



Straight from the Source

Immigration News from USCIS

May 2011

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1. USCIS Issues Fact Sheet on Public Charge—Public charge has been a ground of inadmissibility for more than 100 years. Someone who is likely to become a public charge is inadmissible to the United States and cannot become a lawful permanent resident. USCIS has just issued a new [fact sheet](#) on public charge, a topic that generates a lot questions and anxiety from customers. This new publication is intended to help noncitizens make informed choices when applying for public benefits and contains a detailed list of non-cash benefits that are not subject to public charge consideration.

2. 2012 Diversity Lottery Results Voided, New Selection Planned—On Friday, May 13, the State Department posted an advisory on www.dvlottery.state.gov announcing that the results of the 2012 Diversity Lottery that were previously posted have been voided. A computer programming error caused results that were not random to be posted and those results are now invalid. Anyone who checked this website the first week in May and found a notice that they had been selected for further processing or a notice that they had not been selected, that notice has been rescinded and is not valid. The computer programming problem has been fixed and a new random selection process will be conducted based on the original entries for the 2012 program. The 2012 Diversity Lottery is ongoing and people who applied before do not need to (and may not) reapply. The results of the new selection process should be available on or about July 15, 2011. For details, please visit www.dvlottery.state.gov.



3. USCIS Now Delivers Green Cards and Other Documents Using Priority Mail—USCIS has fully implemented the [Secure Mail Initiative](#) (SMI), which uses U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Priority Mail with Delivery Confirmation to deliver green cards, work permits and other documents in a safe, secure and timely manner. The Secure Mail Initiative enables USCIS to confirm that essential documents were delivered to the correct address and allows customers to track the status of their documents at www.usps.com. Two weeks after receiving an approval notice, customers may call USCIS's national customer service center at 800-375-5283 to request a tracking number. Customers need to be ready to provide information from the I-797 receipt notice. Click on the link above to read the news release.

4. USCIS Launches I-9 Central on www.uscis.gov—USCIS has launched I-9 Central, a new online resource center dedicated to the #1 accessed form on USCIS.gov: Form I-9, Employee Eligibility Verification. This free, easy-to-use website provides employers and employees simple one-click access to resources, tips and guidance to correctly complete Form I-9 and better understand the Form I-9 process.



5. E-Verify Web Content Now Available in Spanish—E-Verify web content is now available in Spanish. The “parallel” Spanish-language E-Verify web page has a wealth of information for both employers and employees. For employers, the new Spanish content covers everything from enrolling to photo matching and using an agent to enroll. For employees, the Spanish-language site

provides helpful information on employees’ rights and responsibilities and instructions on how to resolve a tentative non-confirmation. Check it out! Visit the new www.dhs.gov/e-verify-espanol today.

6. Several New Policy Memos Issued—USCIS issued and posted the following policy memos on our website at: www.uscis.gov>laws>policy memoranda

- April 27, 2011—Supplemental Guidance to USCIS Service Centers on Adam Walsh Act Adjudication - Centralization of Identified Adam Walsh Act Related Petitions at the Vermont Service Center for Adjudication and Review
- April 19, 2011—Extension of Status for T and U Nonimmigrants



7. Upcoming National Engagements—USCIS manages a comprehensive calendar of public engagements to solicit feedback on USCIS procedures and policies. You may wish to bookmark our calendar for future reference: www.uscis.gov/publicengagement. Click on the links below for details.

- May 26, 2011—USCIS Service Center Operations invites interested stakeholders to participate in an engagement to discuss the H-1B Cap Exemption for Related or Affiliated Nonprofit Entities. The engagement will take place at 2:00PM Eastern Time. For details, please visit www.uscis.gov/outreach and click on “Upcoming National Engagements.”
- May 31, 2011—USCIS Service Center Operations invites interested stakeholders to participate in the next monthly stakeholder teleconference at 2:00pm Eastern Time. The topic for this teleconference is customer service. This is a telephonic-only engagement.

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- June 29, 2011—USCIS invites interested parties to participate in the quarterly national stakeholder meeting at 2:00pm Eastern Time. Participants may raise concerns about operations and identify systemic issues. Interested parties may participate in person or by telephone.
- June 30, 2011—USCIS Service Center Operations invites stakeholders to participate in an engagement to discuss the EB-5 Immigrant Investor program. The engagement will take place at 1:00PM Eastern Time. This is a telephonic-only engagement.

Straight from the Source is produced monthly by the USCIS Western Region Community Relations Program to provide a helpful “wrap-up” of key developments for USCIS stakeholders and customers. Please share this with colleagues and clients. To submit comments, or to be added to the distribution list, please e-mail janna.evans@dhs.gov.

