New Immigrant Orientation
Topics of Discussion

✓ **Settling** in the United States
✓ Your **rights and responsibilities**
✓ **Petitioning** for family
✓ Becoming a **U.S. Citizen**
✓ Tools and **Resources**
Getting Settled in the United States

- **Find a place to live**
  - Renting and buying
  - Laws that protect from discrimination
  - [Housing and Urban Development](https://www.hud.gov) (HUD)

- **Education**
  - Public schools, colleges and universities
  - Adult schools: [National Literacy Directory](https://www.literacy.gov)

- **Employment**
  - Laws that protect from discrimination
  - [Equal Employment Opportunity Commission](https://www.eeoc.gov) (EEOC)
  - Visit [E-verify](https://www.dhs.gov) to verify records
As a lawful permanent resident you have certain rights in the United States to:

- Live and work anywhere in the United States;
- Attend public school and college;
- Apply for a Social Security # and driver’s license;
- Travel internationally under certain conditions; and
- Join certain branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.
You may petition for certain family members.

Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative:

- Lawful permanent residents may only petition for spouses, unmarried children under age 21, and unmarried sons and daughters.
- Generally, approved petitions are stored at the National Visa Center (NVC).
- NVC will notify the petitioner and their family member when their priority dates become available and when they can apply for their permanent residency.
## Visa Bulletin (www.state.gov)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>All Other Countries</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Mexico</th>
<th>Philippines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried son/daughter (over 21) of U.S. Citizen</td>
<td>22OCT11</td>
<td>22OCT11</td>
<td>22OCT11</td>
<td>01AUG97</td>
<td>01APR07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse/child of permanent resident</td>
<td>08JAN17</td>
<td>08JAN17</td>
<td>08JAN17</td>
<td>15DEC16</td>
<td>08JAN17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried son/daughter of permanent resident</td>
<td>01AUG12</td>
<td>01AUG12</td>
<td>01AUG12</td>
<td>22SEP97</td>
<td>22JUL07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married son/daughter of U.S. citizen</td>
<td>08SEP06</td>
<td>08SEP06</td>
<td>08SEP06</td>
<td>15JAN96</td>
<td>01JAN96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sibling of U.S. citizen</td>
<td>22SEP05</td>
<td>22SEP05</td>
<td>08JUL04</td>
<td>08FEB98</td>
<td>01JAN96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You must:

- Obey all federal, state, and local laws;
- Register with the Selective Service if you are a male between the ages of 18 and 26;
- Change your address on the USCIS Change of Address webpage within 10 days every time you move; and
- File all required federal, state, and local income taxes.
Maintain your Immigration Status

🔥 To maintain your immigration status:

- Don’t move and settle in a new country
- Understand the consequences of traveling back to your home country
- Avoid long absences from the U.S.
- Understand the consequences of criminal or other serious behavior
Consequences of Criminal or Other Serious Behavior

Lawful permanent residents who engage in or are convicted of certain crimes in the U.S. could be removed from the country, and in certain circumstances, lose their eligibility for U.S. citizenship.
Generally, to become a naturalized citizen, you must:
- Be at least 18 years old at the time of application
- Be a permanent resident of the United States
- Meet the continuous residence and physical presence requirements
- Live in the USCIS district where you file your application
- Have good moral character

Unless you are eligible for an exemption or waiver, you must also demonstrate:
- Basic understanding of the English language
- Knowledge of U.S. history and government
- Attachment to the U.S. Constitution
USCIS Website

www.uscis.gov
myUSCIS makes immigration simpler

myUSCIS is a new service that helps you navigate the immigration process. On myUSCIS, you will find up-to-date information about the application process for immigration benefits, tools to help you prepare for naturalization, and resources to find citizenship preparation classes and doctors in your local community.

Try us on mobile

You can use myUSCIS anytime and on any device.

my.uscis.gov
Self-Help Tools and Resources

- The USCIS webpage offers the following free services:
  - Check your case status
  - Change your address
  - Check processing times
  - Make an InfoPass appointment
  - “How Do I” fact sheets
  - Download forms
  - Online filing (for some forms)
  - Explore My Options
  - Create an account on myUSCIS
  - Ask Emma

- Or call us at 800-375-5283.
Check your Case Status Online

Login or Sign up

CASE STATUS ONLINE

Enter a Receipt Number

NBC000123456

CHECK STATUS

Why sign up for an account?

