

Uscis Processing Times Texas Service Center

How to Get a Green CardNOLO

Everything you need to become a naturalized U.S. citizen The sooner a green card holder becomes a U.S. citizen, the sooner he or she gains a host of benefits: the right to vote and apply for certain federal jobs, faster immigration for family, protection against deportation or new anti-immigration legislation, and more. But the application process itself can be long and confusing—and at worst, create a risk of deportation. With *Becoming a U.S. Citizen*, you can save months, or even years, and avoid complications. Learn how to: make sure you are eligible for citizenship understand the risks and rewards of applying fill out application forms study for the citizenship exam interview successfully, and deal with any setbacks. *Becoming a U.S. Citizen* also shows you how to ask for a reduced fee or take advantage of special exceptions if you have a disability, are in the military, or are the spouse of a U.S. citizen. The 10th edition is updated with the latest laws, procedures, and government policies. It includes sample forms, handy checklists, and a study guide to the citizenship exam.

"A step-by-step guide to obtaining U.S. residency by various non-work related means, such as political asylum, the visa lottery or a family member"--Provided by publisher.

Now in its seventh edition, the *Cato Handbook for Policymakers* sets the standard in Washington for reducing the power of the federal government and expanding freedom. The 63 chapters—each beginning with a list of major policy recommendations—offer issue-by-issue blueprints for promoting individual liberty, free markets, and peace. Providing both in-depth analysis and concrete recommendations, *Cato's Handbook* is an invaluable resource for policymakers and anyone else interested in securing liberty and limiting government.

Green cards, visas, and more: What every immigrant needs to know Want to live, work, or travel in the United States? *U.S. Immigration Made Easy* has helped tens of thousands of people get a visa, green card, or other immigration status. You'll learn: whether you and your family qualify for a short-term visa, permanent U.S. residence, or protection from deportation how to obtain, fill out, and submit the necessary forms and documents insider strategies for dealing with bureaucratic officials, delays, and denials ways to overcome low income and other immigration barriers, and how to select the right attorney. *U.S. Immigration Made Easy* provides detailed descriptions of application processes and helps you avoid traps that might destroy your chances. There's also an immigration eligibility self-quiz, which helps you match your background and skills to a likely category of visa or green card. The 20th edition is completely updated to cover recent legal changes owing to the new presidential administration, as well as the latest on DACA. This book does not cover naturalization. If you're interested in U.S. citizenship, see *Nolo's Becoming a U.S. Citizen*.

USCIS Civics flash cards: These Civics flash card will help immigrants learn about US history and government while preparing for naturalization test. These flash cards can also be used in the classroom as an instruction tool for citizenship preparation. Important note: on the naturalization test, some answers may change because of elections or appointments. Applicants must be aware of the most current answers to these questions. Applicants must answer these questions with the name of the official who is serving at the time of his or her eligibility interview with the USCIS. The USCIS officer will not accept and incorrect answer.

New research reveals why America can no longer afford mass immigration Mark Krikorian has studied the trends and concluded that America must permanently reduce immigration— both legal and illegal—or face enormous problems in the near future. His argument is based on facts, not fear. Wherever they come from, today’s immigrants are actually very similar to those who arrived a century ago. But they are coming to a very different America—one where changes in the economy, society, and government create different incentives for newcomers. Before the upheavals of the 1960s, the U.S. expected its immigrants—from Italy to India—to earn a living, learn English, and become patriotic Americans. But the rise of identity politics, political correctness, and Great Society programs means we no longer make these demands. In short, the problem isn’t them, it’s us. Even positive developments such as technological progress hinder the assimilation of immigrants. It’s easy now for newcomers to live “transnational” lives. Immigration will be in the headlines through Election Day and beyond, and this controversial book will help drive the debate.

American Government: In the United States, the government gets its power to govern from the people. We have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Citizens in the United States shape their government and its policies, so they must learn about important public issues and get involved in their communities. Learning about American government helps you understand your rights and responsibilities and allows you to fully participate in the American political process. The Founders of this country decided that the United States should be a representative democracy. They wanted a nation ruled by laws, not by men. In a representative democracy, the people choose officials to make laws and represent their views and concerns in government. This book will help you understand the principles of American democracy, the U.S. system of government, and the important rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship.

