

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

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Immigration Benefits in EOIR Proceedings

The information on this page applies only to individuals who are requesting, or who have been granted, relief or protection from removal while they are in proceedings in an immigration court or before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). Immigration courts and the BIA are part of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in the U.S. Department of Justice.

Certain people in proceedings before an immigration court can apply for <u>relief from removal</u>, such as adjustment of status to that of a lawful permanent resident, cancellation of removal, and certain waivers of inadmissibility. Other people may also may seek protection from removal, such as asylum or withholding of removal.

If you are filing an application for relief or protection from removal before an immigration court, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) government's attorney should provide you with <u>Instructions for</u> <u>Submitting Certain Applications in Immigration Court and For Providing Biometric and Biographic</u> <u>Information to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (Pre-Order Instructions)</u>. You must follow these instructions carefully to have your application adjudicated in immigration court.

Before the EOIR can grant relief or protection from removal, identity, security, and background checks must be completed. If you are scheduled for a biometric services appointment at a USCIS Application Support Center (ASC), you must carefully follow the instructions on the appointment notice for completing all necessary biometrics requirements.



Immigration Benefit Granted by EOIR

Applications After EOIR Terminates Removal Proceedings for USCIS to Adjudicate Adjustment of Status Application

Change of Address following EOIR Action

Defensive Asylum Security and Background Checks and Biometrics Scheduling FAQs Effective December 16, 2024, if you are in proceedings in immigration court, do not mail a copy of the first three pages of your <u>Form I-589</u>, <u>Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal</u>. DHS will automatically initiate security and background checks based on the Form I-589 you filed with the immigration court.

If DHS does not have your biometrics on file, you will receive a notice at your address of record with the immigration court to attend a biometric services appointment at a USCIS Application Support Center (ASC).

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What if I already sent the first three pages of my Form I-589 to USCIS?

A. No additional action is needed.

If DHS does not have your biometrics on file, USCIS will mail a biometric services appointment notice to you at the address on record with the immigration court. If you move, you are required to update your address with the immigration court using <u>Form EOIR-33</u>, Change of Address/Contact Information.

Q. What should I do if I already filed my Form I-589 with the immigration court, but I did not yet mail the first three pages of my Form I-589 to USCIS?

A. Do not mail the first three pages of your Form I-589 to USCIS. DHS will initiate the required security and background checks automatically based on the Form I-589 you filed with the immigration court. If DHS does not have your biometrics on file, USCIS will mail a biometric services appointment to you at the address on record with the immigration court. If you move, you are required to update your address with the immigration court using <u>Form EOIR-33</u>.

Q. What will USCIS do with paper copies of the first three pages of Form I-589 that were sent to USCIS?

A. USCIS will hold the paper copies of the first three pages of Form I-589 for six months from date of receipt. After six months, the paper copies will be destroyed in accordance with applicable procedures.

Q. If I need biometrics collected, how will I get my ASC appointment notice?

A. You will receive an ASC appointment notice by mail at the address that you provided to the immigration court. If you move, you are required to update your address with the immigration court using <u>Form EOIR-33</u>.

Q. When should I call the USCIS Contact Center?

A. You should call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 if:

- You received a biometrics appointment notice, but need to reschedule your appointment and cannot use the online biometric services appointment rescheduling tool;
- You were instructed during your immigration court appearance that you need to submit biometrics in your case but have not received an ASC appointment; **and**
- You have waited three months since filing your Form I-589 with the immigration court or have a date for your merits hearing scheduled within six months.

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Do not contact a USCIS Asylum Office about the status of your biometrics appointment.

Q. Why do I need to wait 3 months after filing my Form I-589 with the immigration court or until I have a merits hearing scheduled within 6 months before calling the USCIS Contact Center?

A. The immigration court staff manually enter information from each Form I-589 into their electronic systems. The three-month window gives immigration court staff enough time to enter information from your Form I-589 into the immigration court system.

Q. What should I do if the immigration judge tells me I need my biometrics collected, but the USCIS Contact Center says I do not need a biometric services appointment?

A. Please notify the immigration court that the USCIS Contact Center said biometrics do not need to be submitted in your case. You may not appear at an ASC without a scheduled biometric services appointment.

Q. How do I update my mailing address if I moved after I filed my Form I-589 with the immigration court?

A. If you move, you are required to update your address with the immigration court using <u>Form EOIR-33</u>, and serve the Form on the appropriate U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of the Principal Legal Advisor Field Location as instructed on the Form. You must submit Form EOIR-33 for each individual who has a case pending in immigration court and is affected by the change of address.

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