

Categories of Citizenship Eligible for Federal Student Aid

Category	Comments
U.S. Citizens	Citizens of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, individuals from Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands
Other U.S. Nationals	Citizens of American Samoa and Swain's Island
U.S. Permanent Residents	Individuals who enter the country with immigrant visas or who adjust their status after entering as nonimmigrants, refugees, or asylees
Citizens of Certain Pacific Islands* <small>*Only eligible for Federal Pell Grants, FSEOG, and FWS.</small>	Individuals from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (the former Trust Territories), and the Republic of Palau
Other Eligible Noncitizens	Refugees, persons granted asylum, Cuban-Haitian entrants, and those with temporary residency status under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986

Acceptable Citizenship-Status Documentation

CITIZEN NOT BORN IN UNITED STATES

Certificate of Citizenship	Must have student's name and application number, certificate number, and the date the certificate was issued.
Certificate of Naturalization	Must have student's name and petition number, certificate number, Alien Registration Number, and name of the court (and date) where naturalization occurred.
"Certificate of Birth Abroad" Form FS-545, DS-1350, or FS-240, "Report of Birth Abroad"	Must have embossed seal "United States of America" and "State Department."
U.S. Passport	

NONCITIZEN NATIONAL

U.S. Passport	Must be stamped "Noncitizen National."
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PERMANENT RESIDENT

"Alien Registration Receipt Card" Form I-151, I-551, or I-551C	The I-551C must have a currently valid expiration date.
Passport	Must be stamped "Processed for I-551" with expiration date.
I-94	Must be stamped "Processed for I-551" with expiration date, or "Temporary Form I-551," with appropriate information filled in.

OTHER ELIGIBLE NONCITIZEN

"Temporary Resident