into the United States, except as otherwise provided in

the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended.

[61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996]

Subpart B—Medical Grounds of Ineligibility**§ 40.11 Medical grounds of ineligibility.**

(a) *Decision on eligibility based on findings of medical doctor.* A finding of a panel physician designated by the post in whose jurisdiction the examination is performed pursuant to INA 212(a)(1) shall be binding on the consular officer, except that the officer may refer a panel physician finding in an individual case to USPHS for review.

(b) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(g).* If an immigrant visa applicant is inadmissible under INA 212(a)(1)(A)(i), (ii), or (iii) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(g)(1)(A) or (B), 212(g)(2)(C), or 212(g)(3), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under the applicable provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(g), unless the consular officer has been delegated authority by the Secretary of Homeland Security to grant the particular waiver under INA 212(g).

(c) *Waiver authority—INA 212(g)(2)(A) and (B).* The consular officer may waive section 212(a)(1)(A)(ii) visa ineligibility if the alien qualifies for such waiver under the provisions of INA 212(g)(2)(A) or (B).

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 62 FR 67567, Dec. 29, 1997]

§§ 40.12–40.19 [Reserved]**Subpart C—Criminal and Related Grounds—Conviction of Certain Crimes****§ 40.21 Crimes involving moral turpitude and controlled substance violators.**

(a) *Crimes involving moral turpitude—*
(1) *Acts must constitute a crime under criminal law of jurisdiction where they occurred.* A Consular Officer may make a

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finding of ineligibility under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) based upon an alien's admission of the commission of acts which constitute the essential elements of a crime involving moral turpitude, only if the acts constitute a crime under the criminal law of the jurisdiction where they occurred. However, a Consular Officer must base a determination that a crime involves moral turpitude upon the moral standards generally prevailing in the United States.

(2) *Conviction for crime committed under age 18.* (i) An alien will not be ineligible to receive a visa under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) by reason of any offense committed:

(A) Prior to the alien's fifteenth birthday, or

(B) Between the alien's fifteenth and eighteenth birthdays unless such alien was tried and convicted as an adult for a felony involving violence as defined in section 1(1) and section 16 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

(ii) An alien tried and convicted as an adult for a violent felony offense, as so defined, committed after having attained the age of fifteen years, will be subject to the provisions of INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) regardless of whether at the time of conviction juvenile courts existed within the convicting jurisdiction.

(3) *Two or more crimes committed under age 18.* An alien convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or admitting the commission of acts which constitute the essential elements of such a crime and who has committed an additional crime involving moral turpitude shall be ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I), even though the crimes were committed while the alien was under the age of 18 years.

(4) *Conviction in absentia.* A conviction in absentia of a crime involving moral turpitude does not constitute a conviction within the meaning of INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I).

(5) *Effect of pardon by appropriate U.S. authorities/foreign states.* An alien shall not be considered ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) by reason of a conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude for which a full and unconditional pardon has been granted by the President of the United States, by the Governor of a State of the United States, by the former High Commissioner for Germany acting pursuant to Executive Order 10062, or by the United States Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany acting pursuant to Executive Order 10608. A legislative pardon or a pardon, amnesty, expungement of penal record or any other act of clemency granted by a foreign state shall not serve to remove a ground of ineligibility under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I).

(6) *Political offenses.* The term "purely political offense", as used in INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I), includes offenses that resulted in convictions obviously based on fabricated charges or predicated upon repressive measures against racial, religious, or political minorities.

(7) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(h).* If an immigrant visa applicant is ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(I) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(h), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(h).

(b) *Controlled substance violators—(1) Date of conviction not pertinent.* An alien shall be ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) irrespective of whether the conviction for a violation of or for conspiracy to violate any law or regulation relating to a controlled substance, as defined in the Controlled Substance Act (21 U.S.C. 802), occurred before, on, or after October 27, 1986.

(2) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(h).* If an immigrant visa applicant is ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(h), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(h).

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 64 FR 55418, Oct. 13, 1999]

Department of State**§ 40.24****§ 40.22 Multiple criminal convictions.**

(a) *Conviction(s) for crime(s) committed under age 18.* An alien shall not be ineligible to receive a visa under INA 212(a)(2)(B) by reason of any offense committed prior to the alien's fifteenth birthday. Nor shall an alien be ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(B) by reason of any offense committed between the alien's fifteenth and eighteenth birthdays unless such alien was tried and convicted as an adult for a felony involving violence as defined in section 1(l) and section 16 of Title 18 of the United States Code. An alien, tried and convicted as an adult for a violent felony offense, as so defined, committed after having attained the age of fifteen years, and who has also been convicted of at least one other such offense or any other offense committed as an adult, shall be subject to the provisions of INA 212(a)(2)(B) regardless of whether at that time juvenile courts existed within the jurisdiction of the conviction.

(b) *Conviction in absentia.* A conviction in absentia shall not constitute a conviction within the meaning of INA 212(a)(2)(B).

(c) *Effect of pardon by appropriate U.S. authorities/foreign states.* An alien shall not be considered ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(B) by reason in part of having been convicted of an offense for which a full and unconditional pardon has been granted by the President of the United States, by the Governor of a State of the United States, by the former High Commissioner for Germany acting pursuant to Executive Order 10062, or by the United States Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany acting pursuant to Executive Order 10608. A legislative pardon or a pardon, amnesty, expungement of penal record or any other act of clemency granted by a foreign state shall not serve to remove a ground of ineligibility under INA 212(a)(2)(B).

(d) *Political offense.* The term "purely political offense", as used in INA 212(a)(2)(B), includes offenses that resulted in convictions obviously based on fabricated charges or predicated upon repressive measures against racial, religious, or political minorities.

(e) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(h).* If an immigrant visa applicant is ineli-

gible under INA 212(a)(2)(B) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(h), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(h).

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 62 FR 67567, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.23 Controlled substance traffickers. [Reserved]**§ 40.24 Prostitution and commercialized vice.**

(a) *Activities within 10 years preceding visa application.* An alien shall be ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(D) only if—

(1) The alien is coming to the United States solely, principally, or incidentally to engage in prostitution, or has engaged in prostitution, or the alien directly or indirectly procures or attempts to procure, or procured or attempted to procure or to import prostitutes or persons for the purposes of prostitution, or receives or received, in whole or in part, the proceeds of prostitution; and

(2) The alien has performed one of the activities listed in § 40.24(a)(1) within the last ten years.

(b) *Prostitution defined.* The term "prostitution" means engaging in promiscuous sexual intercourse for hire. A finding that an alien has "engaged" in prostitution must be based on elements of continuity and regularity, indicating a pattern of behavior or deliberate course of conduct entered into primarily for financial gain or for other considerations of material value as distinguished from the commission of casual or isolated acts.

(c) *Where prostitution not illegal.* An alien who is within one or more of the classes described in INA 212(a)(2)(D) is ineligible to receive a visa under that section even if the acts engaged in are not prohibited under the laws of the foreign country where the acts occurred.

(d) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(h).* If an immigrant visa applicant is ineligible under INA 212(a)(2)(D) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA

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212(h), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(h).

§ 40.25 Certain aliens involved in serious criminal activity who have asserted immunity from prosecution. [Reserved]

§§ 40.26–40.29 [Reserved]

Subpart D—Security and Related Grounds

§ 40.31 General. [Reserved]

§ 40.32 Terrorist activities. [Reserved]

§ 40.33 Foreign policy. [Reserved]

§ 40.34 Immigrant membership in totalitarian party.

(a) *Definition of affiliate.* The term *affiliate*, as used in INA 212(a)(3)(D), means an organization which is related to, or identified with, a proscribed association or party, including any section, subsidiary, branch, or subdivision thereof, in such close association as to evidence an adherence to or a furtherance of the purposes and objectives of such association or party, or as to indicate a working alliance to bring to fruition the purposes and objectives of the proscribed association or party. An organization which gives, loans, or promises support, money, or other thing of value for any purpose to any proscribed association or party is presumed to be an *affiliate* of such association or party, but nothing contained in this paragraph shall be construed as an exclusive definition of the term *affiliate*.

(b) *Service in Armed Forces.* Service, whether voluntary or not, in the armed forces of any country shall not be regarded, of itself, as constituting or establishing an alien's membership in, or affiliation with, any proscribed party or organization, and shall not, of itself, constitute a ground of ineligibility to receive a visa.

(c) *Voluntary Service in a Political Capacity.* Voluntary service in a political capacity shall constitute affiliation

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with the political party or organization in power at the time of such service.

(d) *Voluntary Membership After Age 16.* If an alien continues or continued membership in or affiliation with a proscribed organization on or after reaching 16 years of age, only the alien's activities after reaching that age shall be pertinent to a determination of whether the continuation of membership or affiliation is or was voluntary.

(e) *Operation of Law Defined.* The term *operation of law*, as used in INA 212(a)(3)(D), includes any case wherein the alien automatically, and without personal acquiescence, became a member of or affiliated with a proscribed party or organization by official act, proclamation, order, edict, or decree.

(f) *Membership in Organization Advocating Totalitarian Dictatorship in the United States.* In accordance with the definition of *totalitarian party* contained in INA 101(a)(37), a former or present voluntary member of, or an alien who was, or is, voluntarily affiliated with a noncommunist party, organization, or group, or of any section, subsidiary, branch, affiliate or subdivision thereof, which during the time of its existence did not or does not advocate the establishment in the United States of a totalitarian dictatorship, is not considered ineligible under INA 212(a)(3)(D) to receive a visa.

(g) *Waiver of ineligibility—212(a)(3)(D)(iv).* If an immigrant visa applicant is ineligible under INA 212(a)(3)(D) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(a)(3)(D)(iv), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(a)(3)(D)(iv).

§ 40.35 Participants in Nazi persecutions or genocide.

(a) *Participation in Nazi persecutions.* [Reserved]

(b) *Participation in genocide.* [Reserved]

Department of State**§ 40.51****§§ 40.36–40.39 [Reserved]****Subpart E—Public Charge****§ 40.41 Public charge.**

(a) *Basis for Determination of Ineligibility.* Any determination that an alien is ineligible under INA 212(a)(4) must be predicated upon circumstances indicating that, notwithstanding any affidavit of support that may have been filed on the alien's behalf, the alien is likely to become a public charge after admission, or, if applicable, that the alien has failed to fulfill the affidavit of support requirement of INA 212(a)(4)(C).

(b) *Affidavit of support.* Any alien seeking an immigrant visa under INA 201(b)(2), 203(a), or 203(b), based upon a petition filed by a relative of the alien (or in the case of a petition filed under INA 203(b) by an entity in which a relative has a significant ownership interest), shall be required to present to the consular officer an affidavit of support (AOS) on a form that complies with terms and conditions established by the Secretary of Homeland Security. Petitioners for applicants at a post designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services for initial review of and assistance with such an AOS will be charged a fee for such review and assistance pursuant to Item 61 of the Schedule of Fees for Consular Services (22 CFR 22.1).

(c) *Joint Sponsors.* Submission of one or more additional affidavits of support by a joint sponsor/sponsors is required whenever the relative sponsor's household income and significant assets, and the immigrant's assets, do not meet the Federal poverty line requirements of INA 213A.

(d) *Posting of Bond.* A consular officer may issue a visa to an alien who is within the purview of INA 212(a)(4) (subject to the affidavit of support requirement and attribution of sponsor's income and resources under section 213A), upon receipt of a notice from DHS of the giving of a bond or undertaking in accordance with INA 213 and INA 221(g), and provided further that the officer is satisfied that the giving of such bond or undertaking removes the likelihood that the alien will become a public charge within the mean-

ing of this section of the law and that the alien is otherwise eligible in all respects.

(e) *Pearranged Employment.* An immigrant visa applicant relying on an offer of prearranged employment to establish eligibility under INA 212(a)(4), other than an offer of employment certified by the Department of Labor pursuant to INA 212(a)(5)(A), must provide written confirmation of the relevant information sworn and subscribed to before a notary public by the employer or an authorized employee or agent of the employer. The signer's printed name and position or other relationship with the employer must accompany the signature.

(f) *Use of Federal Poverty Line Where INA 213A Not Applicable.* An immigrant visa applicant, not subject to the requirements of INA 213A, and relying solely on personal income to establish eligibility under INA 212(a)(4), who does not demonstrate an annual income above the Federal poverty line, as defined in INA 213A (h), and who is without other adequate financial resources, shall be presumed ineligible under INA 212(a)(4).

[62 FR 67564, Dec. 29, 1997, as amended at 65 FR 78094, Dec. 14, 2000]

§§ 40.42–40.49 [Reserved]**Subpart F—Labor Certification and Qualification for Certain Immigrants****§ 40.51 Labor certification.**

(a) *INA 212(a)(5) applicable only to certain immigrant aliens.* INA 212(a)(5)(A) applies only to immigrant aliens described in INA 203(b)(2) or (3) who are seeking to enter the United States for the purpose of engaging in gainful employment.

(b) *Determination of need for alien's labor skills.* An alien within one of the classes to which INA 212(a)(5) applies as described in § 40.51(a) who seeks to enter the United States for the purpose of engaging in gainful employment, shall be ineligible under INA 212(a)(5)(A) to receive a visa unless the Secretary of Labor has certified to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State, that

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(1) There are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, (or equally qualified in the case of aliens who are members of the teaching profession or who have exceptional ability in the sciences or the arts) and available at the time of application for a visa and at the place to which the alien is destined to perform such skilled or unskilled labor, and

(2) The employment of such alien will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of the workers in the United States similarly employed.

(c) *Labor certification not required in certain cases.* A spouse or child accompanying or following to join an alien spouse or parent who is a beneficiary of a petition approved pursuant to INA 203(b)(2) or (3) is not considered to be within the purview of INA 212(a)(5).

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996]

§ 40.52 Unqualified physicians.

INA 212(a)(5)(B) applies only to immigrant aliens described in INA 203(b) (2) or (3).

[61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 67567, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.53 Uncertified foreign health-care workers.

(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this section, a consular officer must not issue a visa to any alien seeking admission to the United States for the purpose of performing services in a health care occupation, other than as a physician, unless, in addition to meeting all other requirements of law and regulation, the alien provides to the officer a certification issued by the Commission On Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) or another credentialing service that has been approved by the Secretary of Homeland Security for such purpose, which certificate complies with the provisions of sections 212(a)(5)(C) and 212(r) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(5)(C) and 8 U.S.C. 1182(r), respectively, and the regulations found at 8 CFR 212.15.

(b) Paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to an alien:

(1) Seeking to enter the United States in order to perform services in a

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non-clinical health care occupation as described in 8 CFR 212.15(b)(1); or

(2) Who is the immigrant or non-immigrant spouse or child of a foreign health care worker and who is seeking to accompany or follow to join as a derivative applicant the principal alien to whom this section applies; or

(3) Who is applying for an immigrant or a nonimmigrant visa for any purpose other than for the purpose of seeking entry into the United States in order to perform health care services as described in 8 CFR 212.15.

[67 FR 77159, Dec. 17, 2002]

§§ 40.54–40.59 [Reserved]

Subpart G—Illegal Entrants and Immigration Violators

§ 40.61 Aliens present without admission or parole.

INA 212(a)(6)(A)(i) does not apply at the time of visa issuance.

[62 FR 67567, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.62 Failure to attend removal proceedings.

An alien who without reasonable cause failed to attend, or to remain in attendance at, a hearing initiated on or after April 1, 1997, under INA 240 to determine inadmissibility or deportability shall be ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(6)(B) for five years following the alien's subsequent departure or removal from the United States.

[62 FR 67567, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.63 Misrepresentation; Falsely claiming citizenship.

(a) *Fraud and misrepresentation and INA 212(a)(6)(C) applicability to certain refugees.* An alien who seeks to procure, or has sought to procure, or has procured a visa, other documentation, or entry into the United States or other benefit provided under the INA by fraud or by willfully misrepresenting a material fact at any time shall be ineligible under INA 212(a)(6)(C); *Provided, That the provisions of this paragraph are not applicable if the fraud or misrepresentation was committed by an alien at the time the alien sought entry into a country other than the*

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United States or obtained travel documents as a bona fide refugee and the refugee was in fear of being repatriated to a former homeland if the facts were disclosed in connection with an application for a visa to enter the United States: *Provided further*, That the fraud or misrepresentation was not committed by such refugee for the purpose of evading the quota or numerical restrictions of the U.S. immigration laws, or investigation of the alien's record at the place of former residence or elsewhere in connection with an application for a visa.

(b) *Misrepresentation in application under Displaced Persons Act or Refugee Relief Act.* Subject to the conditions stated in INA 212(a)(6)(C)(i), an alien who is found by the consular officer to have made a willful misrepresentation within the meaning of section 10 of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as amended, for the purpose of gaining admission into the United States as an eligible displaced person, or to have made a material misrepresentation within the meaning of section 11(e) of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, as amended, for the purpose of gaining admission into the United States as an alien eligible thereunder, shall be considered ineligible under the provisions of INA 212(a)(6)(C).

(c) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(i).* If an immigrant applicant is ineligible under INA 212(a)(6)(C) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(i), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(i).

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996]

§ 40.64 Stowaways.

INA 212(a)(6)(D) is not applicable at the time of visa application.

§ 40.65 Smugglers.

(a) *General.* A visa shall not be issued to an alien who at any time knowingly has encouraged, induced, assisted, abetted, or aided any other alien to

enter or to try to enter the United States in violation of law.

(b) *Waiver of ineligibility—INA 212(d)(11).* If an immigrant applicant is ineligible under INA 212(a)(6)(E) but is qualified to seek the benefits of INA 212(d)(11), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(d)(11).

§ 40.66 Subject of civil penalty.

(a) *General.* An alien who is the subject of a final order imposing a civil penalty for a violation under INA 274C shall be ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(6)(F).

(b) *Waiver of ineligibility.* If an applicant is ineligible under paragraph (a) of this section but appears to the consular officer to meet the prerequisites for seeking the benefits of INA 212(d)(12), the consular officer shall inform the alien of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law. A visa may not be issued to the alien until the consular officer has received notification from DHS of the approval of the alien's application under INA 212(d)(12).

[62 FR 67567, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.67 Student visa abusers.

An alien ineligible under the provisions of INA 212(a)(6)(G) shall not be issued a visa unless the alien has complied with the time limitation set forth therein.

[62 FR 67568, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.68 Aliens subject to INA 222(g).

An alien who, under the provisions of INA 222(g), has voided a nonimmigrant visa by remaining in the United States beyond the period of authorized stay is ineligible for a new nonimmigrant visa unless the alien complies with the requirements in 22 CFR 41.101 (b) or (c) regarding the place of application.

[63 FR 671, Jan. 7, 1998]

§ 40.69**§ 40.69 [Reserved]****Subpart H—Documentation Requirements****§ 40.71 Documentation requirements for immigrants.**

INA 212(a)(7)(A) is not applicable at the time of visa application. (For waiver of documentary requirements for immigrants see 22 CFR 42.1 and 42.2.)

§ 40.72 Documentation requirements for nonimmigrants.

A passport which is valid indefinitely for the return of the bearer to the country whose government issued such passport shall be deemed to have the required minimum period of validity as specified in INA 212(a)(7)(B).

§§ 40.73–40.79 [Reserved]**Subpart I—Ineligible for Citizenship.****§ 40.81 Ineligible for citizenship.**

An alien will be ineligible to receive an immigrant visa under INA 212(a)(8)(A) if the alien is ineligible for citizenship, including as provided in INA 314 or 315.

[64 FR 55418, Oct. 13, 1999]

§ 40.82 Alien who departed the United States to avoid service in the armed forces.

(a) *Applicability to immigrants.* INA 212(a)(8)(A) applies to immigrant visa applicants who have departed from or remained outside the United States between September 8, 1939 and September 24, 1978, to avoid or evade training or service in the United States Armed Forces.

(b) *Applicability to nonimmigrants.* INA 212(a)(8)(B) applies to nonimmigrant visa applicants who have departed from or remained outside the United States between September 8, 1939 and September 24, 1978 to avoid or evade training or service in the U.S. Armed Forces except an alien who held nonimmigrant status at the time of such departure.

22 CFR Ch. I (4-1-16 Edition)**§§ 40.83–40.89 [Reserved]****Subpart J—Aliens Previously Removed**

SOURCE: 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 40.91 Certain aliens previously removed.

(a) *5-year bar.* An alien who has been found inadmissible, whether as a result of a summary determination of inadmissibility at the port of entry under INA 235(b)(1) or of a finding of inadmissibility resulting from proceedings under INA 240 initiated upon the alien's arrival in the United States, shall be ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(9)(A)(i) for 5 years following such alien's first removal from the United States.

(b) *10-year bar.* An alien who has otherwise been removed from the United States under any provision of law, or who departed while an order of removal was in effect, is ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(9)(A)(ii) for 10 years following such removal or departure from the United States.

(c) *20-year bar.* An alien who has been removed from the United States two or more times shall be ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(9)(A)(i) or INA 212(a)(9)(A)(ii), as appropriate, for 20 years following the most recent such removal or departure.

(d) *Permanent bar.* If an alien who has been removed has also been convicted of an aggravated felony, the alien is permanently ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(9)(A)(i) or 212(a)(9)(A)(ii), as appropriate.

(e) *Exceptions.* An alien shall not be ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(9)(A)(i) or (ii) if the Secretary of Homeland Security has consented to the alien's application for admission.

[62 FR 67568, Dec. 29, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 64628, Nov. 23, 1998]

§ 40.92 Aliens unlawfully present.

(a) *3-year bar.* An alien described in INA 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(I) shall be ineligible for a visa for 3 years following departure from the United States.

(b) *10-year bar.* An alien described in INA 212(a)(9)(B)(i)(II) shall be ineligible

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for a visa for 10 years following departure from the United States.

(c) *Waiver.* If a visa applicant is inadmissible under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section but appears to the consular officer to meet the prerequisites for seeking the benefits of INA 212(a)(9)(B)(v), the alien shall be informed of the procedure for applying to DHS for relief under that provision of law.

[62 FR 67568, Dec. 29, 1997]

§ 40.93 Aliens unlawfully present after previous immigration violation.

An alien described in INA 212(a)(9)(C)(i) is permanently ineligible for a visa unless the Secretary of Homeland Security consents to the alien's application for readmission not less than 10 years following the alien's last departure from the United States. Such application for readmission shall be made prior to the alien's reembarkation at a place outside the United States.

[62 FR 67568, Dec. 29, 1997]

§§ 40.94–40.99 [Reserved]

Subpart K—Miscellaneous

SOURCE: 56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996.

§ 40.101 Practicing polygamists.

An immigrant alien shall be ineligible under INA 212(a)(9)(A) only if the alien is coming to the United States to practice polygamy.

§ 40.102 Guardian required to accompany excluded alien.

INA 212(a)(9)(B) is not applicable at the time of visa application.

§ 40.103 International child abduction.

An alien who would otherwise be ineligible under INA 212(a)(9)(C)(i) shall not be ineligible under such paragraph if the U.S. citizen child in question is physically located in a foreign state which is party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

[61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996]

§ 40.104 Unlawful voters.

(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this section, an alien is ineligible for a visa if the alien has voted in violation of any Federal, State, or local constitutional provision, statute, ordinance, or regulation.

(b) Such alien shall not be considered to be ineligible under paragraph (a) of this section if each natural parent of the alien (or, in the case of an adopted alien, each adoptive parent of the alien) is or was a citizen (whether by birth or naturalization), the alien permanently resided in the United States prior to attaining the age of 16, and the alien reasonably believed at the time of such violation that he or she was a citizen.

[70 FR 35527, June 21, 2005]

§ 40.105 Former citizens who renounced citizenship to avoid taxation.

An alien who is a former citizen of the United States, who on or after September 30, 1996, has officially renounced United States citizenship and who has been determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security to have renounced citizenship to avoid United States taxation, is ineligible for a visa under INA 212(a)(10)(E).

[62 FR 67568, Dec. 29, 1997]

§§ 40.106–40.110 [Reserved]

Subpart L—Failure to Comply with INA

SOURCE: 56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996.

§ 40.201 Failure of application to comply with INA.

(a) *Refusal under INA 221(g).* The consular officer shall refuse an alien's visa application under INA 221(g)(2) as failing to comply with the provisions of INA or the implementing regulations if:

(1) The applicant fails to furnish information as required by law or regulations;

(2) The application contains a false or incorrect statement other than one

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which would constitute a ground of ineligibility under INA 212(a)(6)(C);

(3) The application is not supported by the documents required by law or regulations;

(4) The applicant refuses to be fingerprinted as required by regulations;

(5) The necessary fee is not paid for the issuance of the visa or, in the case of an immigrant visa, for the application therefor;

(6) In the case of an immigrant visa application, the alien fails to swear to, or affirm, the application before the consular officer; or

(7) The application otherwise fails to meet specific requirements of law or regulations for reasons for which the alien is responsible.

(b) *Reconsideration of refusals.* A refusal of a visa application under paragraph (a)(1) of this section does not bar reconsideration of the application upon compliance by the applicant with the requirements of INA and the implementing regulations or consideration of a subsequent application submitted by the same applicant.

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996. Redesignated at 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996]

§ 40.202 Certain former exchange visitors.

An alien who was admitted into the United States as an exchange visitor, or who acquired such status after admission, and who is within the purview of INA 212(e) as amended by the Act of April 7, 1970, (84 Stat. 116) and by the Act of October 12, 1976, (90 Stat. 2301), is not eligible to apply for or receive an immigrant visa or a nonimmigrant visa under INA 101(a)(15) (H), (K), or (L), notwithstanding the approval of a petition on the alien's behalf, unless:

(a) It has been established that the alien has resided and has been physically present in the country of the alien's nationality or last residence for an aggregate of at least 2 years following the termination of the alien's exchange visitor status as required by INA 212(e), or

(b) The foreign residence requirement of INA 212(e) has been waived by the Secretary of Homeland Security in the alien's behalf.

§ 40.203 Alien entitled to A, E, or G nonimmigrant classification.

An alien entitled to nonimmigrant classification under INA 101(a)(15) (A), (E), or (G) who is applying for an immigrant visa and who intends to continue the activities required for such nonimmigrant classification in the United States is not eligible to receive an immigrant visa until the alien executes a written waiver of all rights, privileges, exemptions and immunities which would accrue by reason of such occupational status.

§ 40.204 [Reserved]**§ 40.205 Applicant for immigrant visa under INA 203(c).**

An alien shall be ineligible to receive a visa under INA 203(c) if the alien does not have a high school education or its equivalent, as defined in 22 CFR 42.33(a)(2), or does not have, within the five years preceding the date of application for such visa, at least two years of work experience in an occupation which requires at least two years of training or experience.

[59 FR 55045, Nov. 3, 1994. Redesignated at 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996]

§ 40.206 Frivolous applications. [Reserved]**§§ 40.207–40.210 [Reserved]****Subpart M—Waiver of Ground of Ineligibility**

SOURCE: 56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996.

§ 40.301 Waiver for ineligible nonimmigrants under INA 212(d)(3)(A).

(a) *Report or recommendation to Department.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, consular officers may, upon their own initiative, and shall, upon the request of the Secretary of State or upon the request of the alien, submit a report to the Department for possible transmission to the Secretary of Homeland Security pursuant to the provisions of INA 212(d)(3)(A) in the case of an alien who is classifiable as a nonimmigrant but

who is known or believed by the consular officer to be ineligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa under the provisions of INA 212(a), other than INA 212(a) (3)(A)(i)(I), (3)(A)(ii), (3)(A)(iii), (3)(C), (3)(E)(i), or (3)(E)(ii).

(b) *Recommendation to designated DHS officer abroad.* A consular officer may, in certain categories defined by the Secretary of State, recommend directly to designated DHS officers that the temporary admission of an alien ineligible to receive a visa be authorized under INA 212(d)(3)(A).

(c) *Secretary of Homeland Security may impose conditions.* When the Secretary of Homeland Security authorizes the temporary admission of an ineligible alien as a nonimmigrant and the consular officer is so informed, the consular officer may proceed with the issuance of a nonimmigrant visa to the alien, subject to the conditions, if any, imposed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

[56 FR 30422, July 2, 1991. Redesignated at 61 FR 59184, Nov. 21, 1996, as amended at 75 FR 82243, Dec. 30, 2010]

PART 41—VISAS: DOCUMENTATION OF NONIMMIGRANTS UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AS AMENDED

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AUTHORITY: 22 U.S.C. 2651a; 8 U.S.C. 1104; Pub. L. 105-277, 112 Stat. 2681-795 through 2681-801; 8 U.S.C. 1185 note (section 7209 of Pub. L. 108-458, as amended by section 546 of Pub. L. 109-295).

SOURCE: 52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 41 appear at 71 FR 34521 and 34522, June 15, 2006.

Subpart A—Passport and Visas Not Required for Certain Non-immigrants

§41.0 Definitions.

For purposes of this part and part 53: *Adjacent islands* means Bermuda and the islands located in the Caribbean Sea, except Cuba.

Cruise ship means a passenger vessel over 100 gross tons, carrying more than 12 passengers for hire, making a voyage lasting more than 24 hours any part of which is on the high seas, and for which passengers are embarked or disembarked in the United States or its territories.

Ferry means any vessel operating on a pre-determined fixed schedule and route, which is being used solely to provide transportation between places that are no more than 300 miles apart and which is being used to transport passengers, vehicles, and/or railroad cars.

Pleasure vessel means a vessel that is used exclusively for recreational or personal purposes and not to transport passengers or property for hire.

United States means “United States” as defined in section 215(c) of the Immig-

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gration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended (8 U.S.C. 1185(c)).

U.S. citizen means a United States citizen or a U.S. non-citizen national.

United States qualifying tribal entity means a tribe, band, or other group of Native Americans formally recognized by the United States Government which agrees to meet WHTI document standards.

[73 FR 18418, Apr. 3, 2008]

§41.1 Exemption by law or treaty from passport and visa requirements.

Nonimmigrants in the following categories are exempt from the passport and visa requirements of INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I), (i)(II):

(a) *Alien members of the U.S. Armed Forces.* An alien member of the U.S. Armed Forces in uniform or bearing proper military identification, who has not been lawfully admitted for permanent residence, coming to the United States under official orders or permit of such Armed Forces (Sec. 284, 86 Stat. 232; 8 U.S.C. 1354).

(b) [Reserved]

(c) *Aliens entering from Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands.* An alien departing from Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands of the United States, and seeking to enter the continental United States or any other place under the jurisdiction of the United States (Sec. 212, 66 Stat. 188; 8 U.S.C. 1182.)

(d) *Armed Services personnel of a NATO member.* Personnel belonging to the armed services of a government which is a Party to the North Atlantic Treaty and which has ratified the Agreement Between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces, signed at London on June 19, 1951, and entering the United States under Article III of that Agreement pursuant to an individual or collective movement order issued by an appropriate agency of the sending state or of NATO (TIAS 2846; 4 U.S.T. 1792.)

(e) *Armed Services personnel attached to a NATO headquarters in the United States.* Personnel attached to a NATO Headquarters in the United States set up pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty, belonging to the armed services of a government which is a Party to the Treaty and entering the United States in connection with their official

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duties under the provisions of the Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters Set Up Pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty (TIAs 2978; 5 U.S.T. 875.)

(f) *Aliens entering pursuant to International Boundary and Water Commission Treaty.* All personnel employed either directly or indirectly on the construction, operation, or maintenance of works in the United States undertaken in accordance with the treaty concluded on February 3, 1944, between the United States and Mexico regarding the functions of the International Boundary and Water Commission, and entering the United States temporarily in connection with such employment (59 Stat. 1252; TS 994.)

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996; 71 FR 68430, Nov. 24, 2006; 73 FR 18418, Apr. 3, 2008]

§41.2 Exemption or waiver by Secretary of State and Secretary of Homeland Security of passport and/or visa requirements for certain categories of nonimmigrants.

Pursuant to the authority of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security under the INA, as amended, a passport and/or visa is not required for the following categories of nonimmigrants:

(a) *Canadian citizens.* A visa is not required for an American Indian born in Canada having at least 50 percentum of blood of the American Indian race. A visa is not required for other Canadian citizens except for those who apply for admission in E, K, V, or S nonimmigrant classifications as provided in paragraphs (k) and (m) of this section and 8 CFR 212.1. A passport is required for Canadian citizens applying for admission to the United States, except when one of the following exceptions applies:

(1) *NEXUS program.* A Canadian citizen who is traveling as a participant in the NEXUS program, and who is not otherwise required to present a passport and visa as provided in paragraphs (k) and (m) of this section and 8 CFR 212.1, may present a valid NEXUS program card when using a NEXUS Air kiosk or when entering the United States from contiguous territory or ad-

jacent islands at a land or sea port-of-entry. A Canadian citizen who enters the United States by pleasure vessel from Canada under the remote inspection system may present a NEXUS program card.

