



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

AAO Processing Times

In January 2017, the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) modified how it presents processing time information. Previously, the AAO reported, by form type, the *average* completion time for the month's cases. But certain scenarios (such as a month with few completions in certain categories) could result in an imprecise portrayal of processing times. The AAO will now provide, by form type, the total *number* of completions for the quarter and the *percentage* completed within 180 days, which is our goal. The AAO believes this change affords stakeholders more valuable information on our processing times.

The administrative appeals process has two stages: initial field review and AAO appellate review.

Initial field review: The office that issued the unfavorable decision has 45 days to evaluate the appeal and determine whether to take favorable action on the appeal. If that office does not take favorable action, it will forward the appeal to the AAO and send the appellant a Notice of Transfer to the AAO.

AAO appellate review: The AAO strives to complete its appellate review within 6 months from the time it receives a complete case record after the initial field review. Some cases may take longer than 6 months due to factors beyond the AAO's control. For example, additional documentation may be needed to complete the record, or the case may be more complex and require additional review.

The following chart shows the percentage of cases the AAO completed within 180 days, by case category, during the most recent quarter of the fiscal year. These data include all AAO dispositions for the listed form types. If a case category is not listed, the AAO issued no appeal decisions for that category in the most recent quarter.

Timeliness of Fiscal Year 2017 First Quarter Completions (October-December 2016)

Form Type	Case Type	Completed 0-180 Days	Quarterly Completions
Cumulative of all completions		86%	1,338
I-129CW	CNMI-Only Nonimmigrant Transitional Worker	100%	6
I-129E	Treaty Trader or Investor	100%	1
I-129F	Petition for Fiancée	100%	78
I-129H1B	Nonimmigrant Specialty Occupation Worker	100%	164
I-129H2	Temporary Nonimmigrant Worker	100%	38
I-129L	Nonimmigrant Intracompany Transferee	100%	84

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Form Type	Case Type	Completed 0-180 Days	Quarterly Completions
I-129O	Nonimmigrant Extraordinary Ability Worker	100%	9
I-129P	Athletes, Artists and Entertainers	100%	9
I-129Q	Cultural Exchange Worker	100%	4
I-129R	Nonimmigrant Religious Worker	100%	18
I-131	Application for Travel Document	100%	7
I-140A	Alien with Extraordinary Ability	100%	27
I-140B	Outstanding Professor or Researcher	100%	3
I-140C	Multinational Manager or Executive	97%	36
I-140D	Advanced Degree Professional	85%	34
I-140E	Professional Worker	88%	17
I-140F	Skilled Worker	87%	15
I-140G	Other Worker	100%	7
I-140I	National Interest Waiver	90%	21
I-212	Application to Reapply for Admission	71%	24
I-352	Bond Breach	63%	8
I-360C	Special Immigrant Juvenile	98%	49
I-360D	Petition for Religious Worker	88%	17
I-360I	Violence Against Women Act Petition	96%	111
I-485 Dplmt	Section 13 Adjustment Application	100%	3
I-485U	U Visa Nonimmigrant Adjustment	100%	28
I-526	Alien Entrepreneur	97%	31
I-600	Petition for Orphan	100%	4
I-601	Application for Waiver of Inadmissibility	52%	185
I-612	Application for 212(e) Waiver	100%	1
I-821	Temporary Protected Status	59%	108
I-914	Application for T Nonimmigrant Status	100%	5
I-918	Petition for U Nonimmigrant Status	100%	133
I-924	Application for Regional Center	100%	1

Form Type	Case Type	Completed 0-180 Days	Quarterly Completions
I-929	Qualifying Family Member of a U Nonimmigrant	100%	1
N-565	Replacement Naturalization/Citizenship Document	100%	6
N-600	Certificate of Citizenship	49%	45

Last Reviewed/Updated: 01/05/2017