Now in its fourth edition, authors Greg Siskind and Elissa Taub provide the most up-to-date information regarding immigration for foreign physicians in *The Physician Immigration Handbook*. Physician immigration is perhaps the most complicated area of U.S. immigration law, but *The Physician Immigration Handbook, 4th Edition*, simplifies that process in a way that is easy to follow and understand. Updated annually, *The Handbook* explains what foreign physicians need to know to apply for graduate medical training at American teaching hospitals in the United States and how they can remain in the United States to pursue their careers. *The Physician Immigration Handbook* follows the typical American journey for the international medical graduate (IMG). First, the *Handbook* reviews the application process through which physicians receive ECFMG certification, eventually leading to admittance to U.S. graduate medical training programs. Then it discusses the two major immigration pathways open to IMGs who want to

come to the United States for graduate medical training: the J-1 visa and the H-1B visa. The Handbook walks the IMG through training to post-training work, then on to permanent residency (the "green card" process) and ultimately to U.S. citizenship. It even delves into employment issues, such as layoffs, mergers, and acquisitions, while also discussing special benefits available to foreign physicians in the U.S. military. The Physician Immigration Handbook was written as a guide for IMGs, recruiters, human resource professionals, and even government officials who need to know how the U.S. immigration system works and the special rules applied to physicians within that framework. The Handbook includes 24 chapters in an easy-to-follow, question-and-answer format: Qualifying for Graduate Medical Training in the United States The J-1 and the H-1B Visas Seeking a Visitor Visa to Pursue Graduate Medical Training J-1 Visas for Graduate Medical Training The J-1 Home-Residency Requirement Conrad 30 Waivers 'Public Interest' Waivers Hardship and Persecution Waivers J-2 Status for Family Members of a J-1 Exchange Visitor The H-1B Visa Process Cap-Exemption Strategies for the H-1B Visa H-4 Family Members Accompanying an H-1B Visa Holder Consular Processing of Nonimmigrant Visas Lawful Permanent Residency Obtaining Permanent Residency Through PERM Labor Certification National Interest Waivers Other Paths to Achieving Permanent Residency Obtaining U.S. Citizenship The Impact of Employment Termination The Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions Immigration and the Locum Tenens The Role of Physician Recruiters Special Issues Affecting Canadian Physicians Hiring an Immigration Attorney. The Handbook also includes numerous helpful appendices and charts, plus sample questionnaires: Resources and Websites of Interest; Physician Licensing Requirements by State; Physician National Interest Waiver Chart; Preliminary Immigration Questionnaires for Physicians and Physician Employers; J-1 Interested Government Agency Physician Waiver Flowchart; Flowchart for Physicians on Training H-1Bs; Conrad 30 State Chart.

This is a concise one-volume reference covering all the key areas of immigration law and containing appendices with forms and other practical information.

Visa options for physicians is one of the most complex areas of immigration law. To help practitioners, AILA has revived its Occupational Guidebook series with the second edition of Immigration Options for Physicians. This must-have resource for immigration cases involving doctors incorporates analyses and practical advice concerning:--Waivers *IGA Waivers (with emphasis on HHS and VA Waivers) *Hardship Waivers *National Interest Waivers --O-1 Visas for Physicians --H-1B Visas for Physicians --Permanent Residence/Labor Certification for Physicians --Licensing Issues --J-2 Physician Issues --Complementary and Alternative Health Care Get practical guidance from the leading experts in this area with Immigration Options for Physicians, 2nd Edition.

This book examines the adaptation experiences of legal immigrants with undocumented spouses, considering the structural limitations that they face in their private, social, and professional lives, as well as in regard to their finances and health. The first study to systematically analyze the ways in which legal immigrants are affected by federal and state policies that target their undocumented spouses, it reveals that, regardless of their immigration status, all members of mixed-status families are directly or

indirectly subjected to the same intrusive and punitive laws. Based on an autoethnographic approach, *Everyday Fears of Legal Immigrants with Undocumented Spouses: Under U.S. Immigration Policy* also draws on additional qualitative research as well empirical evidence from existing studies and the latest quantitative data from various governmental agencies and think tanks. It thus integrates multiple approaches to ways of knowing and understanding the experiences of legal immigrants in mixed-status families and will therefore appeal to social scientists with interests in migration.