(2) *FAST program.* A Canadian citizen who is traveling as a participant in the FAST program, and who is not otherwise required to present a passport and visa as provided in paragraphs (k) and (m) of this section and 8 CFR 212.1, may present a valid FAST card at a land or sea port-of-entry prior to entering the United States from contiguous territory or adjacent islands.

(3) *SENTRI program.* A Canadian citizen who is traveling as a participant in the SENTRI program, and who is not otherwise required to present a passport and visa as provided in paragraphs (k) and (m) of this section and 8 CFR 212.1, may present a valid SENTRI card at a land or sea port-of-entry prior to entering the United States from contiguous territory or adjacent islands.

(4) *Canadian Indians.* If designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security, a Canadian citizen holder of an Indian and Northern Affairs Canada ("INAC") card issued by the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs and North Development, Director of Land and Trust Services (LTS) in conformance with security standards agreed upon by the Governments of Canada and the United States, and containing a machine readable zone, and who is arriving from Canada, may present the card prior to entering the United States at a land port-of-entry.

(5) *Children.* A child who is a Canadian citizen who is seeking admission to the United States when arriving from contiguous territory at a sea or land port-of-entry, may present certain other documents if the arrival meets the requirements described in either paragraph (i) or (ii) of this section.

(i) *Children under age 16.* A Canadian citizen who is under the age of 16 is permitted to present an original or a copy of his or her birth certificate, a Canadian Citizenship Card, or a Canadian Naturalization Certificate when arriving in the United States from contiguous territory at land or sea ports-of-entry.

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(ii) *Groups of children under age 19.* A Canadian citizen who is under age 19 and who is traveling with a public or private school group, religious group, social or cultural organization, or team associated with a youth sport organization may present an original or a copy of his or her birth certificate, a Canadian Citizenship Card, or a Canadian Naturalization Certificate when applying for admission to the United States from contiguous territory at all land and sea ports-of-entry, when the group, organization or team is under the supervision of an adult affiliated with the organization and when the child has parental or legal guardian consent to travel. For purposes of this paragraph, an adult is considered to be a person who is age 19 or older. The following requirements will apply:

(A) The group, organization, or team must provide to CBP upon crossing the border, on organizational letterhead:

(1) The name of the group, organization or team, and the name of the supervising adult;

(2) A trip itinerary, including the stated purpose of the trip, the location of the destination, and the length of stay;

(3) A list of the children on the trip;

(4) For each child, the primary address, primary phone number, date of birth, place of birth, and the name of at least one parent or legal guardian.

(B) The adult leading the group, organization, or team must demonstrate parental or legal guardian consent by certifying in the writing submitted in paragraph (a)(5)(ii)(A) of this section that he or she has obtained for each child the consent of at least one parent or legal guardian.

(C) The procedure described in this paragraph is limited to members of the group, organization, or team that are under age 19. Other members of the group, organization, or team must comply with other applicable documentation and/or inspection requirements found in this part and 8 CFR parts 212 and 235.

(6) *Enhanced driver's license programs.* Upon the designation by the Secretary of Homeland Security of an enhanced driver's license as an acceptable document to denote identity and citizenship for purposes of entering the United

States, Canadian citizens may be permitted to present these documents in lieu of a passport when seeking admission to the United States according to the terms of the agreements entered between the Secretary of Homeland Security and the entity. The Secretary of Homeland Security will announce, by publication of a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, documents designated under this paragraph. A list of the documents designated under this paragraph will also be made available to the public.

(b) *Citizens of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda.* A visa is not required, except for Citizens of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda who apply for admission in E, K, V, or S nonimmigrant visa classification as provided in paragraphs (k) and (m) of this section and 8 CFR 212.1. A passport is required for Citizens of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda applying for admission to the United States.

(c) *Bahamian nationals and British subjects resident in the Bahamas.* A passport is required. A visa is not required if, prior to the embarkation of such an alien for the United States on a vessel or aircraft, the examining U.S. immigration officer at Freeport or Nassau determines that the individual is clearly and beyond a doubt entitled to admission.

(d) *British subjects resident in the Cayman Islands or in the Turks and Caicos Islands.* A passport is required. A visa is not required if the alien arrives directly from the Cayman Islands or the Turks and Caicos Islands and presents a current certificate from the Clerk of Court of the Cayman Islands or the Turks and Caicos Islands indicating no criminal record.

(e) *Nationals and residents of the British Virgin Islands.* (1) A national of the British Virgin Islands and resident therein requires a passport but not a visa if proceeding to the United States Virgin Islands.

(2) A national of the British Virgin Islands and resident therein requires a passport but does not require a visa to apply for entry into the United States if such applicant:

(i) Is proceeding by aircraft directly from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands;

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(ii) Is traveling to some other part of the United States solely for the purpose of business or pleasure as described in INA 101(a)(15)(B);

(iii) Satisfies the examining U.S. Immigration officer at that port of entry that he or she is admissible in all respects other than the absence of a visa; and

(iv) Presents a current certificate issued by the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force indicating that he or she has no criminal record.

(f) *Mexican nationals.* (1) A visa and a passport are not required of a Mexican national who is applying for admission from Mexico as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure at a land port-of-entry, or arriving by pleasure vessel or ferry, if the national is in possession of a Form DSP-150, B-1/B-2 Visa and Border Crossing Card, containing a machine-readable biometric identifier, issued by the Department of State.

(2) A visa and a passport are not required of a Mexican national who is applying for admission from contiguous territory or adjacent islands at a land or sea port-of-entry, if the national is a member of the Texas Band of Kickapoo Indians or Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma who is in possession of a Form I-872 American Indian Card issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

(3) A visa is not required of a Mexican national employed as a crew member on an aircraft belonging to a Mexican company authorized to engage in commercial transportation into the United States.

(4) A visa is not required of a Mexican national bearing a Mexican diplomatic or official passport who is a military or civilian official of the Federal Government of Mexico entering the United States for a stay of up to 6 months for any purpose other than on assignment as a permanent employee to an office of the Mexican Federal Government in the United States. A visa is also not required of the official's spouse or any of the official's dependent family members under 19 years of age who hold diplomatic or official passports and are in the actual company of the official at the time of entry. This waiver does not apply to the spouse or any of the official's fam-

ily members classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(F) or (M).

(g) *Natives and residents of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.* A visa and a passport are not required of a native and resident of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands who has proceeded in direct and continuous transit from the Trust Territory to the United States.

(h) [Reserved]

(i) Except as provided in paragraphs (a) through (i) and (k) through (m) of this section, all aliens are required to present a valid, unexpired visa and passport upon arrival in the United States. An alien may apply for a waiver of the visa and passport requirement if, either prior to the alien's embarkation abroad or upon arrival at a port of entry, the responsible district director of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in charge of the port of entry concludes that the alien is unable to present the required documents because of an unforeseen emergency. The DHS district director may grant a waiver of the visa or passport requirement pursuant to INA 212(d)(4)(A), without the prior concurrence of the Department of State, if the district director concludes that the alien's claim of emergency circumstances is legitimate and that approval of the waiver would be appropriate under all of the attendant facts and circumstances.

(j) *Fiance(e) of a U.S. citizen.* Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (h) of this section, a visa is required of an alien described in such paragraphs who is classified, or who seeks classification, under INA 101(a)(15)(K).

(k) *Visa waiver program.* (1) A visa is not required of any person who seeks admission to the United States for a period of 90 days or less as a visitor for business or pleasure and who is eligible to apply for admission to the United States as a Visa Waiver Program applicant. (For the list of countries whose nationals are eligible to apply for admission to the United States as Visa Waiver Program applicants, see 8 CFR 217.2(a)).

(2) An alien denied admission under the Visa Waiver Program by virtue of a ground of inadmissibility described in INA section 212(a) that is discovered at

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the time of the alien's application for admission at a port of entry or through use of an automated electronic database may apply for a visa as the only means of challenging such a determination. A consular officer must accept and adjudicate any such application if the alien otherwise fulfills all of the application requirements contained in part 41, §41.2(l)(1).

(1) *Treaty Trader and Treaty Investor.* Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, a visa is required of a Canadian national who is classified, or who seeks classification, under INA 101(a)(15)(E).

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987]

EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting §41.2, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at www.fdsys.gov.

§41.3 Waiver by joint action of consular and immigration officers of passport and/or visa requirements.

Under the authority of INA 212(d)(4), the documentary requirements of INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I), (i)(II) may be waived for any alien in whose case the consular officer serving the port or place of embarkation, or the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services or his or her designee, is satisfied after consultation with, and concurrence by, the appropriate immigration officer, that the case falls within any of the following categories:

(a) *Residents of foreign contiguous territory; visa and passport waiver.* An alien residing in foreign contiguous territory who does not qualify for any waiver provided in §41.1 and is a member of a visiting group or excursion proceeding to the United States under circumstances which make it impractical to procure a passport and visa in a timely manner.

(b) *Aliens for whom passport extension facilities are unavailable; passport waiver.* An alien whose passport is not valid for the period prescribed in INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I) and who is embarking for the United States at a port or place remote from any establishment at which the passport could be revaluated.

(c) *Aliens precluded from obtaining passport extensions by foreign government*

restrictions; passport waiver. An alien whose passport is not valid for the period prescribed in INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I) and whose government, as a matter of policy, does not revalidate passports more than 6 months prior to expiration or until the passport expires.

(d) *Emergent circumstances; visa waiver.* An alien well and favorably known at the consular office, who was previously issued a nonimmigrant visa which has expired, and who is proceeding directly to the United States under emergent circumstances which preclude the timely issuance of a visa.

(e) *Members of armed forces and coast guards of foreign countries; visa and passport waiver.* An alien on active duty in the armed forces or coast guard of a foreign country and a member of a group of such armed forces or coast guard traveling to the United States, on behalf of the alien's government or the United Nations, under arrangements made with the appropriate military authorities of the United States, coordinated within the U.S. Government by those U.S. military authorities, and approved by the Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security for such visit.

(f) *Landed immigrants in Canada; passport waiver.* An alien applying for a visa at a consular office in Canada:

(1) Who is a landed immigrant in Canada;

(2) Whose port and date of expected arrival in the United States are known; and

(3) Who is proceeding to the United States under emergent circumstances which preclude the timely procurement of a passport or Canadian certificate of identity.

(g) *Authorization to individual consular office; visa and/or passport waiver.* An alien within the district of a consular office which has been authorized by the Department, because of unusual circumstances prevailing in that district, to join with immigration officers abroad in waivers of documentary requirements in specific categories of cases, and whose case falls within one of those categories.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 60 FR 30188, June 8, 1995; 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996; 63 FR 48577, Sept. 11, 1998; 79 FR 19289, Apr. 8, 2014]

Subpart B—Classification of Nonimmigrants

§ 41.11 Entitlement to nonimmigrant status.

(a) *Presumption of immigrant status and burden of proof.* An applicant for a nonimmigrant visa, other than an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(H)(i) or (L), shall be presumed to be an immigrant until the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is entitled to a nonimmigrant status described in INA 101(a)(15) or otherwise established by law or treaty. The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish entitlement for nonimmigrant status and the type of nonimmigrant visa for which application is made.

(b) *Aliens unable to establish nonimmigrant status.* (1) A nonimmigrant visa shall not be issued to an alien who has failed to overcome the presumption of immigrant status established by INA 214(b).

(2) In a borderline case in which an alien appears to be otherwise entitled to receive a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(B) or (F) but the consular officer concludes that the maintenance of the alien's status or the departure of the alien from the United States as required is not fully assured, a visa may nevertheless be issued upon the posting of a bond with the Secretary of Homeland Security under terms and conditions prescribed by the consular officer.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 61 FR 1835, Jan. 24, 1996]

§ 41.12 Classification symbols.

A visa issued to a nonimmigrant alien within one of the classes described in this section shall bear an appropriate visa symbol to show the classification of the alien. The symbol shall be inserted in the space provided on the visa. The following visa symbols shall be used:

Symbol	Class	Section of law
A1	Ambassador, Public Minister, Career Diplomat or Consular Officer, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(A)(i).
A2	Other Foreign Government Official or Employee, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(A)(ii).
A3	Attendant, Servant, or Personal Employee of A1 or A2, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(A)(iii).
B1	Temporary Visitor for Business	101(a)(15)(B).
B2	Temporary Visitor for Pleasure	101(a)(15)(B).
B1/B2	Temporary Visitor for Business & Pleasure	101(a)(15)(B).
C1	Alien in Transit	101(a)(15)(C).
C1/D	Combined Transit and Crewmember Visa	101(a)(15)(C) and (D).
C2	Alien in Transit to United Nations Headquarters District Under Sec. 11.(3), (4), or (5) of the Headquarters Agreement.	101(a)(15)(C).
C3	Foreign Government Official, Immediate Family, Attendant, Servant or Personal Employee, in Transit.	212(d)(8).
D	Crewmember (Sea or Air)	101(a)(15)(D).
E1	Treaty Trader, Spouse or Child	101(a)(15)(E)(i).
E2	Treaty Investor, Spouse or Child	101(a)(15)(E)(ii).
E3	Australian Treaty Alien coming to the United States Solely to Perform Services in a Specialty Occupation.	101(a)(15)(E)(iii).
E3D	Spouse or Child of E3	101(a)(15)(E)(iii).
E3R	Returning E3	101(a)(15)(E)(iii).
F1	Student in an academic or language training program	101(a)(15)(F)(i).
F2	Spouse or Child of F1	101(a)(15)(F)(ii).
F3	Canadian or Mexican national commuter student in an academic or language training program.	101(a)(15)(F)(iii).
G1	Principal Resident Representative of Recognized Foreign Government to International Organization, Staff, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(G)(i).
G2	Other Representative of Recognized Foreign Member Government to International Organization, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(G)(ii).
G3	Representative of Nonrecognized or Nonmember Foreign Government to International Organization, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(G)(iii).
G4	International Organization Officer or Employee, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(G)(iv).
G5	Attendant, Servant, or Personal Employee of G1 through G4, or Immediate Family.	101(a)(15)(G)(v).

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Symbol	Class	Section of law
H1B	Alien in a Specialty Occupation (Profession)	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b).
H1B1	Chilean or Singaporean National to Work in a Specialty Occupation.	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b1).
H1C	Nurse in health professional shortage area	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(c).
H2A	Temporary Worker Performing Agricultural Services Unavailable in the United States.	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(a).
H2B	Temporary Worker Performing Other Services Unavailable in the United States.	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b).
H3	Trainee	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(iii).
H4	Spouse or Child of Alien Classified H1B/B1/C, H2A/B/R, or H-3.	101(a)(15)(H)(i)(iv).
I	Representative of Foreign Information Media, Spouse and Child.	101(a)(15)(I).
J1	Exchange Visitor	101(a)(15)(J).
J2	Spouse or Child of J1	101(a)(15)(J).
K1	Fiance(e) of United States Citizen	101(a)(15)(K)(i).
K2	Child of Fiance(e) of U.S. Citizen	101(a)(15)(K)(iii).
K3	Spouse of U.S. citizen awaiting availability of immigrant visa.	101(a)(15)(K)(ii).
K4	Child of K3	101(a)(15)(K)(iii).
L1	Intracompany Transferee (Executive, Managerial, and Specialized Knowledge Personnel Continuing Employment with International Firm or Corporation).	101(a)(15)(L).
L2	Spouse or Child of Intracompany Transferee	101(a)(15)(L).
M1	Vocational Student or Other Nonacademic Student	101(a)(15)(M)(i).
M2	Spouse or Child of M1	101(a)(15)(M)(ii).
M3	Canadian or Mexican national commuter student (Vocational student or other nonacademic student).	101(a)(15)(M)(iii).
N8	Parent of an Alien Classified SK3 or SN3	101(a)(15)(N)(i).
N9	Child of N8 or of SK1, SK2, SK4, SN1, SN2 or SN4	101(a)(15)(N)(ii).
NATO 1	Principal Permanent Representative of Member State to NATO (including any of its Subsidiary Bodies) Resident in the U.S. and Resident Members of Official Staff; Secretary General, Assistant Secretaries General, and Executive Secretary of NATO; Other Permanent NATO Officials of Similar Rank, or Immediate Family.	Art. 12, 5 UST 1094; Art. 20, 5 UST 1098.
NATO 2	Other Representative of member state to NATO (including any of its Subsidiary Bodies) including Representatives, Advisers, and Technical Experts of Delegations, or Immediate Family; Dependents of Member of a Force Entering in Accordance with the Provisions of the NATO Status-of-Forces Agreement or in Accordance with the provisions of the "Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters"; Members of Such a Force if Issued Visas.	Art. 13, 5 UST 1094; Art. 1, 4 UST 1794; Art. 3, 4 UST 1796.
NATO 3	Official Clerical Staff Accompanying Representative of Member State to NATO (including any of its Subsidiary Bodies), or Immediate Family.	Art. 14, 5 UST 1096.
NATO 4	Official of NATO (Other Than Those Classifiable as NATO1), or Immediate Family.	Art. 18, 5 UST 1098.
NATO 5	Experts, Other Than NATO Officials Classifiable Under NATO4, Employed in Missions on Behalf of NATO, and their Dependents.	Art. 21, 5 UST 1100.
NATO 6	Member of a Civilian Component Accompanying a Force Entering in Accordance with the Provisions of the NATO Status-of-Forces Agreement; Member of a Civilian Component Attached to or Employed by an Allied Headquarters Under the "Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters" Set Up Pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty; and their Dependents.	Art. 1, 4 UST 1794; Art. 3, 5 UST 877.
NATO 7	Attendant, Servant, or Personal Employee of NATO1, NATO2, NATO 3, NATO4, NATO5, and NATO6 Classes, or Immediate Family.	Arts. 12-20, 5 UST 1094-1098.
O1	Alien with Extraordinary Ability in Sciences, Arts, Education, Business or Athletics.	101(a)(15)(O)(i).
O2	Alien Accompanying and Assisting in the Artistic or Athletic Performance by O1.	101(a)(15)(O)(ii).
O3	Spouse or Child of O1 or O2	101(a)(15)(O)(iii).
P1	Internationally Recognized Athlete or Member of Internationally Recognized Entertainment Group.	101(a)(15)(P)(i).
P2	Artist or Entertainer in a Reciprocal Exchange Program	101(a)(15)(P)(ii).
P3	Artist or Entertainer in a Culturally Unique Program	101(a)(15)(P)(iii).
P4	Spouse or Child of P1, P2, or P3	101(a)(15)(P)(iv).
Q1	Participant in an International Cultural Exchange Program	101(a)(15)(Q)(i).

Symbol	Class	Section of law
Q2	Irish Peace Program Participant	101(a)(15)(Q)(ii)(I).
Q3	Spouse or Child of Q2	101(a)(15)(Q)(ii)(II).
R1	Alien in a Religious Occupation	101(a)(15)(R).
R2	Spouse or Child of R1	101(a)(15)(R).
S5	Certain Aliens Supplying Critical Information Relating to a Criminal Organization or Enterprise.	101(a)(15)(S)(i).
S6	Certain Aliens Supplying Critical Information Relating to Terrorism.	101(a)(15)(S)(ii).
S7	Qualified Family Member of S5 or S6	101(a)(15)(S).
T1	Victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons	101(a)(15)(T)(i).
T2	Spouse of T1	101(a)(15)(T)(ii).
T3	Child of T1	101(a)(15)(T)(ii).
T4	Parent of a T1 under 21 years of age	101(a)(15)(T)(ii).
T5	Unmarried Sibling under age 18 of T1 under 21 years of age.	101(a)(15)(T)(ii).
T6	Adult or Minor Child of a Derivative Beneficiary of a T1	101(a)(15)(T)(ii).
TN	NAFTA Professional	214(e)(2).
TD	Spouse or Child of a NAFTA Professional	214(e)(2).
U1	Victim of criminal activity	101(a)(15)(U)(i).
U2	Spouse of U1	101(a)(15)(U)(ii).
U3	Child of U1	101(a)(15)(U)(iii).
U4	Parent of U1 under 21 years of age	101(a)(15)(U)(ii).
U5	Unmarried Sibling under age 18 of U1 under 21 years of age.	101(a)(15)(U)(ii).
V1	Spouse of a Lawful Permanent Resident Alien Awaiting Availability of Immigrant Visa.	101(a)(15)(V)(i) or 101(a)(15)(V)(ii).
V2	Child of a Lawful Permanent Resident Alien Awaiting Availability Of Immigrant Visa.	101(a)(15)(V)(i) or 101(a)(15)(V)(ii).
V3	Child of a V1 or V2	203(d) & 101(a)(15)(V)(i) or 101 (a)(15)(V)(ii).

[78 FR 68992, Nov. 18, 2013]

Subpart C—Foreign Government Officials

§ 41.21 Foreign Officials—General.

(a) *Definitions.* In addition to pertinent INA definitions, the following definitions are applicable:

(1) *Accredited*, as used in INA 101(a)(15)(A), 101(a)(15)(G), and 212(d)(8), means an alien holding an official position, other than an honorary official position, with a government or international organization and possessing a travel document or other evidence of intention to enter or transit the United States to transact official business for that government or international organization.

(2) *Attendants*, as used in INA 101(a)(15)(A)(iii), 101(a)(15)(G)(v), and 212(d)(8), and in the definition of the NATO-7 visa symbol, means aliens paid from the public funds of a foreign government or from the funds of an international organization, accompanying or following to join the principal alien to whom a duty or service is owed.

(3) *Immediate family*, as used in INA 101(a)(15)(A), 101(a)(15)(G), and 212(d)(8), and in classification under the NATO

visa symbols, means the spouse and unmarried sons and daughters, whether by blood or adoption, who are not members of some other household, and who will reside regularly in the household of the principal alien. “Immediate family” also includes individuals who:

(i) Are not members of some other household;

(ii) Will reside regularly in the household of the principal alien;

(iii) Are recognized as immediate family members of the principal alien by the sending Government as demonstrated by eligibility for rights and benefits, such as the issuance of a diplomatic or official passport, or travel or other allowances; and

(iv) Are individually authorized by the Department.

(4) *Servants and personal employees*, as used in INA 101(a)(15)(A)(iii), 101(a)(15)(G)(v), and 212(d)(8), and in classification under the NATO-7 visa symbol, means aliens employed in a domestic or personal capacity by a principal alien, who are paid from the private funds of the principal alien and seek to enter the United States solely for the purpose of such employment.

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(b) *Exception to passport validity requirement for aliens in certain A, G, and NATO classes.* A nonimmigrant alien for whom the passport requirement of INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I) has not been waived and who is within one of the classes:

(1) Described in INA 101(a)(15)(A)(i) and (ii); or

(2) Described in INA 101(a)(15)(G)(i), (ii), (iii), and (iv); or

(3) NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, or NATO-6 may present a passport which is valid only for a sufficient period to enable the alien to apply for admission at a port of entry prior to its expiration.

(c) *Exception to passport validity requirement for foreign government officials in transit.* An alien classified C-3 under INA 212(d)(8) needs to present only a valid unexpired visa and a travel document which is valid for entry into a foreign country for at least 30 days from the date of application for admission into the United States.

(d) *Grounds for refusal of visas applicable to certain A, C, G, and NATO classes.*

(1) An A-1 or A-2 visa may not be issued to an alien the Department has determined to be *persona non grata*.

(2) Only the provisions of INA 212(a) cited below apply to the indicated classes of nonimmigrant visa applicants:

(i) Class A-1: INA 212(a) (3)(A), (3)(B), and (3)(C);

(ii) Class A-2: INA 212(a) (3)(A), (3)(B), and (3)(C);

(iii) Classes C-2 and C-3: INA 212(a) (3)(A), (3)(B), (3)(C), and (7)(B);

(iv) Classes G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4: INA 212(a) (3)(A), (3)(B), and (3)(C);

(v) Classes NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, and NATO-6: INA 212(a) (3)(A), (3)(B), and (3)(C);

(3) An alien within class A-3 or G-5 is subject to all grounds of refusal specified in INA 212 which are applicable to nonimmigrants in general.

(4) Notwithstanding the visa restrictions imposed by applicable laws and consistent with a provision in such laws providing for a regulatory exception to the visa restrictions contained therein, a visa may be issued to a visa applicant who is otherwise ineligible for a visa under such laws:

(i) To permit the United States to comply with the United Nations Headquarters Agreement and other applicable international obligations; and

(ii) To permit the United States and Burma to operate their diplomatic missions, and to permit the United States to conduct other official United States Government business in Burma.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9111, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 73 FR 56729, Sept. 30, 2008; 74 FR 36113, July 22, 2009; 78 FR 66815, Nov. 6, 2013]

§41.22 Officials of foreign governments.

(a) *Criteria for classification of foreign government officials.* (1) An alien is classifiable A-1 or A-2 under INA section 101(a)(15)(A) (i) or (ii) if the principal alien:

(i) Has been accredited by a foreign government recognized *de jure* by the United States;

(ii) Intends to engage solely in official activities for that foreign government while in the United States; and

(iii) Has been accepted by the President, the Secretary of State, or a consular officer acting on behalf of the Secretary of State.

(2) A member of the immediate family of a principal alien is classifiable A-1 or A-2 under INA section 101(a)(15)(A)(i) or (ii) if the principal alien is so classified.

(b) *Classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(A).* An alien entitled to classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(A) shall be classified under this section even if eligible for another nonimmigrant classification. An exception may be made where an immediate family member classifiable as A-1 or A-2 under paragraph (a)(2) of this section is also independently classifiable as a principal under INA section 101(a)(15)(G)(i), (ii), (iii), or (iv).

(c) *Classification of attendants, servants, and personal employees.* An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15)(A)(iii) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under those provisions.

(d) *Referral to the Department of special cases concerning principal alien applicants.* In any case in which there is uncertainty about the applicability of these regulations to a principal alien

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applicant requesting such nonimmigrant status, the matter shall be immediately referred to the Department for consideration as to whether acceptance of accreditation will be granted.

(e) *Change of classification to that of a foreign government official.* In the case of an alien in the United States seeking a change of nonimmigrant classification under INA 248 to a classification under INA 101(a)(15)(A) (i) or (ii), the question of acceptance of accreditation is determined by the Department.

(f) *Termination of status.* The Department may, in its discretion, cease to recognize as entitled to classification under INA 101(a)(15)(A) (i) or (ii) any alien who has nonimmigrant status under that provision.

(g) *Classification of foreign government official.* A foreign government official or employee seeking to enter the United States temporarily other than as a representative or employee of a foreign government is not classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(A).

(h) *Courier and acting courier on official business—(1) Courier of career.* An alien regularly and professionally employed as a courier by the government of the country to which the alien owes allegiance is classifiable as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15)(A)(i), if the alien is proceeding to the United States on official business for that government.

(2) *Official acting as courier.* An alien not regularly and professionally employed as a courier by the government of the country to which the alien owes allegiance is classifiable as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15)(A)(ii), if the alien is holding an official position and is proceeding to the United States as a courier on official business for that government.

(3) *Nonofficial serving as courier.* An alien serving as a courier but not regularly and professionally employed as such who holds no official position with, or is not a national of, the country whose government the alien is serving, shall be classified as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15)(B).

(i) *Official of foreign government not recognized by the United States.* An offi-

cial of a foreign government not recognized de jure by the United States, who is proceeding to or through the United States on an official mission or to an international organization shall be classified as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15) (B), (C), or (G)(iii).

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 78 FR 33700, June 5, 2013]

§ 41.23 Accredited officials in transit.

An accredited official of a foreign government intending to proceed in immediate and continuous transit through the United States on official business for that government is entitled to the benefits of INA 212(d)(8) if that government grants similar privileges to officials of the United States, and is classifiable C-3 under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(C). Members of the immediate family, attendants, servants, or personal employees of such an official receive the same classification as the principal alien.

§ 41.24 International organization aliens.

(a) *Definition of international organization.* “International organization” means:

(1) Any public international organization which has been designated by the President by Executive Order as entitled to enjoy the privileges, exemptions, and immunities provided for in the International Organizations Immunities Act (59 Stat. 669, 22 U.S.C. 288); and

(2) For the purpose of special immigrant status under INA 101(a)(27)(I), INTELSAT or any successor or separated entity thereof.

(b) *Aliens coming to international organizations.* (1) An alien is classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(G) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within one of the classes described in that section and seeks to enter or transit the United States in pursuance of official duties. If the purpose of the entry or transit is other than pursuance of official duties, the alien is not classifiable under INA section 101(a)(15)(G).

(2) An alien applying for a visa under the provisions of INA section 101(a)(15)(G) may not be refused solely on the grounds that the applicant is

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not a national of the country whose government the applicant represents.

(3) An alien seeking to enter the United States as a foreign government representative to an international organization, who is also proceeding to the United States on official business as a foreign government official within the meaning of INA section 101(a)(15)(A), shall be issued a visa under that section, if otherwise qualified.

(4) An alien not classified under INA section 101(a)(15)(A) but entitled to classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(G) shall be classified under the latter section, even if also eligible for another nonimmigrant classification. An alien classified under INA section 101(a)(15)(G) as an immediate family member of a principal alien classifiable G-1 or G-2, G-3 or G-4, may continue to be so classified even if he or she obtains employment subsequent to his or her initial entry into the United States that would allow classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(A). Such alien shall not be classified in a category other than A or G, even if also eligible for another nonimmigrant classification.

(c) *Officers and employees of privatized INTELSAT, their family members and domestic servants.* (1) Officers and employees of privatized INTELSAT who both were employed by INTELSAT, and held status under INA 101(a)(15)(G)(iv) for at least six months prior to privatization on July 17, 2001, will continue to be so classifiable for so long as they are officers or employees of INTELSAT or a successor or separated entity thereof.

(2) Aliens who had had G-4 status as officers and employees of INTELSAT but became officers or employees of a successor or separated entity of INTELSAT after at least six months of such employment, but prior to and in anticipation of privatization and subsequent to March 17, 2000, will also continue to be classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(G)(iv) for so long as that employment continues.

(3) Family members of officers and employees described in paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) of this section who qualify as "immediate family" under § 41.21(a)(3) and who are accompanying or following to join the principal are

also classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(G)(iv) for so long as the principal is so classified.

(4) Attendants, servants, and personal employees of officers and employees described in paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) of this section are not eligible for classification under INA 101(a)(15)(G)(v), given that the officers and employees described in paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) of this section are not officers or employees of an "international organization" for purposes of INA 101(a)(15)(G).

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 67 FR 1414, Jan. 11, 2002; 67 FR 18822, Apr. 17, 2002; 78 FR 33700, June 5, 2013]

§41.25 NATO representatives, officials, and employees.

(a) *Classification.* An alien shall be classified under the symbol NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, or NATO-5 if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is seeking admission to the United States under the applicable provision of the Agreement on the Status of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, National Representatives and International Staff, or is a member of the immediate family of an alien classified NATO-1 through NATO-5. (See § 41.12 for classes of aliens entitled to classification under each symbol.)

(b) *Armed services personnel.* Armed services personnel entering the United States in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement Between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces or in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters Set Up Pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty may enter the United States under the appropriate treaty waiver of documentary requirements contained in § 41.1 (d) or (e). If a visa is issued it is classifiable under the NATO-2 symbol.

(c) *Dependents of armed services personnel.* Dependents of armed services personnel referred to in paragraph (b) of this section shall be classified under the symbol NATO-2.

(d) *Members of civilian components and dependents.* Alien members of a civilian component accompanying a force entering in accordance with the provisions of the NATO Status-of-Forces

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Agreement, and dependents, or alien members of a civilian component attached to or employed by an Allied Headquarters under the Protocol on the Status of International Military Headquarters, and dependents shall be classified under the symbol NATO-6.

(e) *Attendant, servant, or personal employee of an alien classified NATO-1 through NATO-6.* An alien attendant, servant, or personal employee of an alien classified NATO-1 through NATO-6, and any member of the immediate family of such attendant, servant, or personal employee, shall be classified under the symbol NATO-7.

§ 41.26 Diplomatic visas.

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Diplomatic passport* means a national passport bearing that title and issued by a competent authority of a foreign government.

(2) *Diplomatic visa* means any nonimmigrant visa, regardless of classification, which bears that title and is issued in accordance with the regulations of this section.

(3) *Equivalent of a diplomatic passport* means a national passport, issued by a competent authority of a foreign government which does not issue diplomatic passports to its career diplomatic and consular officers, indicating the career diplomatic or consular status of the bearer.