Click Here

ACCOUNT LOGIN

SIGN UP
How Do I? Guides

www.uscis.gov/tools/how-do-i-guides
Visit our multilingual resource webpage.
Citizenship Resources

Visit the Citizenship Resource Center to:

✔ Learn about the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship;
✔ Understand the naturalization process;
✔ Study for the test;
✔ Find citizenship classes; and
✔ Find legal assistance.
The Wrong Help Can Hurt

Visit the USCIS Avoid Scams webpage to learn more about:

- Form filing tips;
- Common immigration scams;
- How to report immigration scams; and
- How to find legal services and help.
What is Unauthorized Practice of Immigration Law?

The term unauthorized practice of immigration law (UPIL) generally refers to the provision of legal advice and/or representation regarding immigration matters by an individual who is not an attorney eligible to practice law and in good standing or is not an DOJ accredited representative.

Legal advice may include:

- Identifying what immigration options an applicant or petitioner may have;
- Choosing what immigration form to file; and
- Deciding how to answer questions on immigration forms.
✓ UPIL is a serious problem that can affect anyone seeking an immigration benefit
✓ Perpetrators of immigration scams often engage in UPIL as a means to defraud their victims
✓ Through this initiative to combat UPIL and immigration scams, USCIS seeks to protect the integrity of our immigration system and the best interests of the communities we serve
Common Scams

- Maintaining websites that resemble official USCIS resources available at www.uscis.gov;
- Selling USCIS forms which are available free of charge at www.uscis.gov/forms;
- Applying for benefits on behalf of an immigrant who is ineligible for those benefits;
- Falsifying information in documents submitted to USCIS;
- Accepting an applicant’s money for filing fees without submitting any application or petition to USCIS; or
- Making claims that he or she can obtain government-issued documents because he or she has special influence or a connection with the government.
COMMON SCAMS

• We list common immigration scams
• Affinity fraud
• If it sounds too good to be true...

Common Scams

The wrong help can hurt. Use this information to avoid common immigration scams.

- TPS Re-registration Scams
- Immigration Scam in India
- Form I-9 and Email Scams
- “Notarios Públicos”
- Payments by Phone or Email
- Winning the Visa Lottery
- Scam Websites
- Job Offers
- Scams Targeting Students

www.uscis.gov/avoidscams   www.uscis.gov/eviteestafas
Report Immigration Scams

Report scams to the Federal Trade Commission (www.ftc.gov). You may also file a complaint in your state:

- CA Attorney General, Office of Immigrant Assistance
- State Bar of California
- Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office, Fraud Unit
What is a DOJ accredited representative?

✓ Accredited representatives working for a DOJ approved organization is eligible to represent you before USCIS. They must work for a DOJ approved non-profit, religious, charitable, social service or similar organization.

✓ They are not attorneys but may give you immigration legal advice because of their specialized training and experience.

✓ They may only charge a small fee for legal services.
Immigration Attorneys

✓ Search the American Bar Association to find attorneys in your state
✓ Interview your list and ask for client references
✓ Compare fees
✓ Check credentials
Immigration Preparers-”Notarios”

✓ Immigration consultants **cannot** give any legal advice including how to answer questions

✓ They can only help complete forms, translate answers, submit the forms, and refer cases to **qualified** legal resources such as an immigration attorney or a DOJ accredited representative

✓ They **must** provide a contract and notify customer they can rescind the contract within 72 hours

✓ They must have a notice displayed in English and native language of clients that the immigration consultant is **not** attorney and includes consultant’s name, address, proof of bond with its number. They must be **bonded** with state of California.

✓ They **cannot** keep any original documents and must keep copies of customer’s records for 3 years
Contact Information

We welcome your questions and comments!

• Vilaysay “Sai” Chang
• Community Relations Officer, USCIS-Sacramento
• Vilaysay.p.chang@uscis.dhs.gov
• 916-492-7313
Disclaimer

This presentation module is intended solely as informational. It is not intended to, does not, and may not be relied upon to create or confer any right(s) or benefit(s), substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any individual or other party in benefit applications before USCIS, in removal proceedings, in litigation with the United States, or in any other form or manner. This presentation does not have the force of law, or of a DHS directive.
This presentation may not be reproduced or further disseminated.
About this Presentation

Date of last legal review: February 13, 2019

Any references in documents or text, with the exception of case law, relate to fictitious individuals.

This presentation contains no sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (PII).