Citizenship in America: rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens -- Patriotic anthems and symbols of the United States -- Presidential and historical speeches -- Fundamental documents of American democracy -- Landmark decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court -- Presidential statements on citizenship and immigration -- Prominent foreign-born Americans.

Three Degrees of Law has been acclaimed by professors nationally, not merely as a book for attorneys and law students. The concise guide focuses on how to be a happy and successful professional. Students will appreciate candid advice from highly regarded attorney Harlan York on how to determine if law practice is for them, and why law school has great value, even if they never "practice" law. Investment in legal education has lifelong benefit in a type of thought process. That training carries over to many fields, not just law. York - who Former World Chess Champ Garry Kasparov calls a "street fighter" - explains that contribution to law school is not merely financial. Devotion, particularly in one practice area, needs to occur. Many attorneys have jobs they hate, not due to external factors, but because of attitude. One of the biggest mistakes lawyers make is improperly measuring the bottom line. They calculate the short term. Law is a cross-country run. You climb mountains and fly downhill at breakneck speed. Great runners win, like Olympic Gold Medalist Peter Rono, who praises York. Also, *Law Review* does not always result in success. Enthusiasm is crucial while certain habits hurt advancement. *Three Degrees of Law* spells out secrets for success and enjoying law. York also details how women frequently become better attorneys than men while defeating sexism. As for the belief that a Juris Doctor predisposes one to working long days with little joy, York rejects this as myth. He explains how to find genuine passion for law. A vocational approach with concern for clients will allow you to build a career you love and will sustain you for life. Provides pragmatic advice on the nonimmigrant work authorization, including: specialty occupations (H-1Bs); intra-company transfers from abroad (L-1); treaty traders/investors (E-1 and E-2) and more.

Immigration Practice guides readers through all aspects of immigration law in one volume, complete with over 3,000 footnote citations to the wide range of statutes, regulations, court and administrative cases, policy memos, operations instructions, agency interpretive letters, and internet sites that a lawyer needs for complete understanding of a particular problem. No other source merges the practical with commentary and analysis so helpfully. The book explains in understandable language and meaningful and dependable detail the substantive issues and the practical procedures a lawyer needs to handle a specific immigration matter, complete with checklists of forms, supporting evidence, and other strategies needed for application/petition packages. The book has unparalleled coherence, integration and consistency. * Liberally cross references to other sections in the book where related topics are discussed (because so many topics are interrelated). * Line-by-line instructions on how to complete the most commonly used forms to avoid embarrassing mistakes. * Lists the contents of packages to file with government agencies: forms and fees, detailed support letters, and other supporting evidence. * Explanations of potentially applicable visa options organized according to the attributes of the foreign national (and the employer), rather than classifications in alphabetical order, so that practitioners can make sense of options in light of the client in the office. * Comparisons and charts of attributes and procedures of such