(b) *Place of application.* With the exception of certain aliens in the United States issued nonimmigrant visas by the Department under the provisions of § 41.111(b), application for a diplomatic visa shall be made at a diplomatic mission or at a consular office authorized to issue diplomatic visas, regardless of the nationality or residence of the applicant.

(c) *Classes of aliens eligible to receive diplomatic visas.* (1) A nonimmigrant alien who is in possession of a diplomatic passport or its equivalent shall, if otherwise qualified, be eligible to receive a diplomatic visa irrespective of the classification of the visa under § 41.12 if within one of the following categories:

- (i) Heads of states and their alternates;
- (ii) Members of a reigning royal family;

(iii) Governors-general, governors, high commissioners, and similar high administrative or executive officers of a territorial unit, and their alternates;

(iv) Cabinet ministers and their assistants holding executive or administrative positions not inferior to that of the head of a departmental division, and their alternates;

(v) Presiding officers of chambers of national legislative bodies;

(vi) Justices of the highest national court of a foreign country;

(vii) Ambassadors, public ministers, other officers of the diplomatic service and consular officers of career;

(viii) Military officers holding a rank not inferior to that of a brigadier general in the United States Army or Air Force and Naval officers holding a rank not inferior to that of a rear admiral in the United States Navy;

(ix) Military, naval, air and other attaché and assistant attaché assigned to a foreign diplomatic mission;

(x) Officers of foreign-government delegations to international organizations so designated by Executive Order;

(xi) Officers of foreign-government delegations to, and officers of, international bodies of an official nature, other than international organizations so designated by Executive Order;

(xii) Officers of a diplomatic mission of a temporary character proceeding to or through the United States in the performance of their official duties;

(xiii) Officers of foreign-government delegations proceeding to or from a specific international conference of an official nature;

(xiv) Members of the immediate family of a principal alien who is within one of the classes described in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) to (c)(1)(xi) inclusive, of this section;

(xv) Members of the immediate family accompanying or following to join the principal alien who is within one of the classes described in paragraphs (c)(1)(xii) and (c)(1)(xiii) of this section;

(xvi) Diplomatic couriers proceeding to or through the United States in the performance of their official duties.

(2) Aliens Classifiable G-4, who are otherwise qualified, are eligible to receive a diplomatic visa if accompanying these officers:

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- (i) The Secretary General of the United Nations;
- (ii) An Under Secretary General of the United Nations;
- (iii) An Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations;
- (iv) The Administrator or the Deputy Administrator of the United Nations Development Program;
- (v) An Assistant Administrator of the United Nations Development Program;
- (vi) The Executive Director of the:
 - (A) United Nation's Children's Fund;
 - (B) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
 - (C) United Nations Industrial Development Organization;
- (vii) The Executive Secretary of the:
 - (A) United Nations Economic Commission for Africa;
 - (B) United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East;
 - (C) United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America;
 - (D) United Nations Economic Commission for Europe;
- (viii) The Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;
- (ix) The Director General of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning;
- (x) The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
- (xi) The United Nations Commissioner for Technical Cooperation;
- (xii) The Commissioner General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;
- (xiii) The spouse or child of any nonimmigrant alien listed in paragraphs (c)(2)(i) through (c)(2)(xii) of this section.
- (3) Other individual aliens or classes of aliens are eligible to receive diplomatic visas upon authorization of the Department, the Chief of a U.S. Diplomatic Mission, the Deputy Chief of Mission, the Counselor for Consular Affairs or the principal officer of a consular post not under the jurisdiction of a diplomatic mission.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9111, Mar. 21, 1988]

§ 41.27 Official visas.

- (a) *Definition.* *Official visa* means any nonimmigrant visa, regardless of clas-

sification, which bears that title and is issued in accordance with these regulations.

(b) *Place of application.* Official visas are ordinarily issued only when application is made in the consular district of the applicant's residence. When directed by the Department, or in the discretion of the consular officer, official visas may be issued when application is made in a consular district in which the alien is physically present but does not reside. Certain aliens in the United States may be issued official visas by the Department under the provisions of § 41.111(b).

(c) *Classes of aliens eligible to receive official visas.* (1) A nonimmigrant within one of the following categories who is not eligible to receive a diplomatic visa shall, if otherwise qualified, be eligible to receive an official visa irrespective of classification of the visa under § 41.12:

(i) Aliens within a class described in § 41.26(c)(2) who are ineligible to receive a diplomatic visa because they are not in possession of a diplomatic passport or its equivalent;

(ii) Aliens classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(A);

(iii) Aliens, other than those described in § 41.26(c)(3) who are classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(G), except those classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(G)(iii) unless the government of which the alien is an accredited representative is recognized *de jure* by the United States;

(iv) Aliens classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(C) as nonimmigrants described in INA 212(d)(8);

(v) Members and members-elect of national legislative bodies;

(vi) Justices of the lesser national and the highest state courts of a foreign country;

(vii) Officers and employees of national legislative bodies proceeding to or through the United States in the performance of their official duties;

(viii) Clerical and custodial employees attached to foreign-government delegations to, and employees of, international bodies of an official nature, other than international organizations so designated by Executive Order, proceeding to or through the United

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States in the performance of their official duties;

(ix) Clerical and custodial employees attached to a diplomatic mission of a temporary character proceeding to or through the United States in the performance of their official duties;

(x) Clerical and custodial employees attached to foreign-government delegations proceeding to or from a specific international conference of an official nature;

(xi) Officers and employees of foreign governments recognized *de jure* by the United States who are stationed in foreign contiguous territories or adjacent islands;

(xii) Members of the immediate family, attendants, servants and personal employees of, when accompanying or following to join, a principal alien who is within one of the classes referred to or described in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(xi) inclusive of this section;

(xiii) Attendants, servants and personal employees accompanying or following to join a principal alien who is within one of the classes referred to or described in paragraphs (c)(1)(i) through (c)(1)(xiii) inclusive of §41.26(c)(2).

(2) Other individual aliens or classes of aliens are eligible to receive official visas upon the authorization of the Department, the Chief of a U.S. Diplomatic Mission, the Deputy Chief of Mission, the Counselor for Consular Affairs, or the principal officer of a consular post not under the jurisdiction of a diplomatic mission.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9111, Mar. 21, 1988]

Subpart D—Temporary Visitors**§41.31 Temporary visitors for business or pleasure.**

(a) *Classification.* An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant visitor for business (B-1) or pleasure (B-2) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(B), and that:

(1) The alien intends to leave the United States at the end of the temporary stay (consular officers are authorized, if departure of the alien as required by law does not seem fully as-

sured, to require the posting of a bond with the Secretary of Homeland Security in a sufficient sum to ensure that at the end of the temporary visit, or upon failure to maintain temporary visitor status, or any status subsequently acquired under INA 248, the alien will depart from the United States);

(2) The alien has permission to enter a foreign country at the end of the temporary stay; and

(3) Adequate financial arrangements have been made to enable the alien to carry out the purpose of the visit to and departure from the United States.

(b) *Definitions.* (1) The term "business," as used in INA 101(a)(15)(B), refers to conventions, conferences, consultations and other legitimate activities of a commercial or professional nature. It does not include local employment or labor for hire. For the purposes of this section building or construction work, whether on-site or in plant, shall be deemed to constitute purely local employment or labor for hire; provided that the supervision or training of others engaged in building or construction work (but not the actual performance of any such building or construction work) shall not be deemed to constitute purely local employment or labor for hire if the alien is otherwise qualified as a B-1 nonimmigrant. An alien seeking to enter as a nonimmigrant for employment or labor pursuant to a contract or other prearrangement is required to qualify under the provisions of §41.53. An alien of distinguished merit and ability seeking to enter the United States temporarily with the idea of performing temporary services of an exceptional nature requiring such merit and ability, but having no contract or other prearranged employment, may be classified as a nonimmigrant temporary visitor for business.

(2) The term *pleasure*, as used in INA 101(a)(15)(B), refers to legitimate activities of a recreational character, including tourism, amusement, visits with friends or relatives, rest, medical treatment, and activities of a fraternal, social, or service nature.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9172, Mar. 21, 1988]

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§ 41.32 Nonresident alien Mexican border crossing identification cards; combined border crossing identification cards and B-1/B-2 visitor visas.

(a) *Combined B-1/B-2 visitor visa and border crossing identification card (B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC)*—(1) *Authorization for issuance.* Consular officers assigned to a consular office in Mexico designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services for such purpose may issue a border crossing identification card, as that term is defined in INA 101(a)(6), in combination with a B-1/B-2 nonimmigrant visitor visa (B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC), to a nonimmigrant alien who:

- (i) Is a citizen and resident of Mexico;
- (ii) Seeks to enter the United States as a temporary visitor for business or pleasure as defined in INA 101(a)(15)(B) for periods of stay not exceeding six months;
- (iii) Is otherwise eligible for a B-1 or a B-2 temporary visitor visa.

(2) *Procedure for application.* Mexican applicants shall apply for a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC at any U.S. consular office in Mexico designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section to accept such applications. The application shall be submitted electronically on Form DS-160 or, as directed by a consular officer, on Form DS-156. If submitted electronically, it must be signed electronically by clicking the box designated "Sign Application" in the certification section of the application.

(3) *Personal appearance.* Each applicant shall appear in person before a consular officer to be interviewed regarding eligibility for a visitor visa, unless the consular officer waives personal appearance.

(4) *Issuance and format.* A B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued on or after April 1, 1998, shall consist of a card, Form DSP-150, containing a machine-readable biometric identifier. It shall contain the following data:

- (i) Post symbol;
- (ii) Number of the card;
- (iii) Date of issuance;
- (iv) Indicia "B-1/B-2 Visa and Border Crossing Card";

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(v) Name, date of birth, and sex of the person to whom issued; and

(vi) Date of expiration.

(b) *Validity.* A BCC previously issued by a consular officer in Mexico on Form I-186, Nonresident Alien Mexican Border Crossing Card, or Form I-586, Nonresident Alien Border Crossing Card, is valid until the expiration date on the card (if any) unless previously revoked, but not later than the date, currently October 1, 2001, on which a machine-readable, biometric identifier in the card is required in order for the card to be usable for entry. The BCC portion of a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued to a Mexican national pursuant to provisions of this section contained in the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998 is valid until the date of expiration, unless previously revoked, but not later than the date, currently October 1, 2001, on which a machine-readable, biometric identifier in the card is required in order for the card to be usable for entry.

(c) *Revocation.* A consular or immigration officer may revoke a BCC issued on Form I-186 or Form I-586, or a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC under the provisions of § 41.122, or if the consular or immigration officer determines that the alien to whom any such document was issued has ceased to be a resident and/or a citizen of Mexico. Upon revocation, the consular or immigration officer shall notify the issuing consular or immigration office. If the revoked document is a card, the consular or immigration officer shall take possession of the card and physically cancel it under standard security conditions. If the revoked document is a stamp in a passport the consular or immigration officer shall write or stamp "canceled" on the face of the document.

(d) *Voidance.* (1) The voiding pursuant to INA 222(g) of the visa portion of a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued at any time by a consular officer in Mexico under provisions of this section contained in the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998, also voids the BCC portion of that document.

(2) A BCC issued at any time by a consular officer in Mexico under any provisions of this section contained in

the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998, is void if a consular or immigration officer determines that the alien has violated the conditions of the alien's admission into the United States, including the period of stay authorized by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(3) A consular or immigration officer shall immediately take possession of a card determined to be void under paragraphs (d) (1) or (2) of this section and physically cancel it under standard security conditions. If the document voided in paragraphs (d) (1) or (2) is in the form of a stamp in a passport the officer shall write or stamp "canceled" across the face of the document.

(e) *Replacement.* When a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued under the provisions of this section, or a BCC or B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued under any provisions of this section contained in the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998, has been lost, mutilated, destroyed, or expired, the person to whom such card was issued may apply for a new B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC as provided in this section.

[64 FR 45163, Aug. 19, 1999, as amended at 71 FR 30591, May 30, 2006; 71 FR 34521, June 15, 2006; 73 FR 23068, Apr. 29, 2008]

§ 41.33 Nonresident alien Canadian border crossing identification card (BCC).

(a) *Validity of Canadian BCC.* A Canadian BCC or the BCC portion of a Canadian B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued to a permanent resident of Canada pursuant to provisions of this section contained in the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998, is valid until the date of expiration, if any, unless previously revoked, but not later than the date, currently October 1, 2001, on which a machine readable biometric identifier is required in order for a BCC to be usable for entry.

(b) *Revocation of Canadian BCC.* A consular or immigration officer may revoke a BCC or a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued in Canada at any time under the provisions of § 41.122, or if the consular or immigration officer determines that the alien to whom any such document was issued has ceased to be a permanent resident of Canada. Upon revocation, the consular or immigration officer shall notify the issuing consular of-

fice and if the revoked document is a card, the consular or immigration officer shall take possession of the card and physically cancel it under standard security conditions. If the revoked document is a stamp in a passport the consular or immigration officer shall write or stamp "canceled" on the face of the document.

(c) *Voidance.* (1) The voiding pursuant to INA 222(g) of the visa portion of a B-1/B-2 Visa/BCC issued at any time by a consular officer in Canada under provisions of this section contained in the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998, also voids the BCC portion of that document.

(2) A BCC issued at any time by a consular officer in Canada under any provisions of this section contained in the 22 CFR, parts 1 to 299, edition revised as of April 1, 1998, is void if a consular or immigration officer finds that the alien has violated the conditions of the alien's admission into the United States, including the period of stay authorized by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(3) A consular or immigration officer shall immediately take possession of a card determined to be void under paragraphs (c) (1) or (2) of this section and physically cancel it under standard security conditions. If the document voided under paragraphs (c) (1) or (2) is in the form of a stamp in a passport the officer shall write or stamp "canceled" across the face of the document.

[64 FR 45164, Aug. 19, 1999]

Subpart E—Crewman and Crew-List Visas

§ 41.41 Crewmen.

(a) *Alien classifiable as crewman.* An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant crewman upon establishing to the satisfaction of the consular officer the qualifications prescribed by INA 101(a)(15)(D), provided that the alien has permission to enter some foreign country after a temporary landing in the United States, unless the alien is barred from such classification under the provisions of INA 214(f).

(b) *Alien not classifiable as crewman.* An alien employed on board a vessel or aircraft in a capacity not required for

normal operation and service, or an alien employed or listed as a regular member of the crew in excess of the number normally required, shall not be classified as a crewman.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 66 FR 10364, Feb. 15, 2001]

§41.42 [Reserved]

Subpart F—Business and Media Visas

§41.51 Treaty trader, treaty investor, or treaty alien in a specialty occupation.

(a) *Treaty trader*—(1) *Classification*. An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant treaty trader (E-1) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E)(i) and that the alien:

(i) Will be in the United States solely to carry on trade of a substantial nature, which is international in scope, either on the alien's behalf or as an employee of a foreign person or organization engaged in trade, principally between the United States and the foreign state of which the alien is a national, (consideration being given to any conditions in the country of which the alien is a national which may affect the alien's ability to carry on such substantial trade); and

(ii) Intends to depart from the United States upon the termination of E-1 status.

(2) *Employee of treaty trader*. An alien employee of a treaty trader may be classified E-1 if the employee is in or is coming to the United States to engage in duties of an executive or supervisory character, or, if employed in a lesser capacity, the employee has special qualifications that make the services to be rendered essential to the efficient operation of the enterprise. The employer must be:

(i) A person having the nationality of the treaty country, who is maintaining the status of treaty trader if in the United States or, if not in the United States, would be classifiable as a treaty trader; or

(ii) An organization at least 50% owned by persons having the nationality of the treaty country who are maintaining nonimmigrant treaty

trader status if residing in the United States or, if not residing in the United States, who would be classifiable as treaty traders.

(3) *Spouse and children of treaty trader*. The spouse and children of a treaty trader accompanying or following to join the principal alien are entitled to the same classification as the principal alien. The nationality of a spouse or child of a treaty trader is not material to the classification of the spouse or child under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E).

(4) *Representative of foreign information media*. Representatives of foreign information media shall first be considered for possible classification as nonimmigrants under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(I), before consideration is given to their possible classification as treaty traders under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E) and of this section.

(5) *Treaty country*. A treaty country is for purposes of this section a foreign state with which a qualifying Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation or its equivalent exists with the United States. A treaty country includes a foreign state that is accorded treaty visa privileges under INA 101(a)(15)(E) by specific legislation (other than the INA).

(6) *Nationality of the treaty country*. The authorities of the foreign state of which the alien claims nationality determine the nationality of an individual treaty trader. In the case of an organization, ownership must be traced as best as is practicable to the individuals who ultimately own the organization.

(7) *Trade*. The term "trade" as used in this section means the existing international exchange of items of trade for consideration between the United States and the treaty country. Existing trade includes successfully negotiated contracts binding upon the parties that call for the immediate exchange of items of trade. This exchange must be traceable and identifiable. Title to the trade item must pass from one treaty party to the other.

(8) *Item of trade*. Items that qualify for trade within these provisions include but are not limited to goods,

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services, technology, monies, international banking, insurance, transportation, tourism, communications, and some news gathering activities.

(9) *Substantial trade.* Substantial trade for the purposes of this section entails the quantum of trade sufficient to ensure a continuous flow of trade items between the United States and the treaty country. This continuous flow contemplates numerous exchanges over time rather than a single transaction, regardless of the monetary value. Although the monetary value of the trade item being exchanged is a relevant consideration, greater weight is given to more numerous exchanges of larger value. In the case of smaller businesses, an income derived from the value of numerous transactions that is sufficient to support the treaty trader and his or her family constitutes a favorable factor in assessing the existence of substantial trade.

(10) *Principal trade.* Trade shall be considered to be principal trade between the United States and the treaty country when over 50% of the volume of international trade of the treaty trader is conducted between the United States and the treaty country of the treaty trader's nationality.

(11) *Executive or supervisory character.* The executive or supervisory element of the employee's position must be a principal and primary function of the position and not an incidental or collateral function. Executive and/or supervisory duties grant the employee ultimate control and responsibility for the enterprise's overall operation or a major component thereof.

(i) An executive position provides the employee great authority to determine policy of and direction for the enterprise.

(ii) A position primarily of supervisory character grants the employee supervisory responsibility for a significant proportion of an enterprise's operations and does not generally involve the direct supervision of low-level employees.

(12) *Special qualifications.* Special qualifications are those skills and/or aptitudes that an employee in a lesser capacity brings to a position or role that are essential to the successful or efficient operation of the enterprise.

(i) The essential nature of the alien's skills to the employing firm is determined by assessing the degree of proven expertise of the alien in the area of operations involved, the uniqueness of the specific skill or aptitude, the length of experience and/or training with the firm, the period of training or other experience necessary to perform effectively the projected duties, and the salary the special qualifications can command. The question of special skills and qualifications must be determined by assessing the circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

(ii) Whether the special qualifications are essential will be assessed in light of all circumstances at the time of each visa application on a case-by-case basis. A skill that is unique at one point may become commonplace at a later date. Skills required to start up an enterprise may no longer be essential after initial operations are complete and are running smoothly. Some skills are essential only in the short-term for the training of locally hired employees. Long-term essentiality might, however, be established in connection with continuous activities in such areas as product improvement, quality control, or the provision of a service not generally available in the United States.

(13) *Labor disputes.* Citizens of Canada or Mexico shall not be entitled to classification under this section if the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Labor have certified that:

(i) There is in progress a strike or lockout in the course of a labor dispute in the occupational classification at the place or intended place of employment; and

(ii) The alien has failed to establish that the alien's entry will not affect adversely the settlement of the strike or lockout or the employment of any person who is involved in the strike or lockout.

(b) *Treaty investor—(1) Classification.* An alien is classifiable as a non-immigrant treaty investor (E-2) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E)(ii) and that the alien:

(i) Has invested or is actively in the process of investing a substantial

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amount of capital in bona fide enterprise in the United States, as distinct from a relatively small amount of capital in a marginal enterprise solely for the purpose of earning a living; and

(ii) Is seeking entry solely to develop and direct the enterprise; and

(iii) Intends to depart from the United States upon the termination of E'2 status.

(2) *Employee of treaty investor.* An alien employee of a treaty investor may be classified E-2 if the employee is in or is coming to the United States to engage in duties of an executive or supervisory character, or, if employed in a lesser capacity, the employee has special qualifications that make the services to be rendered essential to the efficient operation of the enterprise. The employer must be:

(i) A person having the nationality of the treaty country, who is maintaining the status of treaty investor if in the United States or, if not in the United States, who would be classifiable as a treaty investor; or

(ii) An organization at least 50% owned by persons having the nationality of the treaty country who are maintaining nonimmigrant treaty investor status if residing in the United States or, if not residing in the United States, who would be classifiable as treaty investors.

(3) *Spouse and children of treaty investor.* The spouse and children of a treaty investor accompanying or following to join the principal alien are entitled to the same classification as the principal alien. The nationality of a spouse or child of a treaty investor is not material to the classification of the spouse or child under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E).

(4) *Representative of foreign information media.* Representatives of foreign information media shall first be considered for possible classification as nonimmigrants under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(I), before consideration is given to their possible classification as nonimmigrants under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E) and of this section.

(5) *Treaty country.* A treaty country is for purposes of this section a foreign state with which a qualifying Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation or its equivalent exists with the United

States. A treaty country includes a foreign state that is accorded treaty visa privileges under INA 101(a)(15)(E) by specific legislation (other than the INA).

(6) *Nationality of the treaty country.* The authorities of the foreign state of which the alien claims nationality determine the nationality of an individual treaty investor. In the case of an organization, ownership must be traced as best as is practicable to the individuals who ultimately own the organization.

(7) *Investment.* Investment means the treaty investor's placing of capital, including funds and other assets, at risk in the commercial sense with the objective of generating a profit. The treaty investor must be in possession of and have control over the capital invested or being invested. The capital must be subject to partial or total loss if investment fortunes reverse. Such investment capital must be the investor's unsecured personal business capital or capital secured by personal assets. Capital in the process of being invested or that has been invested must be irrevocably committed to the enterprise. The alien has the burden of establishing such irrevocable commitment given to the particular circumstances of each case. The alien may use any legal mechanism available, such as by placing invested funds in escrow pending visa issuance, that would not only irrevocably commit funds to the enterprise but that might also extend some personal liability protection to the treaty investor.

(8) *Bona fide enterprise.* The enterprise must be a real and active commercial or entrepreneurial undertaking, producing some service or commodity for profit and must meet applicable legal requirements for doing business in the particular jurisdiction in the United States.

(9) *Substantial amount of capital.* A substantial amount of capital constitutes that amount that is:

(i) (A) Substantial in the proportional sense, *i.e.*, in relationship to the total cost of either purchasing an established enterprise or creating the type of enterprise under consideration;

(B) Sufficient to ensure the treaty investor's financial commitment to the

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successful operation of the enterprise; and

(C) Of a magnitude to support the likelihood that the treaty investor will successfully develop and direct the enterprise.

(ii) Whether an amount of capital is substantial in the proportionality sense is understood in terms of an inverted sliding scale; *i.e.*, the lower the total cost of the enterprise, the higher, proportionately, the investment must be to meet these criteria.

(10) *Marginal enterprise.* A marginal enterprise is an enterprise that does not have the present or future capacity to generate more than enough income to provide a minimal living for the treaty investor and his or her family. An enterprise that does not have the capacity to generate such income but that has a present or future capacity to make a significant economic contribution is not a marginal enterprise. The projected future capacity should generally be realizable within five years from the date the alien commences normal business activity of the enterprise.

(11) *Solely to develop and direct.* The business or individual treaty investor does or will develop and direct the enterprise by controlling the enterprise through ownership of at least 50% of the business, by possessing operational control through a managerial position or other corporate device, or by other means.

(12) *Executive or supervisory character.* The executive or supervisory element of the employee's position must be a principal and primary function of the position and not an incidental or collateral function. Executive and/or supervisory duties grant the employee ultimate control and responsibility for the enterprise's overall operation or a major component thereof.

(i) An executive position provides the employee great authority to determine policy of and direction for the enterprise.

(ii) A position primarily of supervisory character grants the employee supervisory responsibility for a significant proportion of an enterprise's operations and does not generally involve the direct supervision of low-level employees.

(13) *Special qualifications.* Special qualifications are those skills and/or aptitudes that an employee in a lesser capacity brings to a position or role that are essential to the successful or efficient operation of the enterprise.

(i) The essential nature of the alien's skills to the employing firm is determined by assessing the degree of proven expertise of the alien in the area of operations involved, the uniqueness of the specific skill or aptitude, the length of experience and/or training with the firm, the period of training or other experience necessary to perform effectively the projected duties, and the salary the special qualifications can command. The question of special skills and qualifications must be determined by assessing the circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

(ii) Whether the special qualifications are essential will be assessed in light of all circumstances at the time of each visa application on a case-by-case basis. A skill that is unique at one point may become commonplace at a later date. Skills required to start up an enterprise may no longer be essential after initial operations are complete and are running smoothly. Some skills are essential only in the short-term for the training of locally hired employees. Long-term essentiality might, however, be established in connection with continuous activities in such areas as product improvement, quality control, or the provision of a service not generally available in the United States.

(14) *Labor disputes.* Citizens of Canada or Mexico shall not be entitled to classification under this section if the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Labor have certified that:

(i) There is in progress a strike or lockout in the course of a labor dispute in the occupational classification at the place or intended place of employment; and

(ii) The alien has failed to establish that the alien's entry will not affect adversely the settlement of the strike or lockout or the employment of any person who is involved in the strike or lockout.

(c) *Nonimmigrant E-3 treaty aliens in specialty occupations—(1) Classification.*

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An alien is classifiable as a non-immigrant treaty alien in a specialty occupation if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E)(iii) and that the alien:

(i) Possesses the nationality of the country statutorily designated for treaty aliens in specialty occupation status;

(ii) Satisfies the requirements of INA 214(i)(1) and the corresponding regulations defining specialty occupation promulgated by the Department of Homeland Security;

(iii) Presents to a consular officer a copy of the Labor Condition Application signed by the employer and approved by the Department of Labor, and meeting the attestation requirements of INA Section 212(t)(1);

(iv) Presents to a consular officer evidence of the alien's academic or other qualifying credentials as required under INA 214(i)(1), and a job offer letter or other documentation from the employer establishing that upon entry into the United States the applicant will be engaged in qualifying work in a specialty occupation, as defined in paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section, and that the alien will be paid the actual or prevailing wage referred to in INA 212(t)(1);

(v) Has a visa number allocated under INA 214(g)(11)(B); and,

(vi) Intends to depart upon the termination of E-3 status.

(2) *Spouse and children of treaty alien in a specialty occupation.* The spouse and children of a treaty alien in a specialty occupation accompanying or following to join the principal alien are, if otherwise admissible, entitled to the same classification as the principal alien. A spouse or child of a principal E-3 treaty alien need not have the same nationality as the principal in order to be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E). Spouses and children of E-3 principals are not subject to the numerical limitations of INA 214(g)(11)(B).

[70 FR 52293, Sept. 2, 2005]

§41.52 Information media representative.

(a) *Representative of foreign press, radio, film, or other information media.*

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An alien is classifiable as a non-immigrant information media representative if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(I) and is a representative of a foreign press, radio, film, or other information medium having its home office in a foreign country, the government of which grants reciprocity for similar privileges to representatives of such a medium having home offices in the United States.

(b) *Classification when applicant eligible for both I visa and E visa.* An alien who will be engaged in foreign information media activities in the United States and meets the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of this section shall be classified as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15)(I) even if the alien may also be classifiable as a nonimmigrant under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(E).

(c) *Spouse and children of information media representative.* The spouse or child of an information media representative is classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(I) if accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

§41.53 Temporary workers and trainees.

(a) *Requirements for H classification.* An alien shall be classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(H) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under that section; and either

(2) With respect to the principal alien, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by DHS, or by the Department of Labor in the case of temporary agricultural workers, of a petition to accord such classification or of the extension by DHS of the period of authorized entry in such classification; or

(3) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Petition approval.* The approval of a petition by the Department of Homeland Security or by the Department of Labor does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

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(c) *Validity of visa.* The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of paragraph (a) to this section must not exceed the period indicated in the petition, notification, or confirmation required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(d) *Alien not entitled to H classification.* The consular officer must suspend action on this alien's application and submit a report to the approving DHS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(H) is not entitled to the classification as approved.

(e) *"Trainee" defined.* The term *Trainee*, as used in INA 101(a)(15)(H)(iii), means a nonimmigrant alien who seeks to enter the United States temporarily at the invitation of an individual, organization, firm, or other trainer for the purpose of receiving instruction in any field of endeavor (other than graduate medical education or training), including agriculture, commerce, communication, finance, government, transportation, and the professions.

(f) *Former exchange visitor.* Former exchange visitors who are subject to the 2-year residence requirement of INA 212(e) are ineligible to apply for visas under INA 101(a)(15)(H) until they have fulfilled the residence requirement or obtained a waiver of the requirement.

[57 FR 31449, July 16, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996; 65 FR 52306, Aug. 29, 2000]

§ 41.54 Intracompany transferees (executives, managers, and specialized knowledge employees).

(a) *Requirements for L classification.* An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA section 101(a)(15)(L) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under that section; and either

(2) In the case of an individual petition, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by DHS of a petition to accord such classification or of the extension by DHS of the period of authorized stay in such classification; or

(3) In the case of a blanket petition,

(i) The alien has presented to the consular officer official evidence of the

approval by DHS of a blanket petition listing only those intracompany relationships and positions found to qualify under INA section 101(a)(15)(L);

(ii) The alien is otherwise eligible for L-1 classification pursuant to the blanket petition; and,

(iii) The alien requests that he or she be accorded such classification for the purpose of being transferred to, or remaining in, qualifying positions identified in such blanket petition; or

(4) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Petition approval.* The approval of a petition by DHS does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

(c) *Alien not entitled to L-1 classification under individual petition.* The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving DHS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa as the beneficiary of an approved individual petition under INA section 101(a)(15)(L) is not entitled to such classification as approved.

(d) *Labor disputes.* Citizens of Canada or Mexico shall not be entitled to classification under this section if the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Labor have certified that:

(1) There is in progress a strike or lockout in the course of a labor dispute in the occupational classification at the place or intended place of employment; and,

(2) The alien has failed to establish that the alien's entry will not affect adversely the settlement of the strike or lockout or the employment of any person who is involved in the strike or lockout.

(e) *Alien not entitled to L-1 classification under blanket petition.* The consular officer shall deny L classification based on a blanket petition if the documentation presented by the alien claiming to be a beneficiary thereof does not establish to the satisfaction of the consular officer that

(1) The alien has been continuously employed by the same employer, an affiliate or a subsidiary thereof, for one

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year within the three years immediately preceding the application for the L visa;

(2) The alien was rendering services in a capacity that is managerial, executive, or involves specialized knowledge throughout that year; or

(3) The alien is destined to render services in such a capacity, as identified in the petition and in an organization listed in the petition.

(f) *Former exchange visitor.* Former exchange visitors who are subject to the two-year foreign residence requirement of INA section 212(e) are ineligible to apply for visas under INA section 101(a)(15)(L) until they have fulfilled the residence requirement or obtained a waiver of the requirement.

[77 FR 8120, Feb. 14, 2012]

§41.55 Aliens with extraordinary ability.

(a) *Requirements for O classification.* An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(O) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and either

(2) With respect to the principal alien, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by DHS of a petition to accord such classification or of the extension by DHS of the period of authorized stay in such classification; or

(3) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Approval of visa.* The approval of a petition by DHS does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

(c) *Validity of visa.* The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of paragraph (a) to this section must not exceed the period indicated in the petition, notification, or confirmation required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(d) *Alien not entitled to O classification.* The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving DHS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(O) is

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not entitled to the classification as approved.

[57 FR 31450, July 16, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996]

§41.56 Athletes, artists and entertainers.

(a) *Requirements for P classification.* An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(P) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and either

(2) With respect to the principal alien, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by DHS of a petition to accord such classification or of the extension by DHS of the period of authorized stay in such classification; or

(3) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Approval of visa.* The approval of a petition by DHS does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

(c) *Validity of visa.* The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of paragraph (a) to this section must not exceed the period indicated in the petition, confirmation, or extension of stay required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(d) *Alien not entitled to P classification.* The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving DHS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(P) is not entitled to the classification as approved.

[57 FR 31450, July 16, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996]

§41.57 International cultural exchange visitors and visitors under the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act (IPPCTPA).

