



Billing Code 9111-97

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[OMB Control Number 1615-0116]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection; Request for Fee Waiver; Request for Fee Exemption

AGENCY: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments.

DATES: The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments.

Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, must be directed to the OMB USCIS Desk Officer via e-mail at oir_submission@omb.eop.gov.

Comments may also be submitted via fax at (202) 395-5806. (This is not a toll-free number.)

All submissions received must include the agency name and the OMB Control Number 1615-0116.

You may wish to consider limiting the amount of personal information that you provide in any voluntary submission you make. For additional information please read the Privacy Act notice that is available via the link in the footer of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, Samantha Deshommes, Chief, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20529-2140, Telephone number (202) 272-8377 (This is not a toll-free number; comments are not accepted via telephone message.). Please note contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. It is not for individual case status inquiries. Applicants seeking information about the status of their individual cases can check Case Status Online, available at the USCIS Web site at <http://www.uscis.gov>, or call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at (800) 375-5283; TTY (800) 767-1833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments:

The information collection notice was previously published in the Federal Register on October 11, 2017, at 82 FR 47234, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. USCIS did receive two comments in connection with the 60-day notice.

You may access the information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information by visiting the Federal eRulemaking Portal site at: <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter USCIS-2010-0008 in the search box. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this Information Collection:

- (1) Type of Information Collection Request: Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.
- (2) Title of the Form/Collection: Request for Fee Waiver; Request for Fee Exemption
- (3) Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection: Form I-912; USCIS.
- (4) Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:
Primary: Individuals or households. USCIS uses the data collected on this form to verify that the applicant is unable to pay for the immigration benefit being requested. USCIS will consider waiving a fee for an application or petition when the applicant or petitioner clearly demonstrates that he or she is unable to pay the fee. The regulations do not require that requests for fee waivers be submitted on a particular form prescribed by DHS, thus the applicant may request that the fee be waived by attaching a written request to the front of their immigration benefit request. Fee waivers may also be requested by completing and submitting Form I-912. Form I-912 standardizes the collection and analysis of statements and supporting documentation provided by the

applicant with the fee waiver request. Form I-912 also streamlines and expedites the USCIS review, approval, or denial of the fee waiver request by clearly laying out the most salient data and evidence necessary for the determination of inability to pay. Officers evaluate all factors, circumstances, and evidence supplied in support of a fee waiver request when making a final determination. Each case is unique and is considered on its own merits. If the fee waiver is granted, the application will be processed. If the fee waiver is not granted, USCIS will notify the applicant and instruct him or her to file a new application with the appropriate fee.

Certain applications and petitions may allow for filing of fee exemptions; the specific forms have information regarding the option and the requirements to request an exemption.

- (5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection Form I-912 is 594,000 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.17. The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection Non-form request for fee waiver is 8,400 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.17. The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection 8 CFR 103.7(d) Director's exception request is 128 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.17.

- (6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: The total estimated annual hour burden associated with this collection is 704,958 hours.
- (7) An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection: The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection is \$2,259,480.

Dated: January 12, 2018.

Samantha Deshommes,

Chief,

Regulatory Coordination Division,

Office of Policy and Strategy,

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,

Department of Homeland Security.

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