topics as nonimmigrant visa classifications, procedures to permanent residence, and standards of "extreme" hardship. * Citations throughout the book, and collection in the extensive CD-ROM Appendix, to primary source materials and the most useful Internet site URLs with explanation of the increasingly helpful free databases and tools available through each one. • Internet Links: Constantly increased and updated links to government web sites containing current contact information, forms, primary law sources of all types, case status information, and processing and substantive guides--all referenced by pinpoint citations in the text. See Chapter 5 explaining sources of law, Appendix C and D-1 showing web links, and the CD-ROM in the back cover providing one-click access! Readers are strongly encouraged to review and use the CD-ROM and to consider saving Appendix C, D-1, and E-1 into their hard drives or saving the links to their internet browser "favorites" or "bookmarks" for ready reference all the time. • Upgraded removal-related treatment: significant improvements to Chapters 10, 11, and 16 by attorney who has worked for immigration courts several years. • Supreme Court decisions: effects of limited marijuana distribution offense as aggravated felony (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); tax offenses as aggravated felonies (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); rejection of "comparable grounds rule" for 212(c) eligibility (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vii)); modified categorical approach applies only to divisible statutes (§ 10-6(b)(2)(i)); non-retroactivity of Padilla decision (§ 10-6(b)(2)(vi)); rejection of the "statutory counterpart rule" for § 212(c) waivers (§ 11-5(f)); invalidation of the Defense of Marriage Act § 14-7(a)(2)(i); non-imputation to child of firm resettlement of parents (§ 16-4(c)). • Lower federal court decisions: concerning such issues as: recognizing a beneficiary to have standing to challenge a USCIS petition denial (§ 2-2(a)(1)(I)); reviewability of good moral character determinations and other (§ 2-2(a)(1)(I)); court order of USCIS to speed up FOIA certain responses (§ 4-2); CBP FOIA process (§ 4-2); DOL case disclosure data (§ 4-5); need to exhaust remedies under DHS TRIP to challenge inclusion on watch list (§ 10-3); CIMT crime determinations (§ 10-6(b)(1)(iii)); effect of a single firearm sale (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); 212(h) waiver eligibility in regard to post-entry adjustment but not as to stand alone request (§ 10-6(b)(3)); interference with police helicopter using laser light as CIMT (§ 10-6(c)); whether post-entry adjustment is an admission for § 212(h) waivers (§ 10-6(b)(3)); whether there is an involuntariness or duress exception to the terrorism support bar (§ 10-6(c)); enforcement of I-864 financial support obligations (§ 10-6(d)(2)); mandatory bond hearing after six months of detention (§ 11-3(f)); ICE detainers found to lack authority (§ 11-3(g)); representation in immigration court at government expense for aliens with serious mental disabilities (§ 11-4(g)); stop-time and petty offense exceptions relating to cancellation of removal (§ 11-5(f)); revelation of the BIA's erroneous reliance for decades on nonexistent provisions of Mexican Constitution affecting legitimation issues (§ 12-3(d)(3)); rejection of BIA's rule against nunc pro tunc adoption orders (§ 14-7(b)(3)); invalidation of FSBPT efforts to restrict applicants from certain countries to sit for physical therapy exams (§ 15-2(c)(2)); use of impeachment evidence only to terminate asylum (16-2(b)); asylum claims of German homeschoolers, and mixed motive cases (§ 16-4(a)(3)); social group asylum claims (§ 16-4(a)(3)); expansive implications of inconsistencies in testimony (§ 16-4(a)(4)); "particularly serious crimes" barring asylum claims (§ 16-4(c)); special asylum procedures for unaccompanied children (§ 16-4(c)); adjustment eligibility of alien who entered without inspection and then obtained TPS (§ 16-7(a)(6)); eligibility of after-acquired spouse under Cuban Adjustment Act (§ 16-7(e)); preempted state law provisions aimed at aliens, employers, and landlords (§ 19-4(l)(3)). • BIA decisions on such issues as: what constitutes a drug trafficking crime (§ 10-6(b)(1)(iv)); implications of child pornography conviction (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); possession of ammunition by a convicted felon (§ 10-6(b)(1)(vi)); availability of "stand-alone" § 212(h) waiver without adjustment application (§ 10-6(b)(3)); service of NTA on a minor (§ 11-3(b)); service of NTA and other safeguards for aliens with serious mental conditions (§ 11-4(g)); approval of administrative closure of removal cases (§ 11-5(d)); termination of asylum, then removal and relief in proceedings (§16-2(b)); relocation issues in asylum claims (§ 16-4(a)(3)). • Regulations, government