(a) *International cultural exchange visitors—(1) Requirements for classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(i).* A consular officer may classify an alien under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(Q)(i) if:

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(i) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section, and

(ii) The consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by DHS of a petition or the extension by DHS of the period of authorized stay in such classification.

(2) *Approval of petition.* DHS approval of a petition does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

(3) *Validity of visa.* The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of this paragraph (a) must not exceed the period indicated in the petition, notification, or confirmation required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(4) *Alien not entitled to Q classification.* The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving DHS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien does not qualify under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(i).

(b) *Trainees under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii)—(1) Requirements for classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii).* A consular officer may classify an alien under the provisions of INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii) if:

(i) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section;

(ii) The consular officer has received a certification letter prepared by a program administration charged by the Department of State in consultation with the Department of Justice with the operation of the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program (IPPCTP) which establishes at a minimum:

(A) The name of the alien's employer in the United States, and, if applicable, in Ireland or Northern Ireland;

(B) If the alien is participating in the IPPCTP as an unemployed alien, that the employment in the United States is in an occupation designated by the employment and training administration of the alien's place of residence as being most beneficial to the local economy;

(C) That the program administrator has accepted the alien into the program;

(D) That the alien has been physically resident in Northern Ireland or in the counties of Louth, Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim, Sligo, and Donegal in the Republic of Ireland and the length of time immediately prior to the issuance of the letter that the alien has claimed such place as his or her residence;

(E) The alien's date and place of birth;

(F) If the alien is participating in the IPPCTP as an already employed participant, the length of time immediately prior to the issuance of the letter that the alien has been employed by an employer in the alien's place of physical residence;

(iii) If applicable, the consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien classified under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii), and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(2) *Aliens not entitled to such classification.* The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and notify the alien and the designated program administrator described in paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien does not qualify under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(ii).

[65 FR 14770, Mar. 17, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 52502, Oct. 16, 2001]

§ 41.58 Aliens in religious occupations.

(a) *Requirements for "R" classification.* An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(R) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and

(2) With respect to the principal alien, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by USCIS of a petition to accord such classification or the extension by USCIS of the period of authorized stay in such classification; or

(3) The alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Petition approval.* The approval of a petition by USCIS does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

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(c) *Validity of visa.* The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of paragraph (a) to this section must not precede or exceed the period indicated in the petition, notification, or confirmation required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(d) *Aliens not entitled to classification under INA 101(a)(15)(R).* The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving USCIS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(R) is not entitled to the classification as approved.

[74 FR 51237, Oct. 6, 2009]

§ 41.59 Professionals under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(a) *Requirements for classification as a NAFTA professional.* An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 214(e) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and

(2) The alien shall have presented to the consular officer sufficient evidence of an offer of employment in the United States requiring employment of a person in a professional capacity consistent with NAFTA Chapter 16 Annex 1603 Appendix 1603.D.1 and sufficient evidence that the alien possesses the credentials of that profession as listed in said appendix; or

(3) The alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified in accordance with paragraph (a)(2) of this section and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Visa validity.* The period of validity of a visa issued pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section may not exceed the period established on a reciprocal basis.

(c) *Temporary entry.* Temporary entry means an entry into the United States without the intent to establish permanent residence. The alien must satisfy the consular officer that the proposed stay is temporary. A temporary period has a reasonable, finite end that does not equate to permanent residence. The circumstances surrounding an application should reasonably and convincingly indicate that the alien's temporary work assignment in the United

States will end predictably and that the alien will depart upon completion of the assignment.

(d) *Labor disputes.* Citizens of Canada or Mexico shall not be entitled to classification under this section if the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Labor have certified that:

(1) There is in progress a strike or lockout in the course of a labor dispute in the occupational classification at the place or intended place of employment; and

(2) The alien has failed to establish that the alien's entry will not affect adversely the settlement of the strike or lockout or the employment of any person who is involved in the strike or lockout.

[58 FR 68527, Dec. 28, 1993, as amended at 63 FR 10305, Mar. 3, 1998; 79 FR 7583, Feb. 10, 2014]

Subpart G—Students and Exchange Visitors

§ 41.61 Students—academic and non-academic.

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Academic*, in INA 101(a)(15)(F), refers to an established college, university, seminary, conservatory, academic high school, elementary school, or other academic institution, or a language training program.

(2) *Nonacademic*, in INA 101(a)(15)(M), refers to an established vocational or other recognized nonacademic institution (other than a language training program).

(b) *Classification.* (1) An alien is classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(F) (i) or (iii) or INA 101(a)(15)(M) (i) or (iii) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under one of those sections, and:

(i) The alien has been accepted for attendance for the purpose of pursuing a full course of study, or, for students classified under INA 101(a)(15) (F)(iii) and (M)(iii) Border Commuter Students, full or part-time course of study, in an academic institution approved by the Secretary of Homeland Security for foreign students under INA 101(a)(15)(F)(i) or a nonacademic institution approved under 101(a)(15)(M)(i). The alien has presented a SEVIS Form I-20, Form I-20A-B/I-20ID. Certificate

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of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status—For Academic and Language Students, or Form I-20M-N/I-20ID, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status—For Vocational Students, properly completed and signed by the alien and a designated official as prescribed in regulations found at 8 CFR 214.2(F) and 214.2(M);

(ii) The alien possesses sufficient funds to cover expenses while in the United States or can satisfy the consular officer that other arrangements have been made to meet those expenses;

(iii) The alien, unless coming to participate exclusively in an English language training program, has sufficient knowledge of the English language to undertake the chosen course of study or training. If the alien's knowledge of English is inadequate, the consular officer may nevertheless find the alien so classifiable if the accepting institution offers English language training, and has accepted the alien expressly for a full course of study (or part-time course of study for Border Commuter Students) in a language with which the alien is familiar, or will enroll the alien in a combination of courses and English instruction which will constitute a full course of study if required; and

(iv) The alien intends, and will be able, to depart upon termination of student status.

(2) An alien otherwise qualified for classification as a student, who intends to study the English language exclusively, may be classified as a student under INA 101(a) (15) (F) (i) even though no credits are given by the accepting institution for such study. The accepting institution, however, must offer a full course of study in the English language and must accept the alien expressly for such study.

(3) The alien spouse and minor children of an alien who has been or will be issued a visa under INA 101(a) (15) (F) (i) or 101(a) (15) (M) (i) may receive nonimmigrant visas under INA 101(a) (15) (F) (ii) or 101(a) (15) (M) (ii) if the consular officer is satisfied that they will be accompanying or following to join the principal alien; that sufficient funds are available to cover their ex-

penses in the United States; and, that they intend to leave the United States upon the termination of the status of the principal alien.

(c) *Posting of bond.* In borderline cases involving an alien otherwise qualified for classification under INA 101(a) (15) (F), the consular officer is authorized to require the posting of a bond with the Secretary of Homeland Security in a sum sufficient to ensure that the alien will depart upon the conclusion of studies or in the event of failure to maintain student status.

(d) *Electronic verification and notification.* A student's acceptance documentation must be verified by a consular official's review of the SEVIS data in the Consolidated Consular Database or via direct access to SEVIS or ISEAS prior to the issuance of an F-1, F-2, M-1 or M-3 visa. Evidence of the payment of any applicable fees, if not presented with other documentation, may also be verified through the Consolidated Consular Database or direct access to SEVIS. Upon issuance of an F or M visa, notification of such issuance must be entered into the SEVIS database.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 67 FR 58695, Sept. 18, 2002; 68 FR 28131, May 23, 2003]

§41.62 Exchange visitors.

(a) *J-1 classification.* An alien is classifiable as an exchange visitor if qualified under the provisions of INA 101(a) (15) (J) and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien:

(1) Has been accepted to participate, and intends to participate, in an exchange visitor program designated by the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, as evidenced by the presentation of a properly executed Form DS-2019, Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status;

(2) Has sufficient funds to cover expenses or has made other arrangements to provide for expenses;

(3) Has sufficient knowledge of the English language to undertake the program for which selected, or, except for an alien coming to participate in a graduate medical education or training program, the sponsoring organization is aware of the language deficiency and

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has nevertheless indicated willingness to accept the alien; and

(4) Meets the requirements of INA 212(j) if coming to participate in a graduate medical education or training program.

(5) *Electronic verification and notification.* An exchange visitor's acceptance documentation and payment of any applicable fees must be verified by a consular official's review of the SEVIS database or via direct access to SEVIS or ISEAS prior to the issuance of a J-1 or J-2 visa. Evidence of the payment of any applicable fees, if not presented with other documentation, may also be verified through the Consolidated Consular Database or direct access to SEVIS. Upon issuance of a J-1 or J-2 visa, notification of such issuance must be entered into the SEVIS database.

(b) *J-2 Classification.* The spouse or minor child of an alien classified J-1 is classifiable J-2.

(c) *Applicability of INA 212(e).* (1) An alien is subject to the 2-year foreign residence requirement of INA 212(e) if:

(i) The alien's participation in one or more exchange programs was wholly or partially financed, directly or indirectly, by the U.S. Government or by the government of the alien's last legal permanent residence; or

(ii) At the time of the issuance of an exchange visitor visa and admission to the United States, or, if not required to obtain a nonimmigrant visa, at the time of admission as an exchange visitor, or at the time of acquisition of such status after admission, the alien is a national and resident or, if not a national, a legal permanent resident (or has status equivalent thereto) of a country which the Secretary of State has designated, through publication by public notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, as clearly requiring the services of persons engaged in the field of specialized knowledge or skill in which the alien will engage during the exchange visitor program; or

(iii) The alien acquires exchange visitor status in order to receive graduate medical education or training in the United States.

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph the terms *financed directly* and *financed indirectly* are defined as set forth in section §514.1 of chapter V.

(3) The country in which 2 years' residence and physical presence will satisfy the requirements of INA 212(e) in the case of an alien determined to be subject to such requirements is the country of which the alien is a national and resident, or, if not a national, a legal permanent resident (or has status equivalent thereto).

(4) If an alien is subject to the 2-year foreign residence requirement of INA 212(e), the spouse or child of that alien, accompanying or following to join the alien, is also subject to that requirement if admitted to the United States pursuant to INA 101(a) (15) (J) or if status is acquired pursuant to that section after admission.

(d) *Notification to alien concerning 2-year foreign residence requirement.* Before the consular officer issues an exchange visitor visa, the consular officer must inform the alien whether the alien will be subject to the 2-year residence and physical presence requirement of INA 212(e) if admitted to the United States under INA 101(a) (15) (J) and, if so, the country in which 2 years' residence and physical presence will satisfy the requirement.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 67 FR 58695, Sept. 18, 2002; 68 FR 28132, May 23, 2003; 72 FR 10061, Mar. 7, 2007]

§41.63 Two-year home-country physical presence requirement.

(a) *Statutory basis for rule.* Section 212(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, provides in substance as follows:

(1) No person admitted under Section 101(a) (15)(J) or acquiring such status after admission:

(i) Whose participation in the program for which he came to the United States was financed in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by an agency of the United States Government or by the government of the country of his nationality or of his last legal permanent residence;

(ii) Who at the time of admission or acquisition of status under 101(a)(15)(J) was a national or legal permanent resident of a country which the Secretary of State, pursuant to regulations prescribed by him, had designated as clearly requiring the services of persons engaged in the field of specialized

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knowledge or skill in which the alien was engaged [See the most recent "Revised Exchange Visitor Skills List", at http://exchanges.state.gov/education/jexchanges/participation/skills_list.pdf]; or

(iii) Who came to the United States or acquired such status in order to receive graduate medical education or training, shall be eligible to apply for an immigrant visa, or for permanent residence, or for a nonimmigrant visa under section 101(a)(15)(H) or section 101(a)(15)(L) until is established that such person has resided and been physically present in the country of his nationality or his last legal permanent residence for an aggregate of at least two years following departure from the United States.

(2) Upon the favorable recommendation of the Secretary of State, pursuant to the request of an interested United States Government agency (or in the case of an alien who is a graduate of a foreign medical school pursuing a program in graduate medical education or training, pursuant to the request of a State Department of Public Health, or its equivalent), or of the Secretary of Homeland Security after the latter has determined that departure from the United States would impose exceptional hardship upon the alien's spouse or child (if such spouse or child is a citizen of the United States or a legal permanent resident alien), or that the alien cannot return to the country of his nationality or last legal permanent residence because he would be subject to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, the Secretary of Homeland Security may waive the requirement of such two-year foreign residence abroad in the case of any alien whose admission to the United States is found by the Secretary of Homeland Security to be in the public interest except that in the case of a waiver requested by a State Department of Public Health, or its equivalent, the waiver shall be subject to the requirements of section 214(l) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184).

(3) Except in the case of an alien who is a graduate of a foreign medical school pursuing a program in graduate medical education or training, the Sec-

retary of Homeland Security, upon the favorable recommendation of the Secretary of State, may also waive such two-year foreign residence requirement in any case in which the foreign country of the alien's nationality or last legal permanent residence has furnished the Secretary of State a statement in writing that it has no objection to such waiver in the case of such alien. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an alien who is a graduate of a foreign medical school pursuing a program in graduate medical education or training may obtain a waiver of such two-year foreign residence requirements if said alien meets the requirements of section 214(l) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) and paragraphs (a) (2) and (e) of this section.

(b) *Request for waiver on the basis of exceptional hardship or probable persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion.* (1) An exchange visitor who seeks a waiver of the two-year home-country residence and physical presence requirement on the grounds that such requirement would impose exceptional hardship upon the exchange visitor's spouse or child (if such spouse or child is a citizen of the United States or a legal permanent resident alien), or on the grounds that such requirement would subject the exchange visitor to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, shall submit the application for waiver (DHS Form I-612) to the jurisdictional office of the Department of Homeland Security.

(2)(i) If the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary of DHS) determines that compliance with the two-year home-country residence and physical presence requirement would impose exceptional hardship upon the spouse or child of the exchange visitor, or would subject the exchange visitor to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, the Secretary of DHS shall transmit a copy of his determination together with a summary of the details of the expected hardship or persecution, to the Waiver Review Division, in the Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs.

(ii) With respect to those cases in which the Secretary of DHS has determined that compliance with the two-

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year home-country residence and physical presence requirement would impose exceptional hardship upon the spouse or child of the exchange visitor, the Waiver Review Division shall review the program, policy, and foreign relations aspects of the case, make a recommendation, and forward it to the appropriate office at DHS. If it deems it appropriate, the Waiver Review Division may request the views of each of the exchange visitors' sponsors concerning the waiver application. Except as set forth in paragraph (g)(4) of this section, the recommendation of the Waiver Review Division shall constitute the recommendation of the Department of State.

(iii) With respect to those cases in which the Secretary of DHS has determined that compliance with the two-year home-country residence and physical presence requirement would subject the exchange visitor to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, the Waiver Review Division shall review the program, policy, and foreign relations aspects of the case, including consultation if deemed appropriate with the Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs of the United States Department of State, make a recommendation, and forward such recommendation to the Secretary of DHS. Except as set forth in paragraph (g)(4) of this section, the recommendation of the Waiver Review Division shall constitute the recommendation of the Department of State and such recommendation shall be forwarded to DHS.

(c) *Requests for waiver made by an interested United States Government Department of State.* (1) A United States Government agency may request a waiver of the two-year home-country residence and physical presence requirement on behalf of an exchange visitor if such exchange visitor is actively and substantially involved in a program or activity sponsored by or of interest to such agency.

(2) A United States Government agency requesting a waiver shall submit its request in writing and fully explain why the grant of such waiver request would be in the public interest and the detrimental effect that would result to the program or activity of in-

terest to the requesting agency if the exchange visitor is unable to continue his or her involvement with the program or activity.

(3) A request by a United States Government agency shall be signed by the head of the agency, or his or her designee, and shall include copies of all IAP 66 or DS-2019 forms issued to the exchange visitor, his or her current address, and his or her country of nationality or last legal permanent residence.

(4) A request by a United States Government agency, excepting the Department of Veterans Affairs, on behalf of an exchange visitor who is a foreign medical graduate who entered the United States to pursue graduate medical education or training, and who is willing to provide primary care or specialty medicine in a designated primary care Health Professional shortage Area, or a Medically Underserved Area, or psychiatric care in a Mental Health Professional Shortage Area, shall, in addition to the requirement set forth in paragraphs (c)(2) and (3) of this section, include:

(i) A copy of the employment contract between the foreign medical graduate and the health care facility at which he or she will be employed. Such contract shall specify a term of employment of not less than three years and that the foreign medical graduate is to be employed by the facility for the purpose of providing not less than 40 hours per week of primary medical care, *i.e.*, general or family practice, general internal medicine, pediatrics, or obstetrics and gynecology, in a designated primary care Health Professional Shortage Area or designated Medically Underserved Area ("MUA") or psychiatric care in a designated Mental Health Professional Shortage Area. Further, such employment contract shall not include a non-compete clause enforceable against the foreign medical graduate.

(ii) A statement, signed and dated by the head of the health care facility at which the foreign medical graduate will be employed, that the facility is located in an area designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as a Medically Underserved Area or Primary Medical Care Health Professional Shortage Area or Mental

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Health Professional Shortage Area and provides medical care to both Medicaid or Medicare eligible patients and indigent uninsured patients. The statement shall also list the primary care Health Professional Shortage Area, Mental Health Professional Shortage Area, or Medically Underserved Area/Population identifier number of the designation (assigned by the Secretary of Health and Human Services), and shall include the FIPS county code and census tract or block numbering area number (assigned by the Bureau of the Census) or the 9-digit zipcode of the area where the facility is located.

(iii) A statement, signed and dated by the foreign medical graduate exchange visitor that shall read as follows:

I, _____ (name of exchange visitor) hereby declare and certify, under penalty of the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 1001, that I do not now have pending nor am I submitting during the pendency of this request, another request to any United States Government department or agency or any State Department of Public Health, or equivalent, other than _____ (insert name of United States Government Agency requesting waiver) to act on my behalf in any matter relating to a waiver of my two-year home-country physical presence requirement.

(iv) Evidence that unsuccessful efforts have been made to recruit an American physician for the position to be filled.

(5) Except as set forth in paragraph (g)(4) of this section, the recommendation of the Waiver Review Division shall constitute the recommendation of the Department of State and such recommendation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of DHS.

(d) *Requests for waiver made on the basis of a statement from the exchange visitor's home-country that it has no objection to the waiver.* (1) Applications for waiver of the two-year home-country residence and physical presence requirement may be supported by a statement of no objection by the exchange visitor's country of nationality or last legal permanent residence. The statement of no objection shall be directed to the Secretary of State through diplomatic channels; *i.e.*, from the country's Foreign Office to the Department of State through the U.S. Mission in the foreign country con-

cerned, or through the foreign country's head of mission or duly appointed designee in the United States to the Secretary of State in the form of a diplomatic note. This note shall include applicant's full name, date and place of birth, and present address. If deemed appropriate, the Department of State may request the views of each of the exchange visitor's sponsors concerning the waiver application.

(2) The Waiver Review Division shall review the program, policy, and foreign relations aspects of the case and forward its recommendation to the Secretary of DHS. Except as set forth in §41.63(g)(4), *infra*, the recommendation of the Waiver Review Division shall constitute the recommendation of the Department of State.

(3) An exchange visitor who is a graduate of a foreign medical school and who is pursuing a program in graduate medical education or training in the United States is prohibited under section 212(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act from applying for a waiver solely on the basis of no objection from his or her country of nationality or last legal permanent residence. However, an alien who is a graduate of a foreign medical school pursuing a program in graduate medical education or training may obtain a waiver of such two-year foreign residence requirements if said alien meets the requirements of section 214(l) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) and paragraphs (a)(2) and (e) of this section.

(e) *Requests for waiver from a State Department of Public Health, or its equivalent, on the basis of Public Law 103-416.* (1) Pursuant to Public Law 103-416, in the case of an alien who is a graduate of a medical school pursuing a program in graduate medical education or training, a request for a waiver of the two-year home-country residence and physical presence requirement may be made by a State department of Public Health, or its equivalent. Such waiver shall be subject to the requirements of section 214(l) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1194(l)) and this §41.63.

(2) With respect to such waiver under Public Law 104-416, if such alien is contractually obligated to return to his or

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her home country upon completion of the graduate medical education or training, the Secretary of State is to be furnished with a statement in writing that the country to which such alien is required to return has no objection to such waiver. The no objection statement shall be furnished to the Secretary of State in the manner and form set forth in paragraph (d) of this section and, additionally, shall bear a notation that it is being furnished pursuant to Public Law 103-416.

(3) The State Department of Public Health, or equivalent agency, shall include in the waiver application the following:

(i) A completed DS-3035. Copies of these forms may be obtained from the Visa Office or online at <http://www.travel.state.gov>.

(ii) A letter from the Director of the designated State Department of Public Health, or its equivalent, which identifies the foreign medical graduate by name, country of nationality or country of last legal permanent residence, and date of birth, and states that it is in the public interest that a waiver of the two-year home residence requirement be granted;

(iii) An employment contract between the foreign medical graduate and the health care facility named in the waiver application, to include the name and address of the health care facility, and the specific geographical area or areas in which the foreign medical graduate will practice medicine. The employment contract shall include a statement by the foreign medical graduate that he or she agrees to meet the requirements set forth in section 214(l) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The term of the employment contract shall be at least three years and the geographical areas of employment shall only be in areas, within the respective state, designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as having a shortage of health care professionals, unless the waiver request is for an alien who will practice medicine in a facility that serves patients who reside in one or more geographic areas so designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services without regard to whether such facility is located within such a designated geographic

area. For the latter situation, which will be referred to as "non-designated requests", the contract should also state that the term of the employment contract shall be at least three years and employment shall only be in a facility that serves patients who reside in one or more geographic areas so designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as having a shortage of health care professionals.

(iv) Evidence establishing that the geographic area or areas in the state in which the foreign medical graduate will practice medicine or where patients who will be served by the foreign medical graduates reside, are areas which have been designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as having a shortage of health care professionals. For purposes of this paragraph, the geographic area or areas must be designated by the Department of Health and Human Services as a Health Professional Shortage Area ("HPSA") or as a Medically Underserved Area/Medically Underserved Population ("MUA/MUP").

(v) Copies of all forms IAP 66 or DS-2019 issued to the foreign medical graduate seeking the waiver;

(vi) A copy of the foreign medical graduate's *curriculum vitae*;

(vii) If the foreign medical graduate is otherwise contractually required to return to his or her home country at the conclusion of the graduate medical education or training, a copy of the statement of no objection from the foreign medical graduate's country of nationality or last residence; and,

(viii) Because of the numerical limitations on the approval of waivers under Public Law 103-416, *i.e.*, no more than the maximum number of waivers for each State each fiscal year as mandated by law, each application from a State Department of Public Health, or its equivalent, shall be numbered sequentially, beginning on October 1 of each year. The "non-designated" requests will also be numbered sequentially with appropriate identifier.

(4) The Waiver Review Division shall review the program, policy, and foreign relations aspects of the case and forward its recommendation to the Secretary of DHS. Except as set forth in

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paragraph (g)(4) of this section, the recommendation of the Waiver Review Division shall constitute the recommendation of the Department of State.

(f) *Changed circumstances.* An applicant for a waiver on the grounds of exceptional hardship or probable persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, has a continuing obligation to inform the Department of Homeland Security of changed circumstances material to his or her pending application.

(g) *The Waiver Review Board.* (1) The Waiver Review Board ("Board") shall consist of the following persons or their designees:

(i) The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Consular Affairs;

(ii) The Director of Office of Public Affairs for the Bureau of Consular Affairs;

(iii) The Legislative Management Officer for Consular Affairs, Bureau of Legislative Affairs;

(iv) The Director of the Office of Exchange Coordination and Designation in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; and

(v) The Director of the Office of Policy and Evaluation in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

(2) A person who has had substantial prior involvement in a particular case referred to the Board may not be appointed to, or serve on, the Board for that particular case unless the Bureau of Consular Affairs determines that the individual's inclusion on the Board is otherwise necessary or practicably unavoidable.

(3) The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Consular Affairs, or his or her designee, shall serve as Board Chairman. No designee under this paragraph (g)(3) shall serve for more than 2 years.

(4) Cases will be referred to the Board at the discretion of the Chief, Waiver Review Division, of the Visa Office. The Chief, Waiver Review Division, or his or her designee may, at the Chairman's discretion, appear and present facts related to the case but shall not participate in Board deliberations.

(5) The Chairman of the Board shall be responsible for convening the Board

and distributing all necessary information to its members. Upon being convened, the Board shall review the case file and weigh the request against the program, policy, and foreign relations aspects of the case.

(6) The Bureau of Consular Affairs shall appoint, on a case-by-case basis, from among the attorneys in the State Department's Office of Legal Advisor one attorney to serve as legal advisor to the Board.

(7) At the conclusion of its review of the case, the Board shall make a written recommendation either to grant or to deny the waiver application. The written recommendation of a majority of the Board shall constitute the recommendation of the Board. Such recommendation shall be promptly transmitted by the Chairman to the Chief, Waiver Review Division.

(8) At the conclusion of its review of the case, the Board shall make a written recommendation either to grant or to deny the waiver application. The written recommendation of a majority of the Board shall constitute the recommendation of the Board. Such recommendation shall be promptly transmitted by the Chairman to the Chief, Waiver Review Division.

[58 FR 15196, Mar. 19, 1993; 58 FR 18305, Apr. 8, 1993; 58 FR 48448, Sept. 16, 1993; 60 FR 16787, 16788, Apr. 3, 1995; 60 FR 53125, Oct. 12, 1995; 62 FR 19222, Apr. 21, 1997; 62 FR 28803, May 28, 1997. Redesignated and amended at 64 FR 54539, 54540, Oct. 7, 1999; 67 FR 77160, Dec. 17, 2002; 72 FR 10061, Mar. 7, 2007]

Subpart H—Transit Aliens**§41.71 Transit aliens.**

(a) *Transit aliens—general.* An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant transit alien under INA 101(a) (15) (C) if the consular officer is satisfied that the alien:

(1) Intends to pass in immediate and continuous transit through the United States;

(2) Is in possession of a common carrier ticket or other evidence of transportation arrangements to the alien's destination;

(3) Is in possession of sufficient funds to carry out the purpose of the transit journey, or has sufficient funds otherwise available for that purpose; and

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(4) Has permission to enter some country other than the United States following the transit through the United States, unless the alien submits satisfactory evidence that such advance permission is not required.

(b) *Certain aliens in transit to United Nations.* An alien within the provisions of paragraph (3), (4), or (5) of section 11 of the Headquarters Agreement with the United Nations, to whom a visa is to be issued for the purpose of applying for admission solely in transit to the United Nations Headquarters District, may upon request or at the direction of the Secretary of State be issued a nonimmigrant visa bearing the symbol C-2. If such a visa is issued, the recipient shall be subject to such restrictions on travel within the United States as may be provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Subpart I—Fiance(e)s and Other Nonimmigrants

§ 41.81 Fiance(e) or spouse of a U.S. citizen and derivative children.

(a) *Fiance(e).* An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant fiancé(e) under INA 101(a)(15)(K)(i) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien is qualified under that provision and the consular officer has received a petition filed by a U.S. citizen to confer nonimmigrant status as a fiancé(e) on the alien, which has been approved by the DHS under INA 214(d), or a notification of such approval from that Service;

(2) The consular officer has received from the alien the alien's sworn statement of ability and intent to conclude a valid marriage with the petitioner within 90 days of arrival in the United States; and

(3) The alien has met all other qualifications in order to receive a nonimmigrant visa, including the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section.

(b) *Spouse.* An alien is classifiable as a nonimmigrant spouse under INA 101(a)(15)(K)(ii) when all of the following requirements are met:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien is qualified under that provision and the consular officer has received a petition approved by the

DHS pursuant to INA 214(p)(1), that was filed by the U.S. citizen spouse of the alien in the United States.

(2) If the alien's marriage to the U.S. citizen was contracted outside of the United States, the alien is applying in the country in which the marriage took place, or if there is no consular post in that country, then at a consular post designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services to accept immigrant visa applications for nationals of that country.

(3) If the marriage was contracted in the United States, the alien is applying in a country as provided in part 42, § 42.61 of this chapter.

(4) The alien otherwise has met all applicable requirements in order to receive a nonimmigrant visa, including the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section.

(c) *Child.* An alien is classifiable under INA 101(a)(15)(K)(iii) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien is the child of an alien classified under INA 101(a)(15)(K)(i) or (ii) and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien; and

(2) The alien otherwise has met all other applicable requirements in order to receive a nonimmigrant visa, including the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Eligibility as an immigrant required.* The consular officer, insofar as is practicable, must determine the eligibility of an alien to receive a nonimmigrant visa under paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) of this section as if the alien were an applicant for an immigrant visa, except that the alien must be exempt from the vaccination requirement of INA 212(a)(1) and the labor certification requirement of INA 212(a)(5).

[66 FR 19393, Apr. 16, 2001]

§ 41.82 Certain parents and children of section 101(a)(27)(I) special immigrants. [Reserved]

§ 41.83 Certain witnesses and informants.

(a) *General.* An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(S) if:

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(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and

(2)(i) The consular officer has received verification from the Department of State, Visa Office, that:

(A) in the case of INA 101(a)(15)(S)(i) the DHS has certified that the alien is accorded such classification, or

(B) in the case of INA 101(a)(15)(S)(ii) the Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs on behalf of the Secretary of State and the DHS have certified that the alien is accorded such classification;

(ii) and the alien is granted an INA 212(d)(1) waiver of any INA 212(a) ground of ineligibility known at the time of verification.

(b) *Certification of S visa status.* The certification of status under INA 101(a)(15)(S)(i) by the Secretary of Homeland Security or of status under INA 101(a)(15)(S)(ii) by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security acting jointly does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a nonimmigrant visa.

(c) *Validity of visa.* The period of validity of a visa authorized on the basis of paragraph (a) of this section shall not exceed the period indicated in the certification required in paragraph (b) and shall not in any case exceed the period of three years.

[61 FR 1838, Jan. 24, 1996, as amended at 71 FR 34521, June 15, 2006]

§41.84 Victims of trafficking in persons.

(a) *Eligibility.* An alien may be classifiable as a parent, spouse or child under INA 101(a)(15)(T)(ii) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien has the required relationship to an alien who has been granted status by the Secretary for Homeland Security under INA 101(a)(15)(T)(i);

(2) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien is otherwise admissible under the immigration laws of the United States; and

(3) The consular officer has received an DHS-approved I-914, Supplement A, evidencing that the alien is the spouse, child, or parent of an alien who has been granted status under INA 101(a)(15)(T)(i).

(b) *Visa validity.* A qualifying family member may apply for a nonimmigrant visa under INA(a)(15)(T)(ii) only during the period in which the principal applicant is in status under INA 101(a)(15)(T)(i). Any visa issued pursuant to such application shall be valid only for a period of three years or until the expiration of the principal alien's status as an alien classified under INA 101(a)(15)(T)(i), whichever is shorter.

[68 FR 37964, June 26, 2003]

§41.86 Certain spouses and children of lawful permanent resident aliens.

(a) *Definition of "remains pending".* For the purposes of this section, a visa application "remains pending" if the applicant has applied for an immigrant visa in accordance with the definition in part 40, §40.1(l)(2) and the visa has neither been issued, nor refused for any reason under applicable law and regulation.

(b) *Entitlement to classification.* A consular officer may classify an alien as a nonimmigrant under INA 101(a)(15)(V) if:

(1) The consular officer has received notification from the Department of State or the Department of Justice that a petition to accord status to the alien as a spouse or child pursuant to INA 203(a)(2)(A) was filed on or before December 21, 2000; or

(2) The alien is eligible to derive benefits pursuant to INA 203(d) as a child of an alien described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section and such alien has qualified for V classification; and

(3) It has been three years or more since the filing date of the petition described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section and applicable to paragraph (b)(2) of this section and either:

(i) The petition has not been approved; or

(ii) If it has been approved, either no immigrant visa number is immediately available or the alien's application for adjustment of status or the alien's application for a visa remains pending.

(c) *Eligibility as an immigrant required.* The consular officer, insofar as practicable, must determine the eligibility of an alien described in paragraph (b) of this section to receive a nonimmigrant visa under INA 101(a)(15)(V), other than an alien who previously has been

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granted V status in the United States by DHS, as if the alien were an applicant for an immigrant visa, except that the alien is exempt from the vaccination requirement of INA 212(a)(1), the labor certification requirement of INA 212(a)(5) and the unlawful presence ineligibility of INA 212(a)(9)(B).

