

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:38 AM

**To:**

**Subject:** Important Information about Filing for Asylum with USCIS

Effective May 9, 2024, we will reject affirmative asylum applications improperly filed at service centers instead of at the lockbox with jurisdiction over your place of residence. We [announced this change in filing location](#) on May 31, 2023, and finalized the associated revision to [Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal](#), in the Federal Register, [88 FR 60703](#) (Sept. 5, 2023). We expect this change to help streamline asylum processing and improve adjudication efficiency by digitizing paper filings.

Certain categories of affirmative asylum applicants must continue to mail their applications directly to the Asylum Vetting Center. Unaccompanied children (UCs) in immigration court proceedings must mail their applications to the lockbox. Online filing is also available to affirmative asylum applicants who are not in immigration court proceedings and who do not have to submit their application to the Asylum Vetting Center. See the “Where to File” and “Special Instructions” sections of our [Form I-589](#) webpage for more information and to learn where to file your application. You can also use our [Filing Instructions Tool](#) to determine where to file your Form I-589.

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**Please do not reply to this message. See our [Contact Us](#) page for phone numbers and e-mail addresses.**

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