USCIS Processing Time Information for our California Service Center

Posted: March 16, 2009

The table shown below is intended to be a tool for customers to view our processing times. When applications and petitions are completed within our target timeframes, those timeframes will be shown (example: 3 months). If we are not meeting our target timeframes a date will be shown (example: April 16, 2008).

The processing dates shown below represent the receipt dates of petitions and applications currently being processed by the USCIS Service Center. If the receipt date shown on your receipt notice is prior to the processing date shown below, you may call USCIS Customer Service at 1-800-375-5283. We encourage you to check this page periodically before inquiring about your case. The processing dates are updated monthly.

USCIS received a significant increase in the number of applications and petitions filed in fiscal year (FY) 2007. In July and August alone, nearly 2.5 million applications and petitions of all types were received. This compares to 1.2 million applications and petitions received in the same period the previous year. In FY2007, USCIS received 1.4 million applications for naturalization; nearly double the volume received the year before. In FY2008, USCIS initiated efforts to improve processes and focus increased resources, including the hiring of over 1,000 new Immigration Services Officers, to address this workload.

The surge of applications received in FY2007 did not impact USCIS offices evenly across the country; however to date, most all offices have completed the processing of cases received during the 2007 filing surge. For those offices that were hit the hardest by the surge in applications received, there is a handful that has a small percentage of cases still being worked. This has resulted in a few offices experiencing processing times that are longer than the 8-10 month national average achieved at the end of FY2008. USCIS continues to shift resources and manage its production activities to ensure that all local offices achieve the 5-month naturalization processing time goal no later than the end of FY2009.

We offer a variety of services after you file. For example, for most kinds of cases you can check the status of your case online.

For more information about when and how to contact us, whether your case is outside our processing time or if there are other issues, please see our customer guide –

Case Services - How do I... know what kind of services are available to me after I file my application or petition?

Service Center Processing Dates for California Service Center as of: January 31, 2009

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AILA InfoNet Doc. No. 09031762. (Posted 03/17/09)
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<td>I-129</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>I-129F</td>
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<tr>
<td>I-129F</td>
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<td>Permanent resident filing for an unmarried son or daughter over 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>I-485</td>
<td>Application to Register Permanent Residence or to Adjust Status</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Immigrant Petition By Alien</td>
<td>For use by an entrepreneur who wishes to</td>
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<tr>
<td>Form</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Processing Time</td>
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<td>I-539</td>
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<td>Change of status to H or L dependents</td>
<td>3 Months</td>
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<td>Change status to the F or M academic or vocational student categories</td>
<td>3 Months</td>
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<td>Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status</td>
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<td>Change Status to the J exchange visitor category</td>
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<td>All other change of status applications</td>
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<td>Extension of stay for H and L dependents</td>
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<td>Extension of Stay for F or M academic or vocational students</td>
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<tr>
<td>I-612</td>
<td>Application for Waiver of the Foreign Residence Requirement</td>
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<td>Application for a waiver of the 2-year foreign residence requirement</td>
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<td>I-751</td>
<td>Petition to Remove the Conditions on Residence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Removal of lawful permanent resident conditions (spouses of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I-765</td>
<td>Application for Employment Authorization</td>
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<td>Based on a request by a qualified F-1 academic student. [(c)(3)]</td>
<td>3 Months</td>
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<td>I-765</td>
<td>Application for Employment Authorization</td>
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<td>Based on a pending I-485 adjustment application [(c)(9)]</td>
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<td>Application for Employment Authorization</td>
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<tr>
<td>I-824</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I-829</td>
<td>Petition by Entrepreneur to Remove Conditions</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Removal of lawful permanent resident conditions (immigrant investors)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I-829</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>September 10, 1997</td>
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