(d) *Place of application.* Notwithstanding the requirements of §41.101, in determining the place of application for an alien seeking a visa pursuant to INA 101(a)(15)(V) the requirements of part 42, §§42.61(a) and (b)(1) of this chapter will apply.

[66 FR 19393, Apr. 16, 2001]

Subpart J—Application for Nonimmigrant Visa

§41.101 Place of application.

(a) *Application for regular visa made at jurisdictional consular office of alien's residence or physical presence.* (1) An alien applying for a nonimmigrant visa shall make application at a consular office having jurisdiction over the alien's place of residence, or if the alien is a resident of Taiwan, at the American Institute in Taiwan, unless—

(i) The alien is physically present in the United States and is entitled to apply for issuance or reissuance of a visa under the provisions of §41.111(b); or

(ii) A consular office having jurisdiction over the area in which the alien is physically present but not resident has agreed, as a matter of discretion or at the direction of the Department, to accept the alien's application; or

(iii) The alien is subject to INA 222(g) and must apply as set forth in paragraph (b) or (c) of this section.

(2) The Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services is authorized to designate the geographical area for which each consular office possesses jurisdiction to process nonimmigrant visa applications.

(b) *Place of application for persons subject to INA 222(g).* Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, an alien whose prior nonimmigrant visa has been voided pursuant to INA 222(g), who is applying for a new nonimmigrant visa, shall make application at a consular office which has

jurisdiction in or for the country of the alien's nationality unless extraordinary circumstances have been determined to exist with respect to that alien as set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) *Exceptions based on extraordinary circumstances.* (1) An alien physician serving in underserved areas of the United States under the provisions of INA 214(l) for whom an application for a waiver of the 2-year foreign residence requirement and/or a petition to accord H-1B status was filed prior to the end of the alien's authorized period of stay and was subsequently approved, but whose authorized stay expired during the adjudication of such application(s), shall make application in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) Any other individual or group whose circumstances are determined to be extraordinary, in accordance with paragraph (d)(1) of this section, by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services upon the favorable recommendation of an immigration or consular officer, shall make application in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section.

(3) An alien who has, or immediately prior to the alien's last entry into the United States had, a residence in a country other than the country of the alien's nationality shall apply at a consular office with jurisdiction in or for the country of residence.

(4) An alien who is a national and resident of a country in which there is no United States consular office shall apply at a consular office designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services to accept immigrant visa applications from persons of that nationality.

(5) An alien who possesses more than one nationality and who has, or immediately prior to the alien's last entry into the United States had, a residence in one of the countries of the alien's nationality shall apply at a consular office in the country of such residence.

(d) *Definitions relevant to INA 222(g).* (1) Extraordinary circumstances—Extraordinary circumstances may be found where compelling humanitarian or national interests exist or where

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necessary for the effective administration of the immigration laws. Extraordinary circumstances shall not be found upon the basis of convenience or financial burden to the alien, the alien's relative, or the alien's employer.

(2) Nationality—For purposes of paragraph (b) of this section, a stateless person shall be considered to be a national of the country which issued the alien's travel document.

(e) *Regular visa defined.* “Regular visa” means a nonimmigrant visa of any classification which does not bear the title “Diplomatic” or “Official.” A nonimmigrant visa is issued as a regular visa unless the alien falls within one of the classes entitled to a diplomatic or an official visa as described in § 41.26(c) or § 41.27(c).

(f) *Q-2 nonimmigrant visas.* The American Consulate General at Belfast is designated to accept applications for the Q-2 visa from residents of the geographic area of Northern Ireland. The American Embassy at Dublin is designated to accept applications for Q-2 visas from residents of the geographic area of the counties of Louth, Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim, Sligo, and Donegal in the Republic of Ireland. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an applicant for a Q-2 visa may not apply at any other consular post. Consular officers at the Consulate General at Belfast and at the Embassy at Dublin have discretion to accept applications for Q-2 visas from aliens who are resident in a qualifying geographic area outside of their respective consular districts, but who are physically present in their consular district.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 1522, Jan. 22, 1996; 61 FR 53058, Oct. 10, 1996; 61 FR 56439, Nov. 1, 1996; 63 FR 671, Jan. 7, 1998; 63 FR 36366, July 6, 1998; 65 FR 14771, Mar. 17, 2000; 66 FR 38542, July 25, 2001; 67 FR 66046, Oct. 30, 2002]

§ 41.102 Personal appearance of applicant.

(a) Except when the requirement of personal appearance has been waived pursuant to paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section, each applicant for a nonimmigrant visa who is at least 14 years of age and not more than 79 years of age must personally appear before and

be interviewed by a consular officer, who shall determine on the basis of the applicant's representations, the visa application and other relevant documentation:

(1) The proper nonimmigrant classification, if any, of the alien; and

(2) The alien's eligibility to receive a visa.

(b) Waivers of personal appearance by consular officers. Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section or as otherwise instructed by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services, a consular officer may waive the requirement of personal appearance if the consular officer concludes the alien presents no national security concerns requiring an interview and:

(1) Is within a class of nonimmigrants classifiable under the visa symbols A-1, A-2, C-2, C-3 (except attendants, servants, or personal employees of accredited officials), G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, NATO-5, NATO-6, or is a Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) nonimmigrant classifiable under visa symbol E-1, and is seeking a visa in such classification; or

(2) Is an applicant for a diplomatic or official visa as described in § 41.26 or § 41.27 of this chapter; or

(3) Is an applicant who is within 12 months of the expiration of the applicant's previously issued visa and:

(i) Is seeking re-issuance of a nonimmigrant visa in the same classification;

(ii) Is applying at the consular post of the applicant's usual residence; and

(iii) Is an applicant for whom the consular officer has no indication of visa ineligibility or of noncompliance with U.S. immigration laws and regulations.

(c) Waivers of personal appearance in the national interest. Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section, the Secretary may waive the requirement of personal appearance of an individual applicant or a class of applicants if the Secretary determines that such waiver is in the national interest of the United States.

(d) Waivers of personal appearance in unusual or emergent circumstances. Except as provided in paragraph (e) of

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this section, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services may waive the requirement of personal appearance of an individual applicant or a class of applicants if the Deputy Assistant Secretary determines that such waiver is necessary as a result of unusual or emergent circumstances.

(e) Cases in which personal appearance may not be waived. Except for a nonimmigrant applicant whose personal appearance is waived under paragraphs (b)(1), (b)(2), or (c) of this section, the personal appearance requirement may not be waived for:

(1) Any nonimmigrant applicant who is not a national or resident of the country in which he or she is applying.

(2) Any nonimmigrant applicant who was previously refused a visa, is listed in CLASS, or otherwise requires a Security Advisory Opinion, unless:

(i) The visa was refused and the refusal was subsequently overcome; or

(ii) The alien was found inadmissible, but the inadmissibility was waived.

(3) Any nonimmigrant applicant who is from a country designated by the Secretary of State as a state sponsor of terrorism, regardless of age, or who is a member of a group or sector designated by the Secretary of State under section 222(h)(2)(F) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

[80 FR 69589, Nov. 10, 2015]

§41.103 Filing an application.

(a) *Filing an application*—(1) *Filing of application required*. Every alien seeking a nonimmigrant visa must make an electronic application on Form DS-160 or, as directed by a consular officer, an application on Form DS-156. The Form DS-160 must be signed electronically by clicking the box designated “Sign Application” in the certification section of the application.

(2) *Filing of an electronic application (Form DS-160) or Form DS-156 by alien under 16 or physically incapable*. The application for an alien under 16 years of age or one physically incapable of completing an application may be completed and executed by the alien's parent or guardian, or if the alien has no parent or guardian, by any person having legal custody of, or a legitimate interest in, the alien.

(3) *Waiver of filing of application when personal appearance is waived*. Even if personal appearance of a visa applicant is waived pursuant to 22 CFR 41.102, the requirement for filing an application is not waived.

(b) *Application*—(1) *Preparation of Electronic Nonimmigrant Visa Application (Form DS-160) or, alternatively, Form DS-156*. The consular officer shall ensure that the application is fully and properly completed in accordance with the applicable regulations and instructions.

(2) *Additional requirements and information as part of application*. Applicants who are required to appear for a personal interview must provide a biometric, which will serve to authenticate identity and additionally verify the accuracy and truthfulness of the statements in the application at the time of interview. The consular officer may require the submission of additional necessary information or question an alien on any relevant matter whenever the consular officer believes that the information provided in the application is inadequate to permit a determination of the alien's eligibility to receive a nonimmigrant visa. Additional statements made by the alien become a part of the visa application. All documents required by the consular officer under the authority of §41.105(a) are considered papers submitted with the alien's application within the meaning of INA 221(g)(1).

(3) *Signature*. The Form DS-160 shall be signed electronically by clicking the box designated “Sign Application” in the certification section of the application. This electronic signature attests to the applicant's familiarity with and intent to be bound by all statements in the NIV application under penalty of perjury. Alternatively, except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, the Form DS-156 shall be signed by the applicant, with intent to be bound by all statement in the NIV application under penalty of perjury.

(4) *Registration*. The Form DS-160 or the Form DS-156, when duly executed, constitutes the alien's registration for the purposes of INA 221(b).

[73 FR 23068, Apr. 29, 2008]

Department of State**§ 41.105****§ 41.104 Passport requirements.**

(a) *Passports defined.* “Passport” as defined in INA 101(a)(30) is not limited to a national passport or to a single document. A passport may consist of two or more documents which, when considered together, fulfill the requirements of a passport, provided that the documentary evidence of permission to enter a foreign country has been issued by a competent authority and clearly meets the requirements of INA 101(a)(30).

(b) *Passport requirement.* Except for certain persons in the A, C-3, G, and NATO classifications and persons for whom the passport requirement has been waived pursuant to the provisions of INA 212(d)(4), every applicant for a nonimmigrant visa is required to present a passport, as defined above and in INA 101(a)(30), which is valid for the period required by INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I).

(c) *A single passport including more than one person.* The passport requirement for a nonimmigrant visa may be met by the presentation of a passport including more than one person, if such inclusion is authorized under the laws or regulations of the issuing authority and if a photograph of each visa applicant 16 years of age or over has been attached to the passport by the issuing authority.

(d) *Applicants for diplomatic visas.* Every applicant for a diplomatic visa must present a diplomatic passport, or the equivalent thereof, having the period of validity required by INA 212(a)(7)(B)(i)(I), unless such requirement has been waived pursuant to the authority contained in INA 212(d)(4) or unless the case falls within the provisions of § 41.21(b).

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 61 FR 1522, Jan. 22, 1996; 61 FR 53058, Oct. 10, 1996; 66 FR 38543, July 25, 2001; 67 FR 66046, Oct. 30, 2002]

§ 41.105 Supporting documents and fingerprinting.

(a) *Supporting documents—(1) Authority to require documents.* The consular officer is authorized to require documents considered necessary to establish the alien’s eligibility to receive a nonimmigrant visa. All documents and other evidence presented by the alien,

including briefs submitted by attorneys or other representatives, shall be considered by the consular officer.

(2) *Unobtainable documents.* If the consular officer is satisfied that a document or record required under the authority of this section is unobtainable, the consular officer may accept satisfactory alternative pertinent evidence. A document or other record shall be considered unobtainable if it cannot be procured without causing the applicant or a member of the applicant’s family actual hardship as distinct from normal delay and inconvenience.

(3) *Photographs required.* Every applicant for a nonimmigrant visa must furnish a photograph in such numbers as the consular officer may require. Photographs must be a reasonable likeness, 1½ by 1½ inches in size, unmounted, and showing a full, front-face view of the applicant against a light background. At the discretion of the consular officer, head coverings may be permitted provided they do not interfere with the full, front-face view of the applicant. The applicant must sign (full name) on the reverse side of the photographs. The consular officer may use a previously submitted photograph, if he is satisfied that it bears a reasonable likeness to the applicant.

(4) *Police certificates.* A police certificate is a certification by the police or other appropriate authorities stating what, if anything, their records show concerning the alien. An applicant for a nonimmigrant visa is required to present a police certificate if the consular officer has reason to believe that a police or criminal record exists, except that no police certificate is required in the case of an alien who is within a class of nonimmigrants classifiable under visa symbols A-1, A-2, C-3, G-1 through G-4, NATO-1 through NATO-4 or NATO-6.

(b) *Fingerprinting.* Every applicant for a nonimmigrant visa must furnish fingerprints, as required by the consular officer.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, 9172, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 1522, Jan. 22, 1996; 61 FR 53058, Oct. 10, 1996; 64 FR 13510, Mar. 19, 1999; 67 FR 8478, Feb. 25, 2002; 72 FR 74175, Dec. 31, 2007; 73 FR 49092, Aug. 20, 2008]

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§ 41.106 Processing.

Consular officers must ensure that the Form DS-160 or, alternatively, Form DS-156 is properly and promptly processed in accordance with the applicable regulations and instructions.

[73 FR 23069, Apr. 29, 2008]

§ 41.107 Visa fees.

(a) *Fees based on reciprocity.* The fees for the issuance of visas, including official visas, to nonimmigrant nationals or stateless residents of each foreign country shall be collected in the amounts prescribed by the Secretary of State unless, on the basis of reciprocity, no fee is chargeable. If practicable, fees will correspond to the total amount of all visa, entry, residence, or other similar fees, taxes or charges assessed or levied against nationals of the United States by the foreign countries of which such nonimmigrants are nationals or stateless residents.

(b) *Fees when more than one alien included in visa.* A single nonimmigrant visa may be issued to include all eligible family members if the spouse and unmarried minor children of a principal alien are included in one passport. Each alien must execute a separate application. The name of each family member shall be inserted in the space provided in the visa stamp. The visa fee to be collected shall equal the total of the fees prescribed by the Secretary of State for each alien included in the visa, unless upon a basis of reciprocity a lesser fee is chargeable.

(c) *Certain aliens exempted from fees.* (1) Upon a basis of reciprocity, or as provided in section 13(a) of the Headquarters Agreement with the United Nations (61 Stat. 716; 22 U.S.C. 287, Note), no fee shall be collected for the application for or issuance of a nonimmigrant visa to an alien who is within a class of nonimmigrants classifiable under the visa symbols A, G, C-2, C-3, or NATO, or B-1 issued for participation in an official observer mission to the United Nations, or who is issued a diplomatic visa as defined in § 41.26.

(2) The consular officer shall waive the nonimmigrant visa application and issuance fees for an alien who will be engaging in charitable activities for a

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charitable organization upon the written request of the charitable organization claiming that it will find the fees a financial burden, if the consular officer is satisfied that:

(i) The organization seeking relief from the fees is, if based in the United States, tax-exempt as a charitable organization under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)); if a foreign organization based outside the United States in a country having laws according recognition to charitable institutions, that it establishes that it is recognized as a charitable institution by that government; and if a foreign organization based in a country without such laws, that it is engaged in activities substantially similar to those underlying section 501(c)(3), and

(ii) The charitable activities in which the alien will engage are specified and will be a part of, or will be related to and in support of, the organization's provision of services, including but not limited to health care, food and housing, job training, and similar direct services and assistance to the poor and needy, and

(iii) The request includes the location of the proposed activities, the number and identifying data of each of the alien(s) who will be applying for visas, and

(iv) The proposed duration of the alien(s)'s temporary stay in the United States is reasonably consistent with the charitable purpose for which the alien(s) seek to enter the United States.

(3) Foreign national employees of the U. S. Government who are travelling to the United States on official business in connection with that employment.

(d) *Refund of fees.* A fee collected for the issuance of a nonimmigrant visa is refundable only if the principal officer at a post or the officer in charge of a consular section determines that the visa was issued in error or could not be used as a result of action taken by the U.S. Government for which the alien was not responsible and over which the alien had no control.

(e)(1) *Visa processing surcharge.* In addition to the collection of the fee prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section,

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a consular officer shall collect or ensure the collection of a surcharge for the processing of applications for machine readable nonimmigrant visas and for machine readable combined border crossing cards in the amount specified by the Secretary of State from such applicants as the Secretary of State shall designate. Such surcharge is refundable only if, as a result of action taken by the U.S. Government for which the alien was not responsible and over which the alien had no control, the alien's application is not processed.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (e)(1) of this section, a consular officer shall collect or insure the collection of a processing fee for a machine-readable combined border crossing card and nonimmigrant visa in an amount determined by the Secretary and set forth in 22 CFR 22.1 to be sufficient only to cover the cost for manufacturing the combined card and visa if:

- (i) The alien is a Mexican citizen under the age of 15;
- (ii) The alien is applying in Mexico; and
- (iii) The alien has at least one parent or guardian who has a visa or is applying for a machine-readable combined border crossing card and visa.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 59 FR 25325, May 16, 1994; 63 FR 24108, May 1, 1998; 63 FR 52970, Oct. 2, 1998; 65 FR 52307, Aug. 29, 2000; 66 FR 17511, Apr. 2, 2001; 66 FR 38543, July 25, 2001; 67 FR 38893, June 6, 2002; 67 FR 66046, Oct. 30, 2002]

§ 41.108 Medical examination.

(a) *Requirements for medical examination.* An applicant for a nonimmigrant visa shall be required to take a medical examination if:

(1) The alien is an applicant for a K nonimmigrant visa as a fiance(e) of a U.S. citizen or as the child of such an applicant; or,

(2) The alien is seeking admission for medical treatment and the consular officer considers a medical examination advisable; or,

(3) The consular officer has reason to believe that a medical examination might disclose that the alien is medically ineligible to receive a visa.

(b) *Examination by panel physician.* The required examination, which must be carried out in accordance with

United States Public Health Service regulations, shall be conducted by a physician selected by the alien from a panel of physicians approved by the consular officer or, if the alien is in the United States, by a medical officer of the United States Public Health Service or by a contract physician from a list of physicians approved by the DHS for the examination of INA 245 adjustment of status applicants.

(c) *Panel physician facility requirements.* A consular officer may not include the name of a physician on the panel of physicians referred to in paragraph (b) of this section unless the physician has facilities to perform required serological and X-ray tests or is in a position to refer applicants to a qualified laboratory for such tests.

Subpart K—Issuance of Nonimmigrant Visa**§ 41.111 Authority to issue visa.**

(a) *Issuance outside the United States.* Any consular officer is authorized to issue regular and official visas. Diplomatic visas may be issued only by:

(1) A consular officer attached to a U.S. diplomatic mission, if authorized to do so by the Chief of Mission; or

(2) A consular officer assigned to a consular office under the jurisdiction of a diplomatic mission, if so authorized by the Department or the Chief, Deputy Chief, or Counselor for Consular Affairs of that mission, or, if assigned to a consular post not under the jurisdiction of a diplomatic mission, by the principal officer of that post.

(b) *Issuance in the United States in certain cases.* The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services and such officers of the Department as the former may designate are authorized, in their discretion, to issue nonimmigrant visas, including diplomatic visas, to:

(1) Qualified aliens who are currently maintaining status and are properly classifiable in the A, C-2, C-3, G or NATO category and intend to reenter the United States in that status after a temporary absence abroad and who also present evidence that:

(i) They have been lawfully admitted in that status or have, after admission, had their classification changed to that status; and

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(ii) Their period of authorized stay in the United States in that status has not expired; and

(2) Other qualified aliens who:

(i) Are currently maintaining status in the E, H, I, L, O, or P nonimmigrant category;

(ii) Intend to reenter the United States in that status after a temporary absence abroad; and

(iii) Who also present evidence that:

(A) They were previously issued visas at a consular office abroad and admitted to the United States in the status which they are currently maintaining; and

(B) Their period of authorized admission in that status has not expired.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 66 FR 12738, Feb. 28, 2001]

§41.112 Validity of visa.

(a) *Significance of period of validity of visa.* The period of validity of a nonimmigrant visa is the period during which the alien may use it in making application for admission. The period of visa validity has no relation to the period of time the immigration authorities at a port of entry may authorize the alien to stay in the United States.

(b) *Validity of visa and number of applications for admission.* (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section, a nonimmigrant visa shall have the validity prescribed in schedules provided to consular officers by the Department, reflecting insofar as practicable the reciprocal treatment accorded U.S. nationals, U.S. permanent residents, or aliens granted refugee status in the U.S. by the government of the country of which the alien is a national, permanent resident, refugee or stateless resident.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (b)(1) of this section, United States nonimmigrant visas shall have a maximum validity period of 10 years.

(3) An unexpired visa is valid for application for admission even if the passport in which the visa is stamped has expired, provided the alien is also in possession of a valid passport issued by the authorities of the country of which the alien is a national.

(c) *Limitation on validity.* If warranted in an individual case, a consular officer may issue a nonimmigrant visa for:

(1) A period of validity that is less than that prescribed on a basis of reciprocity,

(2) A number of applications for admission within the period of the validity of the visa that is less than that prescribed on a basis of reciprocity,

(3) Application for admission at a specified port or at specified ports of entry, or

(4) Use on and after a given date subsequent to the date of issuance.

(d) *Automatic extension of validity at ports of entry.* (1) Provided that the requirements set out in paragraph (d)(2) of this section are fully met, the following provisions apply to nonimmigrant aliens seeking readmission at ports of entry:

(i) The validity of an expired nonimmigrant visa issued under INA 101(a)(15) may be considered to be automatically extended to the date of application for readmission; and

(ii) In cases where the original nonimmigrant classification of an alien has been changed by DHS to another nonimmigrant classification, the validity of an expired or unexpired nonimmigrant visa may be considered to be automatically extended to the date of application for readmission, and the visa may be converted as necessary to that changed classification.

(2) The provisions in paragraph (d)(1) of this section are applicable only in the case of a nonimmigrant alien who:

(i) Is in possession of a Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record, endorsed by DHS to show an unexpired period of initial admission or extension of stay, or, in the case of a qualified F or J student or exchange visitor or the accompanying spouse or child of such an alien, is in possession of a current Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status, or Form IAP-66, Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status, issued by the school the student has been authorized to attend by DHS, or by the sponsor of the exchange program in which the alien has been authorized to participate by DHS, and endorsed by the

issuing school official or program sponsor to indicate the period of initial admission or extension of stay authorized by DHS;

(ii) Is applying for readmission after an absence not exceeding 30 days solely in contiguous territory, or, in the case of a student or exchange visitor or accompanying spouse or child meeting the stipulations of paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section, after an absence not exceeding 30 days in contiguous territory or adjacent islands other than Cuba;

(iii) Has maintained and intends to resume nonimmigrant status;

(iv) Is applying for readmission within the authorized period of initial admission or extension of stay;

(v) Is in possession of a valid passport;

(vi) Does not require authorization for admission under INA 212(d)(3); and

(vii) Has not applied for a new visa while abroad.

(3) The provisions in paragraphs (d)(1) and (d)(2) of this section shall not apply to the nationals of countries identified as supporting terrorism in the Department's annual report to Congress entitled Patterns of Global Terrorism.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, 9172, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 36028, Oct. 31, 1990; 62 FR 24332, May 5, 1997; 66 FR 38543, July 25, 2001; 67 FR 10323, Mar. 7, 2002; 67 FR 66046, Oct. 30, 2002]

§ 41.113 Procedures in issuing visas.

(a) *Evidence of visa.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a nonimmigrant visa shall be evidenced by a physical visa placed in the alien's passport or by an electronic visa located in the Department's records. The appropriate symbol as prescribed in § 41.12, showing the classification of the alien, shall be entered on the visa.

(b) *Cases in which a physical visa is not placed in passport.* In the following cases a physical visa shall be placed on the prescribed Form DS-232. In issuing such a visa, a notation shall be made on the Form DS-232 on which the visa is placed, specifying the pertinent subparagraph of this paragraph under which the action is taken.

(1) The alien's passport was issued by a government with which the United States does not have formal diplomatic

relations, unless the Department has specifically authorized the placing of the visa in such passport;

(2) The passport requirement has been waived; or

(3) In other cases as authorized by the Department.

(c) *Visa format.* A machine-readable visa shall be in the format designated by the Department, and contain, at a minimum, the following data:

(1) Full name of the applicant;

(2) Visa type/class;

(3) Location of the visa issuing office;

(4) Passport number;

(5) Sex;

(6) Date of birth;

(7) Nationality;

(8) Number of applications for admission authorized, or the letter "M" for multiple applications for admission authorized;

(9) Date of issuance;

(10) Date of expiration;

(11) Visa control number.

(d) *Insertion of name, petition, and derivative status notation.* (1) The surname and given name of the visa recipient shall be shown on the visa in the space provided.

(2) If the visa is being issued upon the basis of a petition approved by the Secretary of Homeland Security, the number of the petition, if any, the period for which the alien's admission has been authorized, and the name of the petitioner shall be reflected in the annotation field on the visa.

(3) In the case of an alien who derives status from a principal alien, the name of the principal alien and of the petitioner shall be reflected in the annotation field of the visa.

(e) *Period of validity.* If a nonimmigrant visa is issued for an unlimited number of applications for admission within the period of validity, the letter "M" shall be shown under the word "entries". Otherwise the number of permitted applications for admission shall be identified numerically. The date of issuance and the date of expiration of the visa shall be shown at the appropriate places in the visa by day, month, and year in that order. The standard three letter abbreviation for the month shall be used in all cases.

(f) *Restriction to specified port(s) of entry.* If a nonimmigrant visa is valid

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for admission only at one or more specified ports of entry, the names of those ports shall be entered in the annotation field. In cases where there is insufficient room to list the port(s) of entry, they shall be listed by hand on a clean passport page. Reference shall be made in the visa's annotation field citing the passport page upon which the port(s) of entry are listed.

(g) *Delivery of visa.* In issuing a nonimmigrant visa, the consular officer should deliver the passport containing the visa, or the prescribed Form DS-232 which bears the visa, to the alien or to the alien's authorized representative. Any relevant evidence furnished by the alien in accordance with §41.103(b) should be retained, as required or necessary.

(h) *Disposition of supporting documents.* Original supporting documents furnished by the alien should be returned for presentation, if necessary, to the immigration authorities at the port of entry. Duplicate copies may be retained in the consular system, as required or necessary.

(i) *Review of nonimmigrant visa issuances.* Nonimmigrant visa issuances must be reviewed, in accordance with guidance by the Secretary of State, by consular supervisors, or a designated alternate, to ensure compliance with applicable laws and procedures.

[80 FR 67315, Nov. 2, 2015]

Subpart L—Refusals and Revocations

§41.121 Refusal of individual visas.

(a) *Grounds for refusal.* Nonimmigrant visa refusals must be based on legal grounds, such as one or more provisions of INA 212(a), INA 212(e), INA 214(b), (f) or (l) (as added by Section 625 of Pub. L. 104-208), INA 221(g), or INA 222(g) or other applicable law. Certain classes of nonimmigrant aliens are exempted from specific provisions of INA 212(a) under INA 102 and, upon a basis of reciprocity, under INA 212(d)(8). When a visa application has been properly completed and executed in accordance with the provisions of INA and the implementing regulations, the consular officer must either issue or refuse the visa.

(b) *Refusal procedure.* (1) When a consular officer knows or has reason to believe a visa applicant is ineligible and refuses the issuance of a visa, he or she must inform the alien of the ground(s) of ineligibility (unless disclosure is barred under INA 212(b)(2) or (3)) and whether there is, in law or regulations, a mechanism (such as a waiver) to overcome the refusal. The officer shall note the reason for the refusal on the application. Upon refusing the nonimmigrant visa, the consular officer shall retain the original of each document upon which the refusal was based, as well as each document indicating a possible ground of ineligibility, and should return all other supporting documents supplied by the applicant.

(2) If an alien, who has not yet filed a visa application, seeks advice from a consular officer, who knows or has reason to believe that the alien is ineligible to receive a visa on grounds which cannot be overcome by the presentation of additional evidence, the officer shall so inform the alien. The consular officer shall inform the applicant of the provision of law or regulations upon which a refusal of a visa, if applied for, would be based (subject to the exception in paragraph (b)(1) of this section). If practicable, the consular officer should request the alien to execute a nonimmigrant visa application in order to make a formal refusal. If the individual fails to execute a visa application in these circumstances, the consular officer shall treat the matter as if a visa had been refused and create a record of the presumed ineligibility which shall be filed in the consular office.

(c) Nonimmigrant refusals must be reviewed, in accordance with guidance by the Secretary of State, by consular supervisors, or a designated alternate, to ensure compliance with laws and procedures. If the ground(s) of ineligibility upon which the visa was refused cannot be overcome by the presentation of additional evidence, the refusal must be reviewed without delay; that is, on the day of the refusal or as soon as it is administratively possible. If the ground(s) of ineligibility may be overcome by the presentation of additional evidence, and the applicant has indicated the intention to submit such

evidence, a review of the refusal may be deferred for not more than 120 days. If the reviewing officer disagrees with the decision and he or she has a consular commission and title, the reviewing officer can assume responsibility and readjudicate the case. If the reviewing officer does not have a consular commission and title, he or she must consult with the adjudicating officer, or with the Visa Office, to resolve any disagreement.

(d) *Review of refusal by Department.* The Department may request a consular officer in a specific case or in specified classes of cases to submit a report if a visa has been refused. The Department will review each report and may furnish an advisory opinion to the consular officer for assistance in considering the case further. If the officer believes that action contrary to an advisory opinion should be taken, the case shall be resubmitted to the Department with an explanation of the proposed action. Rulings of the Department concerning an interpretation of law, as distinguished from an application of the law to the facts, shall be binding upon consular officers.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 30428, July 2, 1991; 63 FR 671, Jan. 7, 1998; 66 FR 10364, Feb. 15, 2001; 71 FR 50339, Aug. 25, 2006]

§ 41.122 Revocation of visas.

(a) *Grounds for revocation by consular officers.* A consular officer, the Secretary, or a Department official to whom the Secretary has delegated this authority is authorized to revoke a nonimmigrant visa at any time, in his or her discretion.

(b) *Provisional revocation.* A consular officer, the Secretary, or any Department official to whom the Secretary has delegated this authority may provisionally revoke a nonimmigrant visa while considering information related to whether a visa holder is eligible for the visa. Provisional revocation shall have the same force and effect as any other visa revocation under INA 221(i).

(c) *Notice of revocation.* Unless otherwise instructed by the Department, a consular officer shall, if practicable, notify the alien to whom the visa was issued that the visa was revoked or provisionally revoked. Regardless of

delivery of such notice, once the revocation has been entered into the Department's Consular Lookout and Support System (CLASS), the visa is no longer to be considered valid for travel to the United States. The date of the revocation shall be indicated in CLASS and on any notice sent to the alien to whom the visa was issued.

(d) *Procedure for physically canceling visas.* A nonimmigrant visa that is revoked shall be canceled by writing or stamping the word "REVOKE" plainly across the face of the visa, if the visa is available to the consular officer. The failure or inability to physically cancel the visa does not affect the validity of the revocation.

(e) *Revocation of visa by immigration officer.* An immigration officer is authorized to revoke a valid visa by physically canceling it in accordance with the procedure described in paragraph (d) of this section if:

(1) The alien obtains an immigrant visa or an adjustment of status to that of permanent resident;

(2) The alien is ordered excluded from the United States under INA 236, as in effect prior to April 1, 1997, or removed from the United States pursuant to INA 235;

(3) The alien is notified pursuant to INA 235 by an immigration officer at a port of entry that the alien appears to be inadmissible to the United States, and the alien requests and is granted permission to withdraw the application for admission;

(4) A final order of deportation or removal or a final order granting voluntary departure with an alternate order of deportation or removal is entered against the alien;

(5) The alien has been permitted by DHS to depart voluntarily from the United States;

(6) DHS has revoked a waiver of inadmissibility granted pursuant to INA 212(d)(3)(A) in relation to the visa that was issued to the alien;

(7) The visa is presented in connection with an application for admission to the United States by a person other than the alien to whom the visa was issued;

(8) The visa has been physically removed from the passport in which it was issued; or

(9) The visa has been issued in a combined Mexican or Canadian B-1/B-2 visa and border crossing identification card, and the immigration officer makes the determination specified in § 41.32(c) with respect to the alien's Mexican citizenship and/or residence or the determination specified in § 41.33(b) with respect to the alien's status as a permanent resident of Canada.

[76 FR 23479, Apr. 27, 2011]

PART 42—VISAS: DOCUMENTATION OF IMMIGRANTS UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AS AMENDED

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AUTHORITY: 8 U.S.C. 1104 and 1182; Pub. L. 105-277; Pub. L. 108-449; 112 Stat. 2681-795 through 2681-801; The Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (done at the Hague, May 29, 1993), S. Treaty Doc. 105-51 (1998), 1870 U.N.T.S. 167 (Reg. No. 31922 (1993)); 42 U.S.C. 14901-14954, Pub. L. 106-279; Pub. L. 111-287; 8 U.S.C. 1101, 124 Stat. 3058; 8 U.S.C. 1154, Pub. Law 109-162.

SOURCE: 52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 42 appear at 71 FR 34522, June 15, 2006.

Subpart A—Visa and Passport Not Required for Certain Immigrants

§ 42.1 Aliens not required to obtain immigrant visas.

An immigrant within any of the following categories is not required to obtain an immigrant visa:

(a) *Aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence.* An alien who has previously been lawfully admitted for permanent residence and who is not required under the regulations of the Department of Homeland Security to present a valid immigrant visa upon returning to the United States.

(b) *Alien members of U.S. Armed Forces.* An alien member of the U.S. Armed Forces bearing military identification, who has previously been lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is coming to the United States under official orders or permit of those Armed Forces.

(c) *Aliens entering from Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands.* An alien who has previously been lawfully admitted for permanent residence who seeks to enter the continental United States or any other place under the jurisdiction of the United States directly from Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands of the United States.

(d) *Child born after issuance of visa to accompanying parent.* An alien child born after the issuance of an immigrant visa to an accompanying parent, who will arrive in the United States with the parent, and apply for admission during the period of validity of the visa issued to the parent.

(e) *Child born of a national or lawful permanent resident mother during her temporary visit abroad.* An alien child born during the temporary visit abroad of a mother who is a national or lawful permanent resident of the United States if applying for admission within 2 years of birth and accompanied by either parent applying and eligible for readmission as a permanent resident upon that parent's first return to the United States after the child's birth.

(f) *American Indians born in Canada.* An American Indian born in Canada and having at least 50 per centum of blood of the American Indian race.

§ 42.2 Aliens not required to present passports.

An immigrant within any of the following categories is not required to present a passport in applying for an immigrant visa:

(a) *Certain relatives of U.S. citizens.* An alien who is the spouse, unmarried son or daughter, or parent, of a U.S. cit-

izen, unless the alien is applying for a visa in the country of which the applicant is a national and the possession of a passport is required for departure.

(b) *Returning aliens previously lawfully admitted for permanent residence.* An alien previously lawfully admitted for permanent residence who is returning from a temporary visit abroad, unless the alien is applying for a visa in the country of which the applicant is a national and the possession of a passport is required for departure.

(c) *Certain relatives of aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence.* An alien who is the spouse, unmarried son or daughter, or parent of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, unless the alien is applying for a visa in the country of which the applicant is a national and the possession of a passport is required for departure.

(d) *Stateless persons.* An alien who is a stateless person, and accompanying spouse and unmarried son or daughter.

(e) *Nationals of Communist-controlled countries.* An alien who is a national of a Communist-controlled country and who is unable to obtain a passport from the government of that country, and accompanying spouse and unmarried son or daughter.

(f) *Alien members of U.S. Armed Forces.* An alien who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

(g) *Beneficiaries of individual waivers.*

(1) An alien who would be within one of the categories described in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section except that the alien is applying for a visa in a country of which the applicant is a national and possession of a passport is required for departure, in whose case the passport requirement has been waived by the Secretary of State, as evidence by a specific instruction from the Department.

(2) An alien unable to obtain a passport and not within any of the foregoing categories, in whose case the passport requirement imposed by § 42.64(b) or by DHS regulations has been waived by the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State as evidenced by a specific instruction from the Department.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 49680, Oct. 1, 1991]

§ 42.11**22 CFR Ch. I (4-1-16 Edition)****Subpart B—Classification and Foreign State Chargeability****§ 42.11 Classification symbols.**

A visa issued to an immigrant alien within one of the classes described below shall bear an appropriate visa symbol to show the classification of the alien.

IMMIGRANTS

Symbol	Class	Section of law
Immediate Relatives		
IR1	Spouse of U.S. Citizen	201(b).
IR2	Child of U.S. Citizen	201(b).
IR3	Orphan Adopted Abroad by U.S. Citizen	201(b) & 101(b)(1)(F).
IH3	Child from Hague Convention Country Adopted Abroad by U.S. Citizen	201(b) & 101(b)(1)(G).
IR4	Orphan to be Adopted in U.S. by U.S. Citizen	201(b) & 101(b)(1)(F).
IH4	Child from Hague Convention Country to be Adopted in U.S. by U.S. Citizen.	201(b) & 101(b)(1)(G).
IR5	Parent of U.S. Citizen at Least 21 Years of Age	201(b).
CR1	Spouse of U.S. Citizen (Conditional Status)	201(b) & 216.
CR2	Child of U.S. Citizen (Conditional Status)	201(b) & 216.
IW1	Certain Spouses of Deceased U.S. Citizens	201(b).
IW2	Child of IW1	201(b).
IB1	Self-petition Spouse of U.S. Citizen	204(a)(1)(A)(iii).
IB2	Self-petition child of U.S. Citizen	204(a)(1)(A)(iv).
IB3	Child of IB1	204(a)(1)(A)(iii).
IB5	Self-petition Parent of U.S. Citizen	204(a)(1)(A)(vii)
VI5	Parent of U.S. Citizen Who Acquired Permanent Resident Status Under the Virgin Islands Nonimmigrant Alien Adjustment Act.	201(b) & sec. 2 of the Virgin Islands Nonimmigrant Alien Adjustment Act, (Pub. L. 97-271).
Vietnam Amerasian Immigrants		
AM1	Vietnam Amerasian Principal	584(b)(1)(A) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988 (as contained in section 101(e) of Pub. L. 100-102) as amended.
AM2	Spouse or Child of AM1	584(b)(1)(A) and 584(b)(1)(B) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988 (as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100-102) as amended.
AM3	Natural Mother of AM1 (and Spouse or Child of Such Mother) or Person Who has Acted in Effect as the Mother, Father, or Next-of-Kin of AM1 (and Spouse or Child of Such Person).	584(b)(1)(A) and 584(b)(1)(C) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988 (as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100-102) as amended.
Special Immigrants		
SB1	Returning Resident	101(a)(27)(A).
SC1	Person Who Lost U.S. Citizenship by Marriage	101(a)(27)(B) & 324(a).
SC2	Person Who Lost U.S. Citizenship by Serving in Foreign Armed Forces	101(a)(27)(B) & 327.
SI1	Certain Aliens Employed by the U.S. Government in Iraq or Afghanistan as Translators or Interpreters.	Section 1059 of Pub. L. 109-163 as amended by Pub. L. 110-36.
SI2	Spouse of SI1	Section 1059 of Pub. L. 109-163 as amended by Pub. L. 110-36.
SI3	Child of SI1	Section 1059 of Pub. L. 109-163 as amended by Pub. L. 110-36.
SM1	Alien Recruited Outside the United States Who Has Served or is Enlisted to Serve in the U.S. Armed Forces for 12 Years.	101(a)(27)(K).
SM2	Spouse of SM1	101(a)(27)(K).
SM3	Child of SM1	101(a)(27)(K).
SQ1	Certain Iraqis or Afghans Employed by or on Behalf of the U.S. Government.	Section 602(b), Division F, Title VI, Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-8 and Section 1244 of Pub. L. 110-181.

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IMMIGRANTS—Continued

Symbol	Class	Section of law
SQ2	Spouse of SQ1	Section 602(b), Division F, Title VI, Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-8 and Section 1244 of Pub. L. 110-181.
SQ3	Child of SQ1	Section 602(b), Division F, Title VI, Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-8 and Section 1244 of Pub. L. 110-181.
SU2	Spouse of U1	INA 245(m)(3) & INA 101(a)(15)(U)(ii).
SU3	Child of U1	INA 245(m)(3) & INA 101(a)(15)(U)(ii).
SU5	Parent of U1	INA 245(m)(3) & INA 101(a)(15)(U)(ii).
Family-Sponsored Preferences		
Family 1st Preference		
F11	Unmarried Son or Daughter of U.S. Citizen	203(a)(1).
F12	Child of F11	203(d) & 203(a)(1).
B11	Self-petition Unmarried Son or Daughter of U.S. Citizen	204(a)(1)(A)(iv) & 203(a)(1).
B12	Child of B11	203(d), 204(a)(1)(A)(iv) & 203(a)(1).
Family 2nd Preference (Subject to Country Limitations)		
F21	Spouse of Lawful Permanent Resident	203(a)(2)(A).
F22	Child of Lawful Permanent Resident	203(a)(2)(A).
F23	Child of F21 or F22	203(d) & 203(a)(2)(A).
F24	Unmarried Son or Daughter of Lawful Permanent Resident	203(a)(2)(B).
F25	Child of F24	203(d) & 203(a)(2)(B).
C21	Spouse of Lawful Permanent Resident (Conditional)	203(a)(2)(A) & 216.
C22	Child of Alien Resident (Conditional)	203(a)(2)(A) & 216.
C23	Child of C21 or C22 (Conditional)	203(d) & 203(a)(2)(A) & 216.
C24	Unmarried Son or Daughter of Lawful Permanent Resident (Conditional)	203(a)(2)(B) & 216.
C25	Child of F24 (Conditional)	203(d) & 203(a)(2)(B) & 216.
B21	Self-petition Spouse of Lawful Permanent Resident	204(a)(1)(B)(ii).
B22	Self-petition Child of Lawful Permanent Resident	204(a)(1)(B)(iii).
B23	Child of B21 or B22	203(d) & 204(a)(1)(B)(ii).
B24	Self-petition Unmarried Son or Daughter of Lawful Permanent Resident	204(a)(1)(B)(iii).
B25	Child of B24	203(d) & 204(a)(1)(B)(iii).
Family 2nd Preference (Exempt from Country Limitations)		
FX1	Spouse of Lawful Permanent Resident	202(a)(4)(A) & 203(a)(2)(A).
FX2	Child of Lawful Permanent Resident	202(a)(4)(A) & 203(a)(2)(A).
FX3	Child of FX1 or FX2	202(a)(4)(A) & 203(a)(2)(A) & 203(d).
CX1	Spouse of Lawful Permanent Resident (Conditional)	202(a)(4)(A) & 203(a)(2)(A) & 216.
CX2	Child of Lawful Permanent Resident (Conditional)	202(a)(4)(A) & 203(a)(2)(A) & 216.
CX3	Child of CX1 or CX2 (Conditional)	202(a)(4)(A) & 203(a)(2)(A) & 203(d) & 216.
BX1	Self-petition Spouse of Lawful Permanent Resident	204(a)(1)(B)(ii).
BX2	Self-petition Child of Lawful Permanent Resident	204(a)(1)(B)(iii).
BX3	Child of BX1 or BX2	204(a)(1)(B)(ii) & 203(d).
Family 3rd Preference		
F31	Married Son or Daughter of U.S. Citizen	203(a)(3).
F32	Spouse of F31	203(d) & 203(a)(3).
F33	Child of F31	203(d) & 203(a)(3).
C31	Married Son or Daughter of U.S. Citizen (Conditional)	203(a)(3) & 216.
C32	Spouse of C31 (Conditional)	203(d) & 203(a)(3) & 216.
C33	Child of C31 (Conditional)	203(d) & 203(a)(3) & 216.
B31	Self-petition Married Son or Daughter of U.S. Citizen	204(a)(1)(A)(iv) & 203(a)(3).
B32	Spouse of B31	203(d), 204(a)(1)(A)(iv) & 203(a)(3).
B33	Child of B31	203(d), 204(a)(1)(A)(iv) & 203(a)(3).
Family 4th Preference		
F41	Brother or Sister of U.S. Citizen at Least 21 Years of Age	203(a)(4).
F42	Spouse of F41	203(d) & 203(a)(4).

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Symbol	Class	Section of law
F43	Child of F41	203(d) & 203(a)(4).
Employment-Based Preferences Employment 1st Preference (Priority Workers)		
E11	Alien with Extraordinary Ability	203(b)(1)(A).
E12	Outstanding Professor or Researcher	203(b)(1)(B).
E13	Multinational Executive or Manager	203(b)(1)(C).
E14	Spouse of E11, E12, or E13	203(d) & 203(b)(1)(A) & 203(b)(1)(B) & 203(b)(1)(C).
E15	Child of E11, E12, or E13	203(d) & 203(b)(1)(A) & 203(b)(1)(B) & 203(b)(1)(C).
Employment 2nd Preference (Professionals Holding Advanced Degrees or Persons of Exceptional Ability)		
E21	Professional Holding Advanced Degree or Alien of Exceptional Ability ...	203(b)(2).
E22	Spouse of E21	203(d) & 203(b)(2).
E23	Child of E21	203(d) & 203(b)(2).
Employment 3rd Preference (Skilled Workers, Professionals, and Other Workers)		
E31	Skilled Worker	203(b)(3)(A)(i).
E32	Professional Holding Baccalaureate Degree	203(b)(3)(A)(ii).
E34	Spouse of E31 or E32	203(d) & 203(b)(3)(A)(i) & 203(b)(3)(A)(ii).
E35	Child of E31 or E32	203(d) & 203(b)(3)(A)(i) & 203(b)(3)(A)(ii).
EW3	Other Worker (Subgroup Numerical Limit)	203(b)(3)(A)(iii).
EW4	Spouse of EW3	203(d) & 203(b)(3)(A)(iii).
EW5	Child of EW3	203(d) & 203(b)(3)(A)(iii).
Employment 4th Preference (Certain Special Immigrants)		
BC1	Broadcaster in the U.S. employed by the International Broadcasting Bureau of the Broadcasting Board of Governors or a grantee of such organization.	101(a)(27)(M) & 203(b)(4).
BC2	Accompanying spouse of BC1	101(a)(27)(M) & 203(b)(4).
BC3	Accompanying child of BC1	101(a)(27)(M) & 203(b)(4).
SD1	Minister of Religion	101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(I) & 203(b)(4).
SD2	Spouse of SD1	101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(I) & 203(b)(4).
SD3	Child of SD1	101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(I) & 203(b)(4).
SE1	Certain Employees or Former Employees of the U.S. Government Abroad.	101(a)(27)(D) & 203(b)(4).
SE2	Spouse of SE1	101(a)(27)(D) & 203(b)(4).
SE3	Child of SE1	101(a)(27)(D) & 203(b)(4).
SF1	Certain Former Employees of the Panama Canal Company or Canal Zone Government.	101(a)(27)(E) & 203(b)(4).
SF2	Spouse or Child of SF1	101(a)(27)(F) & 203(b)(4).
SG1	Certain Former Employees of the U.S. Government in the Panama Canal Zone.	101(a)(27)(G) & 203(b)(4).
SG2	Spouse or Child of SG1	101(a)(27)(F) & 203(b)(4).
SH1	Certain Former Employees of the Panama Canal Company or Canal Zone Government on April 1, 1979.	101(a)(27)(G) & 203(b)(4).
SH2	Spouse or Child of SH1	101(a)(27)(H).
SJ1	Certain Foreign Medical Graduates (Adjustments Only)	101(a)(27)(H) & 203(b)(4).
SJ2	Accompanying Spouse or Child of SJ1	101(a)(27)(I)(iii) & 203(b)(4).
SK1	Certain Retired International Organization employees	101(a)(27)(I)(iv) & 203(b)(4).
SK2	Spouse of SK1	101(a)(27)(I)(i) & 203(b)(4).
SK3	Certain Unmarried Sons or Daughters of an International Organization Employee.	101(a)(27)(J) & 203(b)(4).
SK4	Certain Surviving Spouses of a deceased International Organization Employee.	101(a)(27)(J) & 203(b)(4).
SL1	Juvenile Court Dependent (Adjustment Only)	101(a)(27)(L) & 203(b)(4).
SN1	Certain retired NATO6 civilians	101(a)(27)(L) & 203(b)(4).
SN2	Spouse of SN1	101(a)(27)(L) & 203(b)(4).
SN3	Certain unmarried sons or daughters of NATO6 civilian employees	101(a)(27)(L) & 203(b)(4).
SN4	Certain surviving spouses of deceased NATO6 civilian employees	101(a)(27)(L) & 203(b)(4).
SP	Alien Beneficiary of a petition or labor certification application filed prior to September 11, 2001, if the petition or application was rendered void due to a terrorist act of September 11, 2001. Spouse, child of such alien, or the grandparent of a child orphaned by a terrorist act of September 11, 2001.	Section 421 of Public Law 107-56.

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IMMIGRANTS—Continued

Symbol	Class	Section of law
SR1	Certain Religious Workers	101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(II) & (III) as amended, & 203(b)(4).
SR2	Spouse of SR1	101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(II) & (III) as amended, & 203(b)(4).
SR3	Child of SR1	101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(II) & (III) as amended, & 203(b)(4).
Employment 5th Preference (Employment Creation Conditional Status)		
C51	Employment Creation OUTSIDE Targeted Areas	203(b)(5)(A).
C52	Spouse of C51	203(d) & 203(b)(5)(A).
C53	Child of C51	203(d) & 203(b)(5)(A).
T51	Employment Creation IN Targeted Rural/High Unemployment Area	203(b)(5)(B).
T52	Spouse of T51	203(d) & 203(b)(5)(B).
T53	Child of T51	203(d) & 203(b)(5)(B).
R51	Investor Pilot Program, Not in Targeted Area	203(b)(5) & Sec. 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395), as amended.
R52	Spouse of R51	203(d) & 203(b)(5) & Sec. 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395), as amended.
R53	Child of R51	203(d) & 203(b)(5) & Sec. 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395), as amended.
I51	Investor Pilot Program, in Targeted Area	203(b)(5) & Sec. 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395), as amended.
I52	Spouse of I51	203(d) & 203(b)(5) & Sec. 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395), as amended.
I53	Child of I51	203(d) & 203(b)(5) & Sec. 610 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (Pub. L. 102-395), as amended.
Other Numerically Limited Categories		
Diversity Immigrants		
DV1	Diversity Immigrant	203(c).
DV2	Spouse of DV1	203(d) & 203(c).
DV3	Child of DV1	203(d) & 203(c).

[74 FR 61521, Nov. 25, 2009, as amended at 79 FR 32482, June 5, 2014]

§ 42.12 Rules of chargeability.

(a) *Applicability.* An immigrant shall be charged to the numerical limitation for the foreign state or dependent area of birth, unless the case falls within one of the exceptions to the general

rule of chargeability provided by INA 202(b) and paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section to prevent the separation of families or the alien is classifiable under:

(1) INA 201(b);

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(2) INA 101(a)(27) (A) or (B);
(3) Section 112 of Public Law 101-649;
(4) Section 124 of Public Law 101-649;
(5) Section 132 of Public Law 101-649;
(6) Section 134 of Public Law 101-649;
or

(7) Section 584(b)(1) as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100-202.

(b) *Exception for child.* If necessary to prevent the separation of a child from the alien parent or parents, an immigrant child, including a child born in a dependent area, may be charged to the same foreign state to which a parent is chargeable if the child is accompanying or following to join the parent, in accordance with INA 202(b)(1).

(c) *Exception for spouse.* If necessary to prevent the separation of husband and wife, an immigrant spouse, including a spouse born in a dependent area, may be charged to a foreign state to which a spouse is chargeable if accompanying or following to join the spouse, in accordance with INA 202(b)(2).

(d) *Exception for alien born in the United States.* An immigrant who was born in the United States shall be charged to the foreign state of which the immigrant is a citizen or subject. If not a citizen or subject of any country, the alien shall be charged to the foreign state of last residence as determined by the consular officer, in accordance with INA 202(b)(3).

(e) *Exception for alien born in foreign state in which neither parent was born or had residence at time of alien's birth.* An alien who was born in a foreign state, as defined in §40.1, in which neither parent was born, and in which neither parent had a residence at the time of the applicant's birth, may be charged to the foreign state of either parent as provided in INA 202(b)(4). The parents of such an alien are not considered as having acquired a residence within the meaning of INA 202(b)(4), if, at the time of the alien's birth within the foreign state, the parents were visiting temporarily or were stationed there in connection with the business or profession and under orders or instructions of an employer, principal, or superior authority foreign to such foreign state.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 49681, Oct. 1, 1991]

Subpart C—Immigrants Not Subject to Numerical Limitations of INA 201 and 202

SOURCE: 56 FR 49676, Oct. 1, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 42.21 Immediate relatives.

(a) *Entitlement to status.* An alien who is a spouse or child of a United States citizen, or a parent of a U.S. citizen at least 21 years of age, shall be classified as an immediate relative under INA 201(b) if the consular officer has received from DHS an approved Petition to Classify Status of Alien Relative for Issuance of an Immigrant Visa, filed on the alien's behalf by the U.S. citizen and approved in accordance with INA 204, and the officer is satisfied that the alien has the relationship claimed in the petition. An immediate relative shall be documented as such unless the U.S. citizen refuses to file the required petition, or unless the immediate relative is also a special immigrant under INA 101(a)(27) (A) or (B) and not subject to any numerical limitation.

(b) *Spouse of a deceased U.S. citizen.* The spouse of a deceased U.S. citizen, and each child of the spouse, will be entitled to immediate relative status after the date of the citizen's death provided the spouse or child meets the criteria of INA 201(b)(2)(A)(i) or of section 423(a)(1) of Public Law 107-56 (USA Patriot Act) and the Consular Officer has received an approved petition from the DHS which accords such status, or official notification of such approval, and the Consular Officer is satisfied that the alien meets those criteria.

(c) *Child of a U.S. citizen victim of terrorism.* The child of a U.S. citizen slain in the terrorist actions of September 11, 2001, shall retain the status of an immediate relative child (regardless of changes in age or marital status) if the child files a petition for such status within two years of the citizen's death pursuant to section 423(a)(2) of Public Law 107-56, and the consular officer has received an approved petition according such status or official notification of such approval.

[56 FR 49676, Oct. 1, 1991, as amended at 64 FR 55419, Oct. 13, 1999; 67 FR 1415, Jan. 11, 2002]

Department of State**§ 42.24****§ 42.22 Returning resident aliens.**

(a) *Requirements for returning resident status.* An alien shall be classifiable as a special immigrant under INA 101(a)(27)(A) if the consular officer is satisfied from the evidence presented that:

(1) The alien had the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence at the time of departure from the United States;

(2) The alien departed from the United States with the intention of returning and has not abandoned this intention; and

(3) The alien is returning to the United States from a temporary visit abroad and, if the stay abroad was protracted, this was caused by reasons beyond the alien's control and for which the alien was not responsible.

(b) *Documentation needed.* Unless the consular officer has reason to question the legality of the alien's previous admission for permanent residence or the alien's eligibility to receive an immigrant visa, only those records and documents required under INA 222(b) which relate to the period of residence in the United States and the period of the temporary visit abroad shall be required. If any required record or document is unobtainable, the provisions of § 42.65(d) shall apply.

(c) *Returning resident alien originally admitted under the Act of December 28, 1945.* An alien admitted into the United States under Section 1 of the Act of December 28, 1945 ("GI Brides Act") shall not be refused an immigrant visa after a temporary absence abroad solely because of a mental or physical defect or defects that existed at the time of the original admission.

[56 FR 49676, Oct. 1, 1991, as amended at 63 FR 48578, Sept. 11, 1998]

§ 42.23 Certain former U.S. citizens.

(a) *Women expatriates.* An alien woman, regardless of marital status, shall be classifiable as a special immigrant under INA 101(a)(27)(B) if the consular officer is satisfied by appropriate evidence that she was formerly a U.S. citizen and that she meets the requirements of INA 324(a).

(b) *Military expatriates.* An alien shall be classifiable as a special immigrant

under INA 101(a)(27)(B) if the consular officer is satisfied by appropriate evidence that the alien was formerly a U.S. citizen and that the alien lost citizenship under the circumstances set forth in INA 327.

§ 42.24 Adoption under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption and the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000.

(a) Except as described in paragraph (n), for purposes of this section, the definitions in 22 CFR 96.2 apply.

(b) On or after the Convention effective date, as defined in 22 CFR 96.17, a child habitually resident in a Convention country who is adopted by a United States citizen deemed to be habitually resident in the United States in accordance with applicable DHS regulations must qualify for visa status under the provisions of INA section 101(b)(1)(G) as provided in this section. Such a child shall not be accorded status under INA section 101(b)(1)(F), *provided that* a child may be accorded status under INA section 101(b)(1)(F) if Form I-600A or I-600 was filed before the Convention effective date. Although this part 42 generally applies to the issuance of immigrant visas, this section 42.24 may also provide the basis for issuance of a nonimmigrant visa to permit a Convention adoptee to travel to the United States for purposes of naturalization under INA section 322.

(c) The provisions of this section govern the operations of consular officers in processing cases involving children for whom classification is sought under INA section 101(b)(1)(G), unless the Secretary of State has personally waived any requirement of the IAA or these regulations in a particular case in the interests of justice or to prevent grave physical harm to the child, to the extent consistent with the Convention.

(d) An alien child shall be classifiable under INA section 101(b)(1)(G) only if, before the child is adopted or legal custody for the purpose of adoption is granted, a petition for the child has been received and provisionally approved by a DHS officer or, where authorized by DHS, by a consular officer, and a visa application for the child has been received and annotated in accordance with paragraph (h) of this section

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by a consular officer. No alien child shall be issued a visa pursuant to INA section 101(b)(1)(G) unless the petition and visa application are finally approved.

(e) If a petition for a child under INA section 101(b)(1)(G) is properly filed with a consular officer, the consular officer will review the petition for the purpose of determining whether it can be provisionally approved in accordance with applicable DHS requirements. If a properly completed application for waiver of inadmissibility is received by a consular officer at the same time that a petition for a child under INA section 101(b)(1)(G) is received, provisional approval cannot take place unless the waiver is approved, and therefore the consular officer, pursuant to 8 CFR 204.313(i)(3) and 8 CFR 212.7, will forward the petition and the waiver application to DHS for decisions as to approval of the waiver and provisional approval of the petition. If a petition for a child under INA section 101(b)(1)(G) is received by a DHS officer, the consular officer will conduct any reviews, determinations or investigations requested by DHS with regard to the petition and classification determination in accordance with applicable DHS procedures.

(f) A petition shall be provisionally approved by the consular officer if, in accordance with applicable DHS requirements, it appears that the child will be classifiable under INA section 101(b)(1)(G) and that the proposed adoption or grant of legal custody will be in compliance with the Convention. If the consular officer knows or has reason to believe the petition is not provisionally approvable, the consular officer shall forward it to DHS pursuant to 8 CFR 204.313(i)(3).

(g) After a petition has been provisionally approved, a completed visa application form, any supporting documents required pursuant to §42.63 and §42.65, and any required fees must be submitted to the consular officer in accordance with §42.61 for a provisional review of visa eligibility. The requirements in §§42.62, 42.64, 42.66 and 42.67 shall also be satisfied to the extent practicable.

(h) A consular officer shall provisionally determine visa eligibility based on

a review of the visa application, submitted supporting documents, and the provisionally approved petition. In so doing, the consular officer shall follow all procedures required to adjudicate the visa to the extent possible in light of the degree of compliance with §§42.62 through 42.67. If it appears, based on the available information, that the child would not be ineligible under INA section 212 or other applicable law to receive a visa, the consular officer shall so annotate the visa application. If evidence of an ineligibility is discovered during the review of the visa application, and the ineligibility was not waived in conjunction with provisional approval of the petition, the prospective adoptive parents shall be informed of the ineligibility and given an opportunity to establish that it will be overcome. If the visa application cannot be annotated as described above, the consular officer shall deny the visa in accordance with §42.81, regardless of whether the application has yet been executed in accordance with §42.67(a); provided however that, in cases in which a waiver may be available under the INA and the consular officer determines that the visa application appears otherwise approvable, the consular officer shall inform the prospective adoptive parents of the procedure for applying to DHS for a waiver. If in addition the consular officer comes to know or have reason to believe that the petition is not clearly approvable as provided in 8 CFR 204.313(i)(3), the consular officer shall forward the petition to DHS pursuant to that section.

(i) If the petition has been provisionally approved and the visa application has been annotated in accordance with subparagraph (h), the consular officer shall notify the country of origin that the steps required by Article 5 of the Convention have been taken.

(j) After the consular officer has received appropriate notification from the country of origin that the adoption or grant of legal custody has occurred and any remaining requirements established by DHS or §§42.61 through 42.67 have been fulfilled, the consular officer, if satisfied that the requirements of the IAA and the Convention have been met with respect to the adoption or grant of legal custody, shall affix to

the adoption decree or grant of legal custody a certificate so indicating. This certificate shall constitute the certification required by IAA section 301(a) and INA section 204(d)(2). For purposes of determining whether to issue a certificate, the fact that a consular officer notified the country of origin pursuant to paragraph (i) of this section that the steps required by Article 5 of the Convention had been taken and the fact that the country of origin has provided appropriate notification that the adoption or grant of legal custody has occurred shall together constitute *prima facie* evidence of compliance with the Convention and the IAA.

(k) If the consular officer is unable to issue the certificate described in paragraph (j) of this section, the consular officer shall notify the country of origin of the consular officer's decision.

(l) After the consular officer determines whether to issue the certificate described in paragraph (j) of this section, the consular officer shall finally adjudicate the petition and visa application in accordance with standard procedures.

(m) If the consular officer is unable to give final approval to the visa application or the petition, then the consular officer shall forward the petition to DHS, pursuant to § 42.43 or 8 CFR 204.313(i)(3), as applicable, for appropriate action in accordance with applicable DHS procedures, and/or refuse the visa application in accordance with § 42.81. The consular officer shall notify the country of origin that the visa has been refused.

(n) Notwithstanding paragraphs (d) through (m) of this section, an alien described in paragraph (n)(1) of this section may qualify for visa status under INA section 101(b)(1)(G)(iii) without meeting the requirements set forth in paragraphs (d) through (m) of this section.

(1) Per Section 4(b) of the Inter-country Adoption Simplification Act, Public Law 111-287 (IASA), an alien otherwise described in INA section 101(b)(1)(G)(iii) who attained the age of 18 on or after April 1, 2008 shall be deemed to meet the age requirement imposed by INA section 101(b)(1)(G)(iii)(III), provided that a petition is filed for such child in accordance with DHS requirements not later than November 30, 2012.

(2) For any alien described in paragraph (n)(1) of this section, the "competent authority" referred to in INA section 101(b)(1)(G)(i)(V)(aa) is a court or governmental agency of a foreign country of origin having jurisdiction and authority to make decisions in matters of child welfare, including adoption. If the competent authority over matters of child welfare no longer has jurisdiction or authority over the alien due to his or her age, then the passport issuing authority of the country of origin may be considered the competent authority for the purposes of INA section 101(b)(1)(G)(i)(V)(aa).

[72 FR 61305, Oct. 30, 2007, as amended at 76 FR 67363, Nov. 1, 2011; 78 FR 32990, June 3, 2013]

Subpart D—Immigrants Subject to Numerical Limitations

SOURCE: 56 FR 49676, Oct. 1, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 42.31 Family-sponsored immigrants.

(a) *Entitlement to status.* An alien shall be classifiable as a family-sponsored immigrant under INA 203(a) (1), (2), (3) or (4) if the consular officer has received from DHS a Petition to Classify Status of Alien Relative for Issuance of Immigrant Visa approved in accordance with INA 204 to accord the alien such preference status, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien has the relationship to the petitioner indicated in the petition. In the case of a petition according an alien status under INA 203(a) (1) or (3) or status as an unmarried son or daughter under INA 203(a)(2), the petitioner must be a "parent" as defined in INA 101(b)(2) and 22 CFR 40.1. In the case of a petition to accord an alien status under INA 203(a)(4) filed on or after January 1, 1977, the petitioner must be at least twenty-one years of age.

(b) *Entitlement to derivative status.* Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the child of a family-sponsored first, second, third or fourth preference immigrant or the

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spouse of a family-sponsored third or fourth preference immigrant, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

[56 FR 49676, Oct. 1, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1836, Jan. 24, 1996]

§ 42.32 Employment-based preference immigrants.

Aliens subject to the worldwide level specified in section 201(d) for employment-based immigrants in a fiscal year shall be allotted visas as indicated below.

(a) *First preference—Priority workers*—(1) *Entitlement to status.* An alien shall be classifiable as an employment-based first preference immigrant under INA 203(b)(1) if the consular office has received from DHS a Petition for Immigrant Worker approved in accordance with INA 204 to accord the alien such Preference status, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within one of the classes described in INA 203(b)(1).

