



U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES MANILA FIELD OFFICE OVERVIEW

Department of Homeland Security

On March 1, 2003, the Immigration and Naturalization Service ("Legacy INS") ceased to exist, and its functions were transferred from the Department of Justice to the newly created Department of Homeland Security as required by the Homeland Security Act of 2002. Legacy INS and the Legacy U.S. Customs Service were merged to form three new agencies: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") was created to administer the citizenship and immigration services of the United States. USCIS includes approximately 15,000 employees and contractors. The agency is headed by a Director who holds the rank of Under Secretary, reporting directly to the Deputy Secretary for the Department of Homeland Security.

USCIS' mission is to provide accurate and useful information to customers, grant immigration and citizenship benefits, promote awareness and understanding of citizenship, and to ensure the integrity of the U.S. immigration system. USCIS processes immigrant and non-immigrant benefits provided to visitors of the U.S. including: family-based petitions, employment-based petitions, asylum and refugee processing, naturalization, document issuance and renewal, and special status programs.

Bangkok District

The Bangkok District falls under the Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations Directorate of USCIS and is comprised of Field Offices in Manila, Philippines; New Delhi, India; Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Beijing, China; Guangzhou, China; Seoul, Korea; Bangkok, Thailand.

USCIS Manila Field Office

The USCIS Manila Field Office ("USCIS Manila") has jurisdiction of The Philippines, New Guinea, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Wallis, Futuna, New Caledonia, Pitcairn Island, and Overseas French territories of French Polynesia. USCIS Manila provides services for the following U.S. immigration benefits which may include filing, transfer, adjudication, and/or other processing:

- Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card.
- Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative.
- Form I-212, Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the U.S. After Deportation or Removal.
- Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion.
- Form I-360, Application for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant.
- Form I-407, Abandonment by Alien of Status as Lawful Permanent Resident.
- Form I-590, Registration for Classification as Refugee.

- Form I-600, Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative.
- Form I-600A, Application for Advance Processing of Orphan Petition.
- Form I-601, Application for Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility.
- Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition.
- Form I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence.
- Form I-800A, Application for Determination of Suitability to Adopt a Child from a Convention Country.
- Form N-400, Application for Naturalization.
- Form N-565, Application for Replacement of Naturalization/Certificate Documents.
- Form EOIR-29, Notice of Appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals From A Decision of a USCIS Officer.
- Request for Humanitarian Reinstatement of I-130 Petition.
- Request for Opt-Out under Section 6 of the Child Status Protection Act.
- Fingerprint Request for USCIS Application / Petition.
- HIV Waivers for V and K Nonimmigrants.

Residency

USCIS Manila accepts applications and petitions from an individual who can establish residency in one of the countries listed above. Section 101(a)(33) of the Immigration and Nationality Act defines "residence" as the "place of general abode; the place of general abode of the person means his principal, actual dwelling place in fact, without regard to intent."

Website

USCIS's website (www.uscis.gov) answers many questions concerning how and where to apply for U.S. immigration benefits. The [USCIS Manila](#) page contains detailed information on local procedures.

Public Information Window

USCIS Manila maintains a public information window (Window 35) in the Immigrant Visa Unit, Consular Section, U.S. Embassy, Manila. Hours of public operation are Monday – Friday (except U.S. and Philippine holidays) from 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Arrive early to ensure a place in line. Take a number (one per family) and have a seat in the waiting room. Inquiries are answered and requests processed in the order received.

Contact Information

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