policy memorandums, other decisions, and government web site enhancements concerning such matters as: differing government renderings of single name for certain persons (§ 1-6(a)(3)); USCIS refusal to accept stamped signatures for attorneys on G-28 (§1-6(a)(3)); USCIS use of bar codes for forms, and danger of making marginal notes on forms (§1-6(a)(3)); USCIS use of customer-completed "e-Request Service" inquiries (§ 2-2(a)(1)(F)); movement of all visa processing to the electronic CEAC system (§ 2-3(a)); replacement of the CBP Inspectors Field Manual with the Officer's Reference Tool and the beginning effort to replace the USCIS Adjudicators Field Manual with the online Policy Manual (§ 5-4); replacement of the paper I-94 card for air and sea entries with an "automated" online I-94 record (§ 7-4(b) and other sections); new section on "Other Redress for Adverse Results (on visas and admissions, § 7-4(c)(14)); the radical implications of Matter of Arrabally and Yerrabally concerning the effects of departure under advance parole (§§ 8-7(d)(2)(i) and 10-6(f)); modernization of the immigrant visa process (§ 8-8); new "Provisional Unlawful Presence Waivers" within the U.S. using Form I-601A (§ 10-6(f)); exception to false claim to U.S. citizenship inadmissibility if claim made before individual was age 18 (§ 10-6(g)); EOIR Online representative registration system (§ 11-3(e)); ICE Parental Interests Directive and ICE "eBOND" online bonding process (§ 11-3(f)); ICE non-renewal of 287(f) agreements (§ 11-3(g)); Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (§ 11-3(h)(3)); ICE recognition and implementation of statute allowing post-removal challenges (§11-8(b)); new USCIS Policy Manual provisions on naturalization eligibility and process, including residence, selective service, § 319(b) special rules, and other issues, and new N-400 form and instructions (Chapter 12); Government-side implementation of the Supreme Court's recognition of same-sex marriage (various chapters); exceptional circumstances allowing foreign-country filing of I-130 petitions where no USCIS office is located (§ 14-5(a)); implications of a withdrawn I-140 (§ 15-1(h)); various policy developments concerning EB-5 investors (§ 15-2(f)); numerous BALCA cases and DOL positions affecting the PERM labor certification process and the publication of data about applications (§ 15-3); updated Affirmative Asylum Procedures Manual (§ 16-3(a)); USCIS memo on "exceptional circumstances" for failure to appear at asylum interview (§ 16-3(a)(1)(iii)); litigation settlement agreements to share asylum officer interview notes in FOIA (§ 16-3(a)(2)), concerning asylum applicant work authorization process and "Clock" (§ 16-3(c)), and failure to appear at I-730 interview (§ 16-3(f)); bundling of related L-1 petitions (§ 17-3(b)(4)(i)); presumed L-1 visa validity for maximum reciprocity duration but sometimes more limited stays from CBP (§ 17-3(b)(7)); filing I-129 petition for Canadian TN, and duration of Mexican TN separate from visa validity (§ 17-4(c)(2)(ii)); H-1B and H-2A flip-flopping administrative and congressional positions (§ 17-4(d) and 17-5(e)(1)); "B-1 in lieu of H" in effect but "under review" (§ 18-3(1)(2)(B)); accreditation requirements for F-1 language training programs (§ 18-4(d)(1)); cessation of CBP stamping of I-20 forms (§ 18-4(d)(3)); use of electronic ELIS system for certain changes of status (§ 18-4(d)(4)); new "cap gap" and STEM OPT extension policies (§ 18-4(d)(9)(iii)); possible need for separate waivers for different J experiences subject to § 212(e) (§ 18-5(b)(2)(ix)); revisions to M-274 Handbook for Employers for I-9, USCIS "I-9 Central" web site, and IRS tightening of ITIN application process (§ 19-4(b)); ICE policies about auditing electronically generated I-9 forms (§ 19-4(h)); OCAHO reductions of ICE I-9 fines on employers (§ 19-4(j)); ICE definition of "technical and procedural" errors subject to correction under good faith rules (§ 19-4(j)); USCIS revision of E-Verify MOU and new notice to workers about TNC resolution, expansion of E-Verify "photo tool," and "lock out" of suspect SSNs from E-Verify (§ 19-4(l)(1)).

Tech companies such as Google, Amazon, and Microsoft promote the free flow of data worldwide, while relying on foreign temporary IT workers to build, deliver, and support their products. However, even as IT companies use technology and commerce to transcend national barriers, their transnational employees face significant migration and

visa constraints. In this revealing ethnography, Amy Bhatt shines a spotlight on Indian IT migrants and their struggles to navigate career paths, citizenship, and belonging as they move between South Asia and the United States. Through in-depth interviews, Bhatt explores the complex factors that shape IT transmigration and settlement, looking at Indian cultural norms, kinship obligations, friendship networks, gendered and racialized discrimination in the workplace, and inflexible and unstable visa regimes that create worker vulnerability. In particular, Bhatt highlights womens experiences as workers and dependent spouses who move as part of temporary worker programs. Many of the women interviewed were professional peers to their husbands in India but found themselves housewives stateside, unable to secure employment because of visa restrictions. Through her focus on the unpaid and feminized placemaking and caregiving labor these women provide, Bhatt shows how womens labor within the household is vital to the functioning of the flexible and transnational system of IT itself.

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