(2) *Entitlement to derivative status.* Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the child or spouse of an employment-based first preference immigrant, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(b) *Second preference—Professionals with advanced degrees or persons of exceptional ability*—(1) *Entitlement to status.* An alien shall be classifiable as an employment-based second preference immigrant under INA 203(b)(2) if the consular officer has received from DHS a Petition for Immigrant Worker approved in accordance with INA 204 to accord the alien such preference status, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within one of the classes described in INA 203(b)(2).

(2) *Entitlement to derivative status.* Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the child or

spouse of an employment-based second preference immigrant, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(c) *Third preference—Skilled workers, professionals, other workers*—(1) *Entitlement to status.* An alien shall be classifiable as an employment-based third preference immigrant under INA 203(b)(3) if the consular officer has received from DHS a Petition for Immigrant Worker approved in accordance with INA 204 to accord the alien such preference status, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within one of the classes described in INA 203(b)(3).

(2) *Entitlement to derivative status.* Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the child or spouse of an employment-based third preference immigrant, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(d) *Fourth preference—Special immigrants*—(1) *Religious workers*—(i) *Classification based on qualifications under INA 101(A)(27)(C).* An alien shall be classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant described in INA 101(a)(27)(C) if:

(A) The consular officer has received a petition approved by DHS to accord such classification, or an official notification of such approval; and

(B) The consular officer is satisfied from the evidence presented that the alien qualifies under that section; or

(C) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of a religious worker so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(ii) *Timeliness of application.* An immigrant visa issued under INA 203(b)(4) to an alien described in INA 101(a)(27)(C), other than a minister of religion, who qualifies as a “religious worker” as defined in 8 CFR 204.5, shall bear the usual validity except that in no case

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shall it be valid later than September 30, 2003.

(2) *Certain U.S. Government employees*—(i) *General*. (A) An alien is classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant described in INA 101(a)(27)(D) if a petition to accord such status has been approved by the Secretary of State. An alien may file such a petition only after, but within one year of, notification from the Department that the Secretary of State has approved a recommendation from the Principal Officer that special immigrant status be accorded the alien in exceptional circumstances and has found it in the national interest so to do.

(B) An alien may qualify as a special immigrant under INA 101(a)(27)(D) on the basis of employment abroad with more than one agency of the U.S. Government provided the total amount of full-time service with the U.S. Government is 15 years or more.

(C) Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the spouse or child of an alien classified under INA 203(b)(4), if not entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(ii) *Special immigrant status for certain aliens employed at the United States mission in Hong Kong*. (A) An alien employed at the United States Consulate General in Hong Kong under the authority of the Chief of Mission or an alien employed pursuant to section 5913 of title 5 of the United States Code is eligible for classification under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant described in INA 101(a)(27)(D) provided:

(1) The alien has performed faithfully for a total of three years or more;

(2) The alien is a member of the immediate family of an employee entitled to such special immigrant status; and

(3) The welfare of the alien or the family member is subject to clear threat due directly to the employee's employment with the United States Government or under a United States Government official; and

(4) Subsequent to the Secretary's approval of the Principal Officer's recommendation and finding it in the national interest to do so, but within one

year thereof, the alien has filed a petition for status under INA 203(b)(4) which the Secretary has approved.

(B) An alien desiring to benefit from this provision must seek such status not later than January 1, 2002.

(C) For purposes of § 42.32(d)(2)(ii)(A), the term *member of the immediate family* means the definition (as of November 29, 1990) in Volume 6 of the Foreign Affairs Manual, section 117k, of a relative who has been living with the employee in the same household.

(iii) *Priority date*. The priority date of an alien seeking status under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant described in INA 101(a)(27)(D) shall be the date on which the petition to accord such classification is filed. The filing date of the petition is that on which a properly completed form and the required fee are accepted by a Foreign Service post.

(iv) *Petition validity*. Except as noted in this paragraph, the validity of a petition approved for classification under INA 203(b)(4) shall be six months beyond the date of the Secretary of State's approval thereof or the availability of a visa number, whichever is later. In cases described in § 42.32(d)(2)(ii), the validity of the petition shall not in any case extend beyond January 1, 2002.

(v) *Extension of petition validity*. If the principal officer of a post concludes that circumstances in a particular case are such that an extension of the validity of the Secretary's approval of special immigrant status or of the petition would be in the national interest, the principal officer shall recommend to the Secretary of State that such validity be extended for not more than one additional year.

(vi) *Fees*. The Secretary of State shall establish a fee for the filing of a petition to accord status under INA 203(b)(4) which shall be collected following notification that the Secretary has approved status as a special immigrant under INA 101(a)(27)(D) for the alien.

(vii) *Delegation of authority to approve petitions*. The authority to approve petitions to accord status under INA 203(b)(4) to an alien described in INA 101(a)(27)(D) is hereby delegated to the

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chief consular officer at the post of recommendation or, in the absence of the consular officer, to any alternate approving officer designated by the principal officer. Such authority may not be exercised until the Foreign Service post has received formal notification of the Secretary's approval of special immigrant status for the petitioning alien.

(3) *Panama Canal employees*—(i) *Entitlement to status*. An alien who is subject to the numerical limitations specified in section 3201(c) of the Panama Canal Act of 1979, Public Law 96-70, is classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant described in INA 101(a)(27) (E), (F) or (G) if the consular officer has received a petition approved by DHS to accord such classification, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within one of the classes described in INA 101(a)(27) (E), (F), or (G).

(ii) *Entitlement to derivative status*. Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the spouse or child of any alien classified under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant qualified under this section, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(4) *Spouse and children of certain foreign medical graduates*. The accompanying spouse and children of a graduate of a foreign medical school or of a person qualified to practice medicine in a foreign state who has adjusted status as a special immigrant under the provisions of INA 101(a)(27)(H) are classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as special immigrants defined in INA 101(a)(27)(H) if the consular officer has received an approved petition from DHS which accords such status and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within the class described in INA 101(a)(27)(H).

(5) *Certain international organization and NATO civilian employees*—(i) *Entitlement to status*. An alien is classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant defined in INA 101(a)(27)(I) or (L) if the consular officer has received a petition approved by the DHS to accord

such classification, or official notification of such approval, and the consular officer is satisfied from the evidence presented that the alien is within one of the classes described therein.

(ii) *Timeliness of application*. An alien accorded status under INA 203(b)(4) because of qualification under INA 101(a)(27)(I) or (L) must appear for the final visa interview and issuance of the immigrant visa within six months of establishing entitlement to status.

(6) *Certain juvenile court dependents*. An alien shall be classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant defined in INA 101(a)(27)(J) if the consular officer has received from DHS an approved petition to accord such status, or an official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied the alien is within the class described in that section.

(7) *Certain members of the United States Armed Forces recruited abroad*—(i) *Entitlement to status*. An alien is classifiable under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant described in INA 101(a)(27)(K) if the consular office has received a petition approved by the DHS to accord such classification, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied from the evidence presented that the alien is within the class described in INA 101(a)(27)(K).

(ii) *Entitlement to derivative status*. Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the spouse or child of any alien classified under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant qualified under this section, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(8) *Certain United States international broadcasting employees*—(i) *Entitlement to status*. An alien is classifiable as a special immigrant under INA 203(b)(4) as described in INA 101(a)(27)(M), if the consular office has received a petition approved by the DHS to accord such classification, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied from the evidence presented that the alien is within the class described in INA 101(a)(27)(M).

(ii) *Entitlement to derivative status.* Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the spouse or child of any alien classified under INA 203(b)(4) as a special immigrant qualified under this section, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

(9) *Certain victims of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks*—(i) *Entitlement to status.* An alien shall be classifiable as a special immigrant under INA 203(b)(4) as specified in section 421 of Public Law 107-56, if:

(A) The consular officer has received a petition approved by the DHS to accord such classification, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied from the evidence presented that the alien is entitled to that classification; or

(B) The alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified in paragraph (d)(9)(i) of this section and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(ii) *Ineligibility exemption.* An alien classified under paragraph (d)(9)(i) of this section shall not be subject to the provisions of INA 212(a)(4).

(iii) *Priority date.* Aliens entitled to status under paragraph (d)(9)(i) of this section shall be assigned a priority date as of the date the petition was filed under INA 204 for classification under section INA 203(b)(4) and visas shall be issued in the chronological order of application submission. However, in the event that the annual limit for immigrants under INA 203 is reached, the alien may retain the earlier priority date of the petition that was revoked.

(e) *Fifth preference—Employment-creation immigrants*—(1) *Entitlement to status.* An alien shall be classifiable as a fifth preference employment-creation immigrant if the consular officer has received from DHS an approved petition to accord such status, or official notification of such an approval, and the consular officer is satisfied that the alien is within the class described in INA 203(b)(5).

(2) *Entitlement to derivative status.* Pursuant to INA 203(d), and whether or not named in the petition, the spouse or child of an employment-based fifth preference immigrant, if not otherwise entitled to an immigrant status and the immediate issuance of a visa, is entitled to a derivative status corresponding to the classification and priority date of the beneficiary of the petition.

[56 FR 49676, Oct. 1, 1991, as amended at 56 FR 51172, Oct. 10, 1991; 56 FR 55077, Oct. 24, 1991; 60 FR 35839, July 12, 1995; 63 FR 4394, Jan. 29, 1998; 63 FR 68393, Dec. 11, 1998; 65 FR 80745, Dec. 22, 2000; 66 FR 15350, Mar. 19, 2001; 68 FR 24639, May 8, 2003]

§ 42.33 Diversity immigrants.

(a) *General*—(1) *Eligibility to compete for consideration under section 203(c).* An alien will be eligible to compete for consideration for visa issuance under INA 203(c) during a fiscal year only if he or she is a native of a low-admission foreign state, as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security pursuant to INA 203(c)(1)(E), with respect to the fiscal year in question; and if he or she has at least a high school education or its equivalent or, within the five years preceding the date of application for a visa, has two years of work experience in an occupation requiring at least two years training or experience. The eligibility for a visa under INA 203(c) ceases at the end of the fiscal year in question. Under no circumstances may a consular officer issue a visa or other documentation to an alien after the end of the fiscal year during which an alien possesses diversity visa eligibility.

(2) *Definition of high school education or its equivalent.* For the purposes of this section, the phrase high school education or its equivalent means the successful completion of a twelve-year course of elementary and secondary education in the United States or successful completion in another country of a formal course of elementary and secondary education comparable to completion of twelve years' elementary and secondary education in the United States.

(3) *Determinations of work experience.* For all cases registered for the 2003 Diversity Visa Program and Diversity

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Visa Programs occurring in subsequent fiscal years, consular officers must use the Department of Labor's O*Net On Line to determine qualifying work experience.

(4) *Limitation on number of petitions per year.* No more than one petition may be submitted by or on behalf of, any alien for consideration during any single fiscal year. If two or more petitions for any single fiscal year are submitted by, or on behalf of, any alien, all such petitions will be void pursuant to INA 204(a)(1)(I)(i) and the alien by or for whom the petition has been submitted will not be eligible for consideration for diversity visa issuance during the fiscal year in question.

(5) *Northern Ireland.* For purposes of determining eligibility to file a petition for consideration under INA 203(c) for a fiscal year, the districts comprising that portion of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, known as "Northern Ireland", will be treated as a separate foreign state. The districts comprising "Northern Ireland" are Antrim, Ards, Armagh, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Banbridge, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Castlereagh, Coleraine, Cookstown, Craigavon, Down, Dungannon, Fermanagh, Larne, Limavady, Lisburn, Londonderry, Magherafelt, Moyle, Newry and Mourne, Newtownabbey, North Down, Omagh, and Strabane.

(b) *Petition requirement.* An alien claiming to be entitled to compete for consideration under INA 203(c) must file a petition with the Department of State for such consideration. At the alien petitioner's request, another person may file a petition on behalf of the alien. The petition will consist of an electronic entry form that the alien petitioner or a person acting on the behalf of the alien petitioner must complete on-line and submit to the Department of State via a Web site established by the Department of State for the purpose of receiving such petitions. The Department will specify the address of the Web site prior to the commencement of the 30-day or greater period described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section using the notice procedure prescribed in that paragraph.

(1) *Information to be provided in the petition.* The website will include the

electronic entry form mentioned in paragraph (b) of this section. The entry form will require the person completing the form to provide the following information, typed in the Roman alphabet, regarding the alien petitioner:

- (i) The petitioner's full name;
- (ii) The petitioner's date and place of birth (including city and country, province or other political subdivision of the country);
- (iii) The petitioner's gender;
- (iv) The country of which the petitioner claims to be a native, if other than the country of birth;
- (v) The name[s], date[s] and place[s] of birth and gender of the petitioner's spouse and child[ren], if any, (including legally adopted and step-children), regardless of whether or not they are living with the petitioner or intend to accompany or follow to join the petitioner should the petitioner immigrate to the United States pursuant to INA 203(c), but excluding a spouse or a child[ren] who is already a U.S. citizen or U.S. lawful permanent resident;
- (vi) A current mailing address for the petitioner;

(vii) The location of the consular office nearest to the petitioner's current residence or, if in the United States, nearest to the petitioner's last foreign residence prior to entry into the United States;

(2) *Requirements for photographs.* The electronic entry form will also require inclusion of a recent photograph of the petitioner and of his or her spouse and all unmarried children under the age of 21 years. The photographs must meet the following specifications:

(i) A digital image of the applicant from either a digital camera source or a scanned photograph via scanner. If scanned, the original photographic print must have been 2" by 2" (50mm x 50mm). Scanner hardware and digital image resolution requirements will be further specified in the public notice described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section.

(ii) The image must be in the Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) File Interchange Format (JFIF) format.

(iii) The image must be in color.

(iv) The person being photographed must be directly facing the camera with the head neither tilted up, down, or to the side. The head must cover about 50% of the area of the photograph.

(v) The photograph must be taken with the person in front of a neutral, light-colored background. Photos taken with very dark or patterned, busy backgrounds will not be accepted.

(vi) The person's face must be in focus.

(vii) The person in the photograph must not wear sunglasses or other paraphernalia that detracts from the face.

(viii) A photograph with the person wearing a head covering or a hat is only acceptable if the covering or hat is worn specifically due to that person's religious beliefs, and even then, the hat or covering may not obscure any portion of the face. A photograph of a person wearing tribal, military, airline or other headgear not specifically religious in nature will not be accepted.

(3) *Submission of petition.* A petition for consideration for visa issuance under INA 203(c) must be submitted to the Department of State by electronic entry to an Internet website designated by the Department for that purpose. No fee will be collected at the time of submission of a petition, but a processing fee may be collected at a later date, as provided in paragraph (i) of this section. The Department will establish a period of not less than thirty days during each fiscal year within which aliens may submit petitions for approval of eligibility to apply for visa issuance during the following fiscal year. Each fiscal year the Department will give timely notice of both the website address and the exact dates of the petition submission period, as well as other pertinent information, through publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER and such other methods as will ensure the widest possible dissemination of the information, both abroad and within the United States.

(c) *Processing of petitions.* Entries received during the petition submission period established for the fiscal year in question and meeting all of the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section will be assigned a number in a sep-

arate numerical sequence established for each regional area specified in INA 203(c)(1)(F). Upon completion of the numbering of all petitions, all numbers assigned for each region will be separately rank-ordered at random by a computer using standard computer software for that purpose. The Department will then select in the rank orders determined by the computer program a quantity of petitions for each region estimated to be sufficient to ensure, to the extent possible, usage of all immigrant visas authorized under INA 203(c) for the fiscal year in question. The Department will consider petitions selected in this manner to have been approved for the purposes of this section.

(d) *Validity of approved petitions.* A petition approved pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section will be valid for a period not to exceed Midnight of the last day of the fiscal year for which the petition was approved. At that time, the Department of State will consider approval of the petition to cease to be valid pursuant to INA 204(a)(1)(I)(ii)(II), which prohibits issuance of visas based upon petitions submitted and approved for a fiscal year after the last day of that fiscal year.

(e) *Order of consideration.* Consideration for visa issuance to aliens whose petitions have been approved pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section will be in the regional rank orders established pursuant to that paragraph.

(f) *Allocation of visa numbers.* To the extent possible, diversity immigrant visa numbers will be allocated in accordance with INA 203(c)(1)(E) and will be allotted only during the fiscal year for which a petition to accord diversity immigrant status was submitted and approved. Under no circumstances will immigrant visa numbers be allotted after midnight of the last day of the fiscal year for which the petition was submitted and approved.

(g) *Further processing.* The Department will inform applicants whose petitions have been approved pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section of the steps necessary to meet the requirements of INA 222(b) in order to apply formally for an immigrant visa.

(h) *Maintenance of certain information.* (1) The Department will compile and

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maintain the following information concerning petitioners to whom immigrant visas are issued under INA 203(c):

- (i) Age;
- (ii) Country of birth;
- (iii) Marital status;
- (iv) Sex;
- (v) Level of education; and
- (vi) Occupation and level of occupational qualification.

(2) The Department will not maintain the names of visa recipients in connection with this information and the information will be compiled and maintained in such form that the identity of visa recipients cannot be determined therefrom.

(i) *Diversity Visa Lottery fee.* Consular officers shall collect, or ensure the collection of, the Diversity Visa Lottery fee from those persons who apply for a diversity immigrant visa, described in INA 203(c), after being selected by the diversity visa lottery program. The Diversity Visa Lottery fee, as prescribed by the Secretary of State, is set forth in the Schedule of Fees, 22 CFR 22.1.

[68 FR 49355, Aug. 18, 2003, as amended at 73 FR 7670, Feb. 11, 2008; 77 FR 18914, Mar. 29, 2012]

Subpart E—Petitions

§ 42.41 Effect of approved petition.

Consular officers are authorized to grant to an alien the immediate relative or preference status accorded in a petition approved in the alien's behalf upon receipt of the approved petition or official notification of its approval. The status shall be granted for the period authorized by law or regulation. The approval of a petition does not relieve the alien of the burden of establishing to the satisfaction of the consular officer that the alien is eligible in all respects to receive a visa.

[56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991]

§ 42.42 Petitions for immediate relative or preference status.

Petition for immediate relative or preference status. The consular officer may not issue a visa to an alien as an immediate relative entitled to status under 201(b), a family-sponsored immigrant entitled to preference status under 203(a)(1)–(4), or an employment-based

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preference immigrant entitled to status under INA 203(b)(1)–(5), unless the officer has received a petition filed and approved in accordance with INA 204 or official notification of such filing and approval.

[56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991]

§ 42.43 Suspension or termination of action in petition cases.

(a) *Suspension of action.* The consular officer shall suspend action in a petition case and return the petition, with a report of the facts, for reconsideration by DHS if the petitioner requests suspension of action, or if the officer knows or has reason to believe that approval of the petition was obtained by fraud, misrepresentation, or other unlawful means, or that the beneficiary is not entitled, for some other reason, to the status approved.

(b) *Termination of action.* (1) The consular officer shall terminate action in a petition case upon receipt from DHS of notice of revocation of the petition in accordance with DHS regulations.

(2) The consular officer shall terminate action in a petition case subject to the provisions of INA 203(g) in accordance with the provisions of § 42.83.

[56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991]

Subpart F—Numerical Controls and Priority Dates

SOURCE: 56 FR 51174, Oct. 10, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 42.51 Department control of numerical limitations.

(a) *Centralized control.* Centralized control of the numerical limitations on immigration specified in INA 201, 202, and 203 is established in the Department. The Department shall limit the number of immigrant visas that may be issued and the number of adjustments of status that may be granted to aliens subject to these numerical limitations to a number:

(1) Not to exceed 27 percent of the world-wide total made available under INA 203 (a), (b) and (c) in any of the first three quarters of any fiscal year; and

(2) Not to exceed, in any month of a fiscal year, 10% of the world-wide total

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made available under INA 203 (a), (b) and (c) plus any balance remaining from authorizations for preceding months in the same fiscal year.

(b) *Allocation of numbers.* Within the foregoing limitations, the Department shall allocate immigrant visa numbers for use in connection with the issuance of immigrant visas and adjustments based on the chronological order of the priority dates of visa applicants classified under INA 203 (a) and (b) reported by consular officers pursuant to § 42.55(b) and of applicants for adjustment of status as reported by officers of the DHS, taking into account the requirements of INA 202(e) in such allocations. In the case of applicants under INA 203(c), visa numbers shall be allocated within the limitation for each specified geographical region in the random order determined in accordance with sec. 42.33(c) of this part.

(c) *Recaptured visa numbers.* An immigrant visa number shall be returned to the Department for reallocation within the fiscal year in which the visa was issued when:

- (1) An immigrant having an immigrant visa is excluded from the United States and deported;
- (2) An immigrant does not apply for admission to the United States before the expiration of the validity of the visa;
- (3) An alien having a preference immigrant visa is found not to be a preference immigrant; or
- (4) An immigrant visa is revoked pursuant to § 42.82.

[56 FR 51174, Oct. 10, 1991, as amended at 59 FR 15302, Mar. 31, 1994; 63 FR 48578, Sept. 11, 1998]

§ 42.52 Post records of visa applications.

(a) *Waiting list.* Records of individual visa applicants entitled to an immigrant classification and their priority dates shall be maintained at posts at which immigrant visas are issued. These records shall indicate the chronological and preferential order in which consideration may be given to immigrant visa applications within the several immigrant classifications subject to the numerical limitations specified in INA 201, 202, and 203. Similar records shall be kept for the classes

specified in INA 201(b)(2) and 101(a)(27) (A) and (B) which are not subject to numerical limitations. The records which pertain to applicants subject to numerical limitations constitute "waiting lists" within the meaning of INA 203(e)(3) as redesignated by the Immigration Act of 1990.

(b) *Entitlement to immigrant classification.* An alien shall be entitled to immigrant classification if the alien:

- (1) Is the beneficiary of an approved petition according immediate relative or preference status;
- (2) Has satisfied the consular officer that the alien is entitled to special immigrant status under INA(101)(a)(27) (A) or (B);
- (3) Is entitled to status as a Vietnam Amerasian under section 584(b)(1) of section 101(e) of Public Law 100-202 as amended by Public Law 101-167 and re-amended by Public Law 101-513; or
- (4) Beginning in FY-95, is entitled to status as a diversity immigrant under INA 203(c).

(c) *Record made when entitlement to immigrant classification is established.* (1) A record that an alien is entitled to an immigrant visa classification shall be made whenever the consular officer is satisfied—or receives evidence—that the alien is within the criteria set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) A separate record shall be made of family members entitled to derivative immigrant status whenever the consular officer determines that a spouse or child is chargeable to a different foreign state or other numerical limitation than the principal alien. The provisions of INA 202(b) are to be applied as appropriate when either the spouse or parent is reached on the waiting list.

(3) A separate record shall be made of a spouse or child entitled to derivative immigrant status whenever the consular officer determines that the principal alien intends to precede the family.

[56 FR 51174, Oct. 9, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1836, Jan. 24, 1996; 78 FR 31399, May 24, 2013]

§ 42.53 Priority date of individual applicants.

(a) *Preference applicant.* The priority date of a preference visa applicant under INA 203 (a) or (b) shall be the

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fiing date of the approved petition that accorded preference status.

(b) *Former Western Hemisphere applicant with priority date prior to January 1, 1977.* Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, an alien who, prior to January 1, 1977, was subject to the numerical limitation specified in section 21(e) of the Act of October 3, 1965, and who was registered as a Western Hemisphere immigrant with a priority date prior to January 1, 1977, shall retain that priority date as a preference immigrant upon approval of a petition according to status under INA 203 (a) or (b).

(c) *Derivative priority date for spouse or child of principal alien.* A spouse or child of a principal alien acquired prior to the principal alien's admission shall be entitled to the priority date of the principal alien, whether or not named in the immigrant visa application of the principal alien. A child born of a marriage which existed at the time of a principal alien's admission to the United States is considered to have been acquired prior to the principal alien's admission.

§ 42.54 Order of consideration.

(a) *General.* Consular officers shall request applicants to take the steps necessary to meet the requirements of INA 222(b) in order to apply formally for a visa as follows:

(1) In the chronological order of the priority dates of all applicants within each of the immigrant classifications specified in INA 203 (a) and (b); and

(2) In the random order established by the Secretary of State for each region for the fiscal year for applicants entitled to status under INA 203(c).

(b) [Reserved]

[56 FR 51174, Oct. 10, 1991, as amended at 59 FR 15302, Mar. 31, 1994; 61 FR 1836, Jan. 24, 1996; 63 FR 48578, Sept. 11, 1998]

§ 42.55 Reports on numbers and priority dates of applications on record.

(a) Consular officers shall report periodically, as the Department may direct, the number and priority dates of all applicants subject to the numerical limitations prescribed in INA 201, 202, and 203 whose immigrant visa applica-

tions have been recorded in accordance with § 42.52(c).

(b) *Documentarily qualified applicants.* Consular officers shall also report periodically, as the Department may direct, the number and priority dates of all applicants described in paragraph (a) of this section who have informed the consular office that they have obtained the documents required under INA 222(b), for whom the necessary clearance procedures have been completed.

[56 FR 51174, Oct. 10, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1836, Jan. 24, 1996]

Subpart G—Application for Immigrant Visas

§ 42.61 Place of application.

(a) *Alien to apply in consular district of residence.* Unless otherwise directed by the Department, an alien applying for an immigrant visa shall make application at the consular office having jurisdiction over the alien's place of residence; except that, unless otherwise directed by the Department, an alien physically present in an area but having no residence therein may make application at the consular office having jurisdiction over that area if the alien can establish that he or she will be able to remain in the area for the period required to process the application. Finally, a consular office may, as a matter of discretion, or shall, at the direction of the Department, accept an immigrant visa application from an alien who is neither a resident of, nor physically present in, the area designated for that office for such purpose. For the purposes of this section, an alien physically present in the United States shall be considered to be a resident of the area of his or her last residence prior to entry into the United States.

(b) *Transfer of immigrant visa cases.* (1) All documents, papers, and other evidence relating to an applicant whose case is pending or has been refused at one post may be transferred to another post at the applicant's request and risk when there is reasonable justification for the transfer and the transferring post has no reason to believe that the alien will be unable to appear at the receiving post.

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(2) Any approved petition granting immediate relative or preference status should be included among the documents when a case is transferred from one post to another.

(3) In no case may a visa number be transferred from one post to another. A visa number which cannot be used as a result of the transfer must be returned to the Department immediately.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 59 FR 39955, Aug. 4, 1994]

§ 42.62 Personal appearance and interview of applicant.

(a) *Personal appearance of applicant before consular officer.* Every alien applying for an immigrant visa, including an alien whose application is executed by another person pursuant to § 42.63(a)(2), shall be required to appear personally before a consular officer for the execution of the application or, if in Taiwan, before a designated officer of the American Institute in Taiwan, except that the personal appearance of any child under the age of 14 may be waived at the officer's discretion.

(b) *Interview by consular officer.* Every alien executing an immigrant visa application must be interviewed by a consular officer who shall determine on the basis of the applicant's representations and the visa application and other relevant documentation—

(1) The proper immigrant classification, if any, of the visa applicant, and

(2) The applicant's eligibility to receive a visa.

The officer has the authority to require that the alien answer any question deemed material to these determinations.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991]

§ 42.63 Definitions.

(a) *Application forms—(1) Application on Form DS-230 or Form DS-260 required.* Every alien applying for an immigrant visa must make application, as directed by the consular officer, on Form DS-230, Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, or on Form DS-260, Electronic Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration. This requirement may not be waived. Form DS-230 consists of parts I

and II which, together, are meant in any reference to this Form.

(2) *Application of alien under 14 or physically incapable.* The application on Form DS-230 or on Form DS-260 for an alien under 14 years of age or one physically incapable of completing an application may be executed by the alien's parent or guardian, or, if the alien has no parent or guardian, by any person having legal custody of, or a legitimate interest in, the alien.

(b) *Preparation of forms.* The consular officer shall ensure that Form DS-230 or Form DS-260 and all other forms an alien is required to submit are fully and properly completed in accordance with the applicable regulations and instructions.

(c) *Additional information as part of application.* The officer may require the submission of additional information or question the alien on any relevant matter whenever the officer believes that the information provided in Form DS-230 or Form DS-260 is inadequate to determine the alien's eligibility to receive an immigrant visa. Additional statements made by the alien become a part of the visa application. All documents required under the authority of § 42.62 are considered papers submitted with the alien's application within the meaning of INA 221(g)(1).

[75 FR 45476, Aug. 3, 2010]

§ 42.64 Passport requirements.

(a) *Passport defined.* *Passport*, as defined in INA 101(a)(30), is not limited to a national passport or to a single document. A passport may consist of two or more documents which, when considered together, fulfill the requirements of a passport, provided that documentary evidence of permission to enter a foreign country has been issued by a competent authority and clearly meets the requirements of INA 101(a)(30).

(b) *Passport validity requirements.* Except as provided in § 42.2, every applicant for an immigrant visa shall present a passport, as defined in INA 101(a)(30), that is valid for at least 60 days beyond the period of validity of the visa. The 60-day additional validity requirement does not apply to an applicant who would be excepted as provided in § 42.2 were it not for the fact that the applicant is applying in the country of

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which the applicant is a national and the possession of a passport is required for departure. Such an applicant may be issued a visa valid for 6 months or for such shorter period as will assure its expiration in unison with the passport.

(c) *A single passport including more than one person.* The passport requirement of this section may be met by the presentation of a passport including more than one person, if such inclusion is authorized under the laws or regulations of the issuing authority and if a photograph of each person 16 years of age or over is attached to the passport by the issuing authority.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 63 FR 48578, Sept. 11, 1998]

§ 42.65 Supporting documents.

(a) *Authority to require documents.* The consular officer is authorized to require documents considered necessary to establish the alien's eligibility to receive an immigrant visa. All such documents submitted and other evidence presented by the alien, including briefs submitted by attorneys or other representatives, shall be considered by the officer.

(b) *Basic documents required.* An alien applying for an immigrant visa shall be required to furnish, if obtainable: A copy of a police certificate or certificates; a certified copy of any existing prison record, military record, and record of birth; and a certified copy of all other records or documents which the consular officer considers necessary.

(c) *Definitions.* (1) *Police certificate* means a certification by the police or other appropriate authorities reporting information entered in their records relating to the alien. In the case of the country of an alien's nationality and the country of an alien's current residence (as of the time of visa application) the term "appropriate police authorities" means those of a country, area or locality in which the alien has resided for at least six months. In the case of all other countries, areas, or localities, the term "appropriate police authorities" means the authorities of any country, area, or locality in which the alien has resided for at least one

year. A consular officer may require a police certificate regardless of length of residence in any country if he or she has reason to believe that a police record exists in the country, area, or locality concerned.

(2) *Prison record* means an official document containing a report of the applicant's record of confinement and conduct in a penal or correctional institution.

(3) *Military record* means an official document containing a complete record of the applicant's service and conduct while in military service, including any convictions of crime before military tribunals as distinguished from other criminal courts. A certificate of discharge from the military forces or an enrollment book belonging to the applicant shall not be acceptable in lieu of the official military record, unless it shows the alien's complete record while in military service. The applicant may, however, be required to present for inspection such a discharge certificate or enrollment book if deemed necessary by the consular officer to establish the applicant's eligibility to receive a visa.

(4) *A certified copy of an alien's record of birth* means a certificate issued by the official custodian of birth records in the country of birth showing the date and place of birth and the parentage of the alien, based upon the original registration of birth.

(5) *Other records or documents* include any records or documents establishing the applicant's relationship to a spouse or children, if any, and any records or documents pertinent to a determination of the applicant's identity, classification, or any other matter relating to the applicant's visa eligibility.

(d) *Unobtainable documents.* (1) If the consular officer is satisfied, or the catalogue of available documents prepared by the Department indicates, that any document or record required under this section is unobtainable, the officer may permit the immigrant to submit other satisfactory evidence in lieu of such document or record. A document or other record shall be considered unobtainable if it cannot be procured without causing to the applicant or a family member actual hardship as

opposed to normal delay and inconvenience.

(2) If the consular officer determines that a supporting document, as described in paragraph (b) of this section, is in fact unobtainable, although the catalogue of available documents shows it is available, the officer shall affix to the visa application a signed statement describing in detail the reasons for considering the record or document unobtainable and for accepting the particular secondary evidence attached to the visa.

(e) *Authenticity of records and documents.* If the consular officer has reason to believe that a required record or document submitted by an applicant is not authentic or has been altered or tampered with in any material manner, the officer shall take such action as may be necessary to determine its authenticity or to ascertain the facts to which the record or document purports to relate.

(f) *Photographs.* Every alien shall furnish color photographs of the number and specifications prescribed by the Department, except that, in countries where facilities for producing color photographs are unavailable as determined by the consular officer, black and white photographs may be substituted.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 55 FR 29015, July 17, 1990; 56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991]

graph (b) of this section unless the physician has facilities to perform required serological and X-ray tests or is in a position to refer applicants to a qualified laboratory for such tests.

