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A Message from USCIS Director Emilio Gonzalez - Transcript



By now you've probably heard that USCIS is proposing to restructure its fees. Since we don't rely on taxpayer funding, 99% of our annual budget comes from the fees that we collect from our customers. Recently, we completed a thorough study of our fees and, we've confirmed that our current fees do not cover our costs to do business. Therefore, USCIS must adjust its fees to close current funding gaps – no more and no less.

The new fees reflect the growing costs of keeping our national immigration service secure and efficient. The new fees will enable us to continue to enhance our national security capabilities, modernize our systems, collect detailed biometrics from every applicant, and improve service delivery and efficiency – today, and into the future.

The rule is available for public comment and we look forward to continuing this important dialogue in the months to come. We hope that this page will provide you with a better understanding of how we conduct our business and of how you can contribute with your comments and suggestions.

As always, we will continue to work to build an immigration system for the 21st century, keeping America's doors open, but well guarded.

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