

From: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services <uscis@public.govdelivery.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 2:58 PM

To:

Subject: Temporary Extension of Form I-693 Validity and USCIS Filing Recommendation to File Form I-485 and Form I-693 at the Same Time



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Public Engagement
Division



Temporary Extension of Form I-693 Validity and USCIS Filing Recommendation to File Form I-485 and Form I-693 at the Same Time

USCIS is on track to approve more employment-based adjustment of status applications than it has since FY 2005. We have prioritized employment-based adjustment of status applications during every step of its processing and adjudication during this fiscal year. We continue to make processing and resource allocation decisions to increase the pace of adjudications and limit the potential for employment-based visa numbers to go unused.

If you are applying for adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident with USCIS (also known as applying for a Green Card), please file [Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record](#), together with [Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status](#). Doing so may eliminate the need for us to issue a Request for Evidence (RFE) and helps avoid adjudication delays.

Background

When applying for adjustment status to that of a lawful permanent resident, you must establish that you are not inadmissible to the United States on public health grounds by submitting a Form I-693 that has been completed and signed by a USCIS-designated civil surgeon. USCIS generally considers a completed Form I-693 to retain its evidentiary value (remain valid) for two years after the date the civil surgeon signed Form I-693, as long as the date of the civil surgeon's signature is no more than 60 days before the applicant filed an application for adjustment of status, [Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status](#).

New Temporary Guidance

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related processing delays, USCIS has experienced delays in all aspects of operations. Applicants have also experienced difficulties beyond their control, including delays with completing the immigration medical examination. To address these issues, USCIS is temporarily extending the validity period of an otherwise valid Form I-693.

Effective Aug. 12, 2021, USCIS is temporarily extending the validity period for Form I-693 from 2 years to now 4 years. For decisions on Form I-485 issued on or before Sept. 30, 2021, the adjudicating officer may accept an otherwise valid Form I-693, if no more than four years have passed since the civil surgeon's signature. The officer may accept for consideration a Form I-693 for a decision issued on or before Sept. 30, 2021 if:

- The civil surgeon's signature is dated no more than 60 days before the applicant filed Form I-485;
- No more than four years have passed since the date of the civil surgeon's signature; and
- A decision on Form I-485 is issued on or before Sept. 30, 2021.

Summary

You are not required to file the Form I-693 at the same time you file Form I-485, and many applicants bring their completed Form I-693 to their interview. However, some applications may not require an interview. USCIS makes decisions to waive interviews on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, to help save time and avoid adjudication delays, please file Form I-485 and Form I-693 at the same time. It is also important to note that the date of the civil surgeon's signature on the Form I-693 must be no more than 60 days before the date you file Form I-485 in order to retain its validity, regardless of whether you submit Form I-693 with your Form I-485 or after you file your Form I-485.

More Information

For more information on adjustment of status, visit our [Green Card webpage](#). For more information on USCIS and its programs, visit [uscis.gov](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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