§ 42.67 Execution of application, registration, and fingerprinting.

(a) *Execution of visa application—(1) Application fee.* A fee is prescribed for each application for an immigrant visa. It shall be collected prior to the execution of the application and a receipt shall be issued.

(2) *Oath and signature on Form DS-230.* The applicant shall be required to read the Form DS-230, Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, when it is completed, or it shall be read to the applicant in the applicant's language, or the applicant shall otherwise be informed of its full contents. Applicants shall be asked whether they are willing to subscribe thereto. If the applicant is not willing to subscribe to the application unless changes are made in the information stated therein, the required changes shall be made. The application shall then be sworn to or affirmed and signed by or on behalf of the applicant before a consular officer, or a designated officer of the American Institute of Taiwan, who shall then sign the application over the officer's title.

(3) *Oath and signature on Form DS-260.* The applicant shall be required to read the Form DS-260, Electronic Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, when it has been completed, or it shall be read to the applicant in the applicant's language, or the applicant shall otherwise be informed of its full contents, before the applicant electronically signs and submits the application to the Department. At the time of the applicant's interview the applicant shall be asked whether they are willing to subscribe thereto to the information provided on Form DS-260. If the alien is not willing to subscribe to the application unless changes are made in the information stated therein, the required changes shall be made. The application shall then be sworn to or affirmed and signed, biometrically, by or on behalf of the applicant before

§ 42.66 Medical examination.

(a) *Medical examination required of all applicants.* Before the issuance of an immigrant visa, the consular officer shall require every alien, regardless of age, to undergo a medical examination in order to determine eligibility to receive a visa.

(b) *Examination by physician from approved panel.* The required examination shall be conducted in accordance with requirements and procedures established by the United States Public Health Service and by a physician selected by the alien from a panel of physicians approved by the consular officer.

(c) *Facilities required for panel physician.* A consular officer shall not include the name of a physician on the panel of physicians referred to in para-

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a consular officer, or a designated officer of the American Institute of Taiwan, who shall then electronically sign the application.

(b) *Registration.* The alien shall be considered to be registered for the purposes of INA 221(b) and 203(g) upon the filing of Form DS-230 or Form DS-260, when duly executed, or the transmission by the Department to the alien of a notification of the availability of an immigrant visa, whichever occurs first.

(c) *Fingerprinting.* Every applicant for an immigrant visa must furnish fingerprints prior to the execution of Form DS-230 or Form DS-260.

[75 FR 45476, Aug. 3, 2010]

§ 42.68 Informal evaluation of family members if principal applicant precedes them.

(a) *Preliminary determination of visa eligibility.* If a principal applicant proposes to precede the family to the United States, the consular officer may arrange for an informal examination of the other members of the principal applicant's family in order to determine whether there exists at that time any mental, physical, or other ground of ineligibility on their part to receive a visa.

(b) *When family member ineligible.* In the event the consular officer finds that any member of such family would be ineligible to receive an immigrant visa, the principal applicant shall be informed and required to acknowledge receipt of this information in writing.

(c) *No guarantee of future eligibility.* A determination in connection with an informal examination that an alien appears to be eligible for a visa carries no assurance that the alien will be issued an immigrant visa in the future. The principal applicant shall be so informed and required to acknowledge receipt of this information in writing. The question of visa eligibility can be determined definitively only at the time the family member applies for a visa.

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Subpart H—Issuance of Immigrant Visas

§ 42.71 Authority to issue visas; visa fees.

(a) *Authority to issue visas.* Consular officers may issue immigrant visas at designated consular offices abroad pursuant to the authority contained in INA 101(a)(16), 221(a), and 224. (Consular offices designated to issue immigrant visas are listed periodically in Visa Office Bulletins published at www.travel.state.gov by the Department of State.) A consular officer assigned to duty in the territory of a country against which the sanctions provided in INA 243(d) have been invoked must not issue an immigrant visa to an alien who is a national, citizen, subject, or resident of that country, unless the officer has been informed that the sanction has been waived by DHS in the case of an individual alien or a specified class of aliens.

(b) *Immigrant visa fees.* The Secretary of State prescribes a fee for the processing of immigrant visa applications. An individual registered for immigrant visa processing at a post designated for this purpose by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services must pay the processing fee upon being notified that a visa is expected to become available in the near future and being requested to obtain the supporting documentation needed to apply formally for a visa. A fee collected for the processing of an immigrant visa application is refundable only if the principal officer of a post or the officer in charge of a consular section determines that the application was not adjudicated as a result of action by the U. S. Government over which the alien had no control and for which the alien was not responsible, that precluded the applicant from benefiting from the processing.

[67 FR 38893, June 6, 2002]

§ 42.72 Validity of visas.

(a) *Period of validity.* With the exception indicated herein, the period of validity of an immigrant visa shall not exceed six months, beginning with the date of issuance. Any visa issued to a child lawfully adopted by a U.S. citizen and spouse while such citizen is serving

abroad in the U.S. Armed Forces, is employed abroad by the U.S. Government, or is temporarily abroad on business, however, shall be valid until such time, for a period not to exceed 3 years, as the adoptive citizen parent returns to the United States in the course of that parent's military service, U.S. Government employment, or business.

(b) *Extension of period of validity.* If the visa was originally issued for a period of validity less than the maximum authorized by paragraph (a) of this section, the consular officer may extend the validity of the visa up to but not exceeding the maximum period permitted. If an immigrant applies for an extension at a consular office other than the issuing office, the consular officer shall, unless the officer is satisfied beyond doubt that the alien is eligible for the extension, communicate with the issuing office to determine if there is any objection to an extension. In extending the period of validity, the officer shall make an appropriate notation on the visa of the new expiration date, sign the document with title indicated, and impress the seal of the office thereon.

(c) [Reserved]

(d) *Age and marital status in relation to validity of certain immigrant visas.* In accordance with § 42.64(b), the validity of a visa may not extend beyond a date sixty days prior to the expiration of the passport. The period of validity of a visa issued to an immigrant as a child shall not extend beyond the day immediately preceding the date on which the alien becomes 21 years of age. The consular officer shall warn an alien, when appropriate, that the alien will be admissible as such an immigrant only if unmarried and under 21 years of age at the time of application for admission at a U.S. port of entry. The consular officer shall also warn an alien issued a visa as a first or second preference immigrant as an unmarried son or daughter of a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States that the alien will be admissible as such an immigrant only if unmar-

ried at the time of application for admission at a U.S. port of entry.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 32323, July 16, 1991; 61 FR 1836, Jan. 24, 1996; 62 FR 27694, May 21, 1997; 64 FR 28916, May 28, 1999; 67 FR 38894, June 6, 2002; 68 FR 13628, Mar. 20, 2003]

§ 42.73 Procedure in issuing visas.

(a) *Insertion of data.* In issuing an immigrant visa, the issuing office shall insert the pertinent information in the designated blank spaces provided on Form OF-55B, Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, in accordance with the instructions contained in this section.

(1) A symbol as specified in § 42.11 shall be used to indicate the classification of the immigrant.

(2) An immigrant visa issued to an alien subject to numerical limitations shall bear a number allocated by the Department. The foreign state or dependent area limitation to which the alien is chargeable shall be entered in the space provided.

(3) No entry need be made in the space provided for foreign state or other applicable area limitation on visas issued to aliens in the classifications set forth in § 42.12(a)(1)–(7), but such visas may be numbered if a post voluntarily uses a consecutive post numbering system.

(4) The date of issuance and the date of expiration of the visa shall be inserted in the proper places on the visa and show the day, month, and year in that order, with the name of the month spelled out, as in “24 December 1986.”

(5) In the event the passport requirement has been waived under § 42.2, a notation shall be inserted in the space provided for the passport number, setting forth the authority (section and paragraph) under which the passport was waived.

(6) A signed photograph shall be attached in the space provided on Form OF-55B by the use of a legend machine, unless specific authorization has been granted by the Department to use the impression seal.

(b) *Documents comprising an immigrant visa.* An immigrant visa consists of Form OF-155B and Form DS-230, Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, properly executed, and a

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copy of each document required pursuant to §42.63.

(c) *Arrangement of visa documentation.* Form OF-155B shall be placed immediately above Form DS-230 and the supporting documents attached thereto. Any document required to be attached to the visa, if furnished to the consular officer by the alien's sponsor or other person with a request that the contents not be divulged to the visa applicant, shall be placed in an envelope and sealed with the impression seal of the consular office before being attached to the visa. If an immigrant visa is issued to an alien in possession of a United States reentry permit, valid or expired, the consular officer shall attach the permit to the immigrant visa for disposition by DHS at the port of entry. (Documents having no bearing on the alien's qualifications or eligibility to receive a visa may be returned to the alien or to the person who furnished them.)

(d) *Signature, seal, and issuance of visa.* The consular officer shall sign the visa (Form OF-155B) and impress the seal of the office on it so as to partially cover the photograph and the signature. The immigrant visa shall then be issued by delivery to the immigrant or the immigrant's authorized agent or representative.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991; 71 FR 34522, June 15, 2006]

§ 42.74 Issuance of new or replacement visas.

(a) *New immigrant visa for a special immigrant under INA 101(a)(27)(A) and (B).*

(1) The consular officer may issue a new immigrant visa to a qualified alien entitled to status under INA 101(a)(27)(A) or (B), who establishes:

(i) That the original visa has been lost, mutilated or has expired, or

(ii) The alien will be unable to use it during the period of its validity;

(2) Provided:

(i) The alien pays anew the application processing fees prescribed in the Schedule of Fees; and

(ii) The consular officer ascertains whether the original issuing office knows of any reason why a new visa should not be issued.

(b) *Replacement immigrant visa for an immediate relative or for an alien subject to numerical limitation.* (1) A consular officer may issue a replacement visa under the original number of a qualified alien entitled to status as an immediate relative (INA 201(b)(2)), a family or employment preference immigrant (INA 203(a) or (b)), or a diversity immigrant (INA 203(c)), if—

(i) The alien is unable to use the visa during the period of its validity due to reasons beyond the alien's control;

(ii) The visa is issued during the same fiscal year in which the original visa was issued, or in the following year, in the case of an immediate relative only, if the original number had been reported as recaptured;

(iii) The number has not been returned to the Department as a "recaptured visa number" in the case of a preference or diversity immigrant;

(iv) The alien pays anew the application and processing fees prescribed in the Schedule of Fees; and

(v) The consular officer ascertains whether the original issuing office knows of any reason why a new visa should not be issued.

(2) In issuing a visa under this paragraph (b), the consular officer shall insert the word "REPLACE" on Form OF-155B, Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, before the word "IMMIGRANT" in the title of the visa.

(c) *Duplicate visas issued within the validity period of the original visa.* If the validity of a visa previously issued has not yet terminated and the original visa has been lost or mutilated, a duplicate visa may be issued containing all of the information appearing on the original visa, including the original issuance and expiration dates. The applicant shall execute a new application and provide copies of the supporting documents submitted in support of the original application. The alien must pay anew the application processing fees prescribed in the Schedule of Fees. In issuing a visa under this paragraph, the consular officer shall insert the word "DUPLICATE" on Form OF-155B

before the word "IMMIGRANT" in the title of the visa.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991; 61 FR 1836, Jan. 24, 1996; 63 FR 4393, Jan. 29, 1998; 67 FR 1416, Jan. 11, 2002; 67 FR 38894, June 6, 2002; 71 FR 34522, June 15, 2006]

Subpart I—Refusal, Revocation, and Termination of Registration

§ 42.81 Procedure in refusing individual visas.

(a) *Issuance or refusal mandatory.* When a visa application has been properly completed and executed before a consular officer in accordance with the provisions of INA and the implementing regulations, the consular officer must either issue or refuse the visa under INA 212(a) or INA 221(g) or other applicable law. Every refusal must be in conformance with the provisions of 22 CFR 40.6.

(b) *Refusal procedure.* A consular officer may not refuse an immigrant visa until either Form DS-230, Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, or Form DS-260, Electronic Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, has been executed by the applicant. When an immigrant visa is refused, an appropriate record shall be made in duplicate on a form prescribed by the Department. The form shall be signed and dated by the consular officer. The consular officer shall inform the applicant of the provision of law or implementing regulation on which the refusal is based and of any statutory provision of law or implementing regulation under which administrative relief is available. Each document related to the refusal shall then be attached to Form DS-230 for retention in the refusal files. Alternatively, each document related to the refusal shall be electronically scanned and electronically attached to Form DS-260 for retention in the electronic refusal files. Any documents not related to the refusal shall be returned to the applicant. The original copy of a document that was scanned and attached to the DS-260 for the refusal file shall be returned to the applicant. If the ground of ineligibility may be overcome by the presentation of additional evidence and the applicant indicates an intention to

submit such evidence, all documents may, with the consent of the alien, be retained in the consular files for a period not to exceed one year. If the refusal as not been overcome within one year, any documents not relating to the refusal shall be removed from the file and returned to the alien.

(c) *Review of refusal at consular office.* If the grounds of ineligibility upon which the visa was refused cannot be overcome by the presentation of additional evidence, the principal consular officer at a post, or a specifically designated alternate, shall review the case without delay, record the review decision, and sign and date the prescribed form. If the grounds of ineligibility may be overcome by the presentation of additional evidence and the applicant indicates the intention to submit such evidence, a review of the refusal may be deferred. If the principal consular officer or alternate does not concur in the refusal, that officer shall either (1) refer the case to the Department for an advisory opinion, or (2) assume responsibility for final action on the case.

(d) *Review of refusal by Department.* The Department may request a consular officer in an individual case or in specified classes of cases to submit a report if an immigrant visa has been refused. The Department will review each report and may furnish an advisory opinion to the consular officer for assistance in considering the case further. If the officer believes that action contrary to an advisory opinion should be taken, the case shall be resubmitted to the Department with an explanation of the proposed action. Rulings of the Department concerning an interpretation of law, as distinguished from an application of the law to the facts, are binding upon consular officers.

(e) *Reconsideration of refusal.* If a visa is refused, and the applicant within one year from the date of refusal adduces further evidence tending to overcome the ground of ineligibility on which the refusal was based, the case shall be reconsidered. In such circumstance, an

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additional application fee shall not be required.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 66 FR 10364, Feb. 15, 2001; 71 FR 34522, June 15, 2006; 75 FR 45477, Aug. 3, 2010]

§ 42.82 Revocation of visas.

(a) *Grounds for revocation by consular officers.* A consular officer, the Secretary, or any Department official to whom the Secretary has delegated this authority is authorized to revoke an immigrant visa at any time, in his or her discretion.

(b) *Provisional revocation.* A consular officer, the Secretary, or any Department official to whom the Secretary has delegated this authority may provisionally revoke an immigrant visa while considering information related to whether a visa holder is eligible for the visa. Provisional revocation shall have the same force and effect as any other visa revocation under INA 221(i).

(c) *Notice of revocation.* Unless otherwise instructed by the Department, a consular officer shall, if practicable, notify the alien to whom the visa was issued that the visa was revoked or provisionally revoked. Regardless of delivery of such notice, once the revocation has been entered into the Department's Consular Lookout and Support System (CLASS), the visa is no longer to be considered valid for travel to the United States. The date of the revocation shall be indicated in CLASS and on any notice sent to the alien to whom the visa was issued.

(d) *Procedure for physically canceling visas.* An immigrant visa that is revoked shall be canceled by writing or stamping the word "REVOKE" plainly across the face of the visa, if the visa is available to the consular officer. The failure or inability to physically cancel the visa does not affect the validity of the revocation.

[76 FR 23479, Apr. 27, 2011]

§ 42.83 Termination of registration.

(a) *Termination following failure of applicant to apply for visa.* In accordance with INA 203(g), an alien's registration for an immigrant visa shall be terminated if, within one year after transmission of a notification of the avail-

ability of an immigrant visa, the applicant fails to apply for an immigrant visa.

(b) *Termination following visa refusal.* An alien's registration for an immigrant visa shall be terminated if, within one year following the refusal of the immigrant visa application under INA 221(g), the alien has failed to present to a consular officer evidence purporting to overcome the basis for refusal.

(c) *Notice of termination.* Upon the termination of registration under paragraph (a) of this section, the National Visa Center (NVC) shall notify the alien of the termination. The NVC shall also inform the alien of the right to have the registration reinstated if the alien, before the end of the second year after the missed appointment date if paragraph (a) applies, establishes to the satisfaction of the consular officer at the post where the alien is registered that the failure to apply for an immigrant visa was due to circumstances beyond the alien's control. If paragraph (b) applies, the consular officer at the post where the alien is registered shall, upon the termination of registration, notify the alien of the termination and the right to have the registration reinstated if the alien, before the end of the second year after the INA 221(g) refusal, establishes to the satisfaction of the consular officer at such post that the failure to present evidence purporting to overcome the ineligibility under INA 221(g) was due to circumstances beyond the alien's control.

(d) *Reinstatement of registration.* If the consular officer is satisfied that an alien, as provided for in paragraph (c) of this section, has established that failure to apply as scheduled for an immigrant visa or to present evidence purporting to overcome ineligibility under INA 221(g) was due to circumstances beyond the alien's control, the consular officer shall reinstate the alien's registration for an immigrant visa. Any petition approved under INA 204(b) which had been automatically revoked as a result of the termination of registration shall be considered to be automatically reinstated if the registration is reinstated.

(e) *Interpretation of "circumstances beyond alien's control".* For the purpose of

this section, the term "circumstances beyond the alien's control" includes, but is not limited to, an illness or other physical disability preventing the alien from traveling, a refusal by the authorities of the country of an alien's residence to grant the alien permission to depart as an immigrant, and foreign military service.

[52 FR 42613, Nov. 5, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 49682, Oct. 1, 1991; 73 FR 11028, Feb. 29, 2008]

PARTS 43-45 [RESERVED]

PART 46—CONTROL OF ALIENS DEPARTING FROM THE UNITED STATES

Sec.

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46.7 Instructions from the Administrator required in certain cases.

AUTHORITY: Secs. 104, 215, 66 Stat. 174, 190; 8 U.S.C. 1104, 1185.

§ 46.1 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part:

(a) The term *alien* means any person who is not a citizen or national of the United States.

(b) The term *Commissioner* means the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

(c) The term *regional commissioner* means an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service duly appointed or designated as a regional commissioner, or an officer who has been designated to act as a regional commissioner.

(d) The term *district director* means an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service duly appointed or designated as a district director, or an

officer who has been designated to act as a district director.

(e) The term *United States* means the several States, the District of Columbia, the Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Swains Island, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and all other territory and waters, continental and insular, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(f) The term *continental United States* means the District of Columbia and the several States, except Alaska and Hawaii.

(g) The term *geographical part of the United States* means (1) the continental United States, (2) Alaska, (3) Hawaii, (4) Puerto Rico, (5) the Virgin Islands, (6) Guam, (7) the Canal Zone, (8) American Samoa, (9) Swains Island, or (10) the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

(h) The term *depart from the United States* means depart by land, water, or air (1) from the United States for any foreign place, or (2) from one geographical part of the United States for a separate geographical part of the United States: *Provided*, That a trip or journey upon a public ferry, passenger vessel sailing coastwise on a fixed schedule, excursion vessel, or aircraft, having both termini in the continental United States or in any one of the other geographical parts of the United States and not touching any territory or waters under the jurisdiction or control of a foreign power, shall not be deemed a departure from the United States.

(i) The term *departure-control officer* means any immigration officer as defined in the regulations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service who is designated to supervise the departure of aliens, or any officer or employee of the United States designated by the Governor of the Canal Zone, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or the governor of an outlying possession of the United States, to supervise the departure of aliens.

(j) The term *port of departure* means a port in the continental United States, Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands, designated as a port of entry by the Attorney General or by

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the Commissioner, or in exceptional circumstances such other place as the departure-control officer may, in his discretion, designate in an individual case, or a port in American Samoa, Swains Island, the Canal Zone, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, designated as a port of entry by the chief executive officer thereof.

(k) The term *special inquiry officer* shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in section 101(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

[22 FR 10827, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 25 FR 7022, July 23, 1960]

§ 46.2 Authority of departure-control officer to prevent alien's departure from the United States.

(a) No alien shall depart, or attempt to depart, from the United States if his departure would be prejudicial to the interests of the United States under the provisions of § 46.3. Any departure-control officer who knows or has reason to believe that the case of an alien in the United States comes within the provisions of § 46.3 shall temporarily prevent the departure of such alien from the United States and shall serve him with a written temporary order directing him not to depart, or attempt to depart, from the United States until notified of the revocation of the order.

(b) The written order temporarily preventing an alien, other than an enemy alien, from departing from the United States shall become final 15 days after the date of service thereof upon the alien, unless prior thereto the alien requests a hearing as hereinafter provided. At such time as the alien is served with an order temporarily preventing his departure from the United States, he shall be notified in writing concerning the provisions of this paragraph, and shall be advised of his right to request a hearing if entitled thereto under § 46.4. In the case of an enemy alien, the written order preventing departure shall become final on the date of its service upon the alien.

(c) Any alien who seeks to depart from the United States may be required, in the discretion of the departure-control officer, to be examined under oath and to submit for official inspection all documents, articles, and other property in his possession which

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are being removed from the United States upon, or in connection with, the alien's departure. The departure-control officer may permit such other persons, including officials of the Department of State and interpreters, to participate in such examination or inspection and may exclude from presence at such examination or inspection any person whose presence would not further the objectives of such examination or inspection. The departure-control officer shall temporarily prevent the departure of any alien who refuses to submit to such examination or inspection, and may, if necessary to cause the alien to submit to such examination or inspection, take possession of the alien's passport or other travel document or issue a subpoena requiring the alien to submit to such examination or inspection.

[22 FR 10827, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 45 FR 64174, Sept. 29, 1980]

§ 46.3 Aliens whose departure is deemed prejudicial to the interests of the United States.

The departure from the United States of any alien within one or more of the following categories shall be deemed prejudicial to the interest of the United States:

(a) Any alien who is in possession of, and who is believed likely to disclose to unauthorized persons, information concerning the plans, preparations, equipment, or establishments for the national defense and security of the United States.

(b) Any alien who seeks to depart from the United States to engage in, or who is likely to engage in, activities of any kind designed to obstruct, impede, retard, delay or counteract the effectiveness of the national defense of the United States or the measures adopted by the United States or the United Nations for the defense of any other country.

(c) Any alien who seeks to depart from the United States to engage in, or who is likely to engage in, activities which would obstruct, impede, retard, delay, or counteract the effectiveness of any plans made or action taken by any country cooperating with the United States in measures adopted to promote the peace, defense, or safety of

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the United States or such other country.

(d) Any alien who seeks to depart from the United States for the purpose of organizing, directing, or participating in any rebellion, insurrection, or violent uprising in or against the United States or a country allied with the United States, or of waging war against the United States or its allies, or of destroying, or depriving the United States of sources of supplies or materials vital to the national defense of the United States, or to the effectiveness of the measures adopted by the United States for its defense, or for the defense of any other country allied with the United States.

(e) Any alien who is subject to registration for training and service in the Armed Forces of the United States and who fails to present a Registration Certificate (SSS Form No. 2) showing that he has complied with his obligation to register under the Universal Military Training and Service Act, as amended.

(f) Any alien who is a fugitive from justice on account of an offense punishable in the United States.

(g) Any alien who is needed in the United States as a witness in, or as a party to, any criminal case under investigation or pending in a court in the United States: *Provided*, That any alien who is a witness in, or a party to, any criminal case pending in any criminal court proceeding may be permitted to depart from the United States with the consent of the appropriate prosecuting authority, unless such alien is otherwise prohibited from departing under the provisions of this part.

(h) Any alien who is needed in the United States in connection with any investigation or proceeding being, or soon to be, conducted by any official executive, legislative, or judicial agency in the United States or by any governmental committee, board, bureau, commission, or body in the United States, whether national, state, or local.

(i) Any alien whose technical or scientific training and knowledge might be utilized by an enemy or a potential enemy of the United States to undermine and defeat the military and defensive operations of the United States or of any nation cooperating with the

United States in the interests of collective security.

(j) Any alien, where doubt exists whether such alien is departing or seeking to depart from the United States voluntarily except an alien who is departing or seeking to depart subject to an order issued in extradition, exclusion, or deportation proceedings.

(k) Any alien whose case does not fall within any of the categories described in paragraphs (a) to (j), inclusive, of this section, but which involves circumstances of a similar character rendering the alien's departure prejudicial to the interests of the United States.

(Sec. 215, Immigration and Nationality Act, 66 Stat. 190, 8 U.S.C. 1185; Proc. No. 3004 of January 17, 1953)

[22 FR 10828, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 42 FR 19479, Apr. 14, 1977; 45 FR 64174, Sept. 29, 1980]

§46.4 Procedure in case of alien prevented from departing from the United States.

(a) Any alien, other than an enemy alien, whose departure has been temporarily prevented under the provisions of §46.2 may, within 15 days of the service upon him of the written order temporarily preventing his departure, request a hearing before a special inquiry officer. The alien's request for a hearing shall be made in writing and shall be addressed to the district director having administrative jurisdiction over the alien's place of residence. If the alien's request for a hearing is timely made, the district director shall schedule a hearing before a special inquiry officer, and notice of such hearing shall be given to the alien. The notice of hearing shall, as specifically as security considerations permit, inform the alien of the nature of the case against him, shall fix the time and place of the hearing, and shall inform the alien of his right to be represented, at no expense to the Government, by counsel of his own choosing.

(b) Every alien for whom a hearing has been scheduled under paragraph (a) of this section shall be entitled (1) to appear in person before the special inquiry officer, (2) to be represented by counsel of his own *choice*, (3) to have the opportunity to be heard and to present evidence, (4) to cross-examine

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the witnesses who appear at the hearing, except that if, in the course of the examination, it appears that further examination may divulge information of a confidential or security nature, the special inquiry officer may, in his discretion, preclude further examination of the witness with respect to such matters, (5) to examine any evidence in possession of the Government which is to be considered in the disposition of the case, provided that such evidence is not of a confidential or security nature the disclosure of which would be prejudicial to the interests of the United States, (6) to have the time and opportunity to produce evidence and witnesses on his own behalf, and (7) to reasonable continuances upon request, for good cause shown.

(c) Any special inquiry officer who is assigned to conduct the hearing provided for in this section shall have the authority to: (1) Administer oaths and affirmations, (2) present and receive evidence, (3) interrogate, examine, and cross-examine under oath or affirmation both the alien and witnesses, (4) rule upon all objections to the introduction of evidence or motions made during the course of the hearing, (5) take or cause depositions to be taken, (6) issue subpoenas, and (7) take any further action consistent with applicable provisions of law, executive orders, proclamations, and regulations.

[22 FR 10828, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 27 FR 1358, Feb. 14, 1962]

§ 46.5 Hearing procedure before special inquiry officer.

(a) The hearing before the special inquiry officer shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedure:

(1) The special inquiry officer shall advise the alien of the rights and privileges accorded him under the provisions of § 46.4.

(2) The special inquiry officer shall enter of record (i) a copy of the order served upon the alien temporarily preventing his departure from the United States, and (ii) a copy of the notice of hearing furnished the alien.

(3) The alien shall be interrogated by the special inquiry officer as to the matters considered pertinent to the proceeding, with opportunity reserved

to the alien to testify thereafter in his own behalf, if he so chooses.

(4) The special inquiry officer shall present on behalf of the Government such evidence, including the testimony of witnesses and the certificates or written statements of Government officials or other persons, as may be necessary and available. In the event such certificates or statements are received in evidence, the alien may request and, in the discretion of the special inquiry officer, be given an opportunity to interrogate such officials or persons, by deposition or otherwise, at a time and place and in a manner fixed by the special inquiry officer: *Provided*, That when in the judgment of the special inquiry officer any evidence relative to the disposition of the case is of a confidential or security nature the disclosure of which would be prejudicial to the interests of the United States, such evidence shall not be presented at the hearing but shall be taken into consideration in arriving at a decision in the case.

(5) The alien may present such additional evidence, including the testimony of witnesses, as is pertinent and available.

(b) A complete verbatim transcript of the hearing, except statements made off the record, shall be recorded. The alien shall be entitled, upon request, to the loan of a copy of the transcript, without cost, subject to reasonable conditions governing its use.

(c) Following the completion of the hearing, the special inquiry officer shall make and render a recommended decision in the case, which shall be governed by and based upon the evidence presented at the hearing and any evidence of a confidential or security nature which the Government may have in its possession. The decision of the special inquiry officer shall recommend (1) that the temporary order preventing the departure of the alien from the United States be made final, or (2) that the temporary order preventing the departure of the alien from the United States be revoked. This recommended decision of the special inquiry officer shall be made in writing and shall set forth the officer's reasons for such decision. The alien concerned shall at his request be furnished a copy

of the recommended decision of the special inquiry officer, and shall be allowed a reasonable time, not to exceed 10 days, in which to submit representations with respect thereto in writing.

(d) As soon as practicable after the completion of the hearing and the rendering of a decision by the special inquiry officer, the district director shall forward the entire record of the case, including the recommended decision of the special inquiry officer and any written representations submitted by the alien, to the regional commissioner having jurisdiction over his district. After reviewing the record, the regional commissioner shall render a decision in the case, which shall be based upon the evidence in the record and on any evidence or information of a confidential or security nature which he deems pertinent. Whenever any decision is based in whole or in part on confidential or security information not included in the record, the decision shall state that such information was considered. A copy of the regional commissioner's decision shall be furnished the alien, or his attorney or representative. No administrative appeal shall lie from the regional commissioner's decision.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs referred to in section 104(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or such other officers of the Department of State as he may designate, after consultation with the Commissioner, or such other officers of the Immigration and Naturalization Service as he may designate, may at any time permit the departure of an individual alien or of a group of aliens from the United States if he determines that such action would be in the national interest. If the Administrator specifically requests the Commissioner to prevent the departure of a particular alien or of a group of aliens, the Commissioner shall not permit the departure of such alien or aliens until he has consulted with the Administrator.

(f) In any case arising under §§ 46.1 to 46.7, the Administrator shall, at his request, be kept advised, in as much detail as he may indicate is necessary, of

the facts and of any action taken or proposed.

[22 FR 10828, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 26 FR 3069, Apr. 11, 1961; 27 FR 1358, Feb. 14, 1962]

§ 46.6 Departure from the Canal Zone, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or outlying possessions of the United States.

(a) In addition to the restrictions and prohibitions imposed by the provisions of this part upon the departure of aliens from the United States, any alien who seeks to depart from the Canal Zone, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or an outlying possession of the United States shall comply with such other restrictions and prohibitions as may be imposed by regulations prescribed, with the concurrence of the Administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs and the Commissioner, by the Governor of the Canal Zone, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or by the governor of an outlying possession of the United States, respectively. No alien shall be prevented from departing from such zone, territory, or possession without first being accorded a hearing as provided in §§ 46.4 and 46.5.

(b) The Governor of the Canal Zone, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or the governor of any outlying possession of the United States shall have the authority to designate any employee or class of employees of the United States as hearing officers for the purpose of conducting the hearing referred to in paragraph (a) of this section. The hearing officer so designated shall exercise the same powers, duties, and functions as are conferred upon special inquiry officers under the provisions of this part. The chief executive officer of such zone, territory, or possession shall, in lieu of the regional commissioner, review the recommended decision of the hearing officer, and shall render a decision in any case referred to him, basing it on evidence in the record and on any evidence or information of a confidential or a security nature which he deems pertinent.

[22 FR 10829, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 26 FR 3069, Apr. 11, 1961]

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§ 46.7 Instructions from the Administrator required in certain cases.

In the absence of appropriate instructions from the Administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, departure-control officers shall not exercise the authority conferred by § 46.2 in the case of any alien who seeks to depart from the United States in the status of a nonimmigrant under section 101(a)(15) (A) or (G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or in the status of a nonimmigrant under section 11(3), 11 (4), or 11(5) of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations (61 Stat. 756): *Provided*, That in cases of

extreme urgency, where the national security so requires, a departure-control officer may preliminarily exercise the authority conferred by § 46.2 pending the outcome of consultation with the Administrator, which shall be undertaken immediately. In all cases arising under this section, the decision of the Administrator shall be controlling: *Provided*, That any decision to prevent the departure of an alien shall be based upon a hearing and record as prescribed in this part.

[26 FR 3069, Apr. 11, 1961; 26 FR 3188, Apr. 14, 1961]

PART 47 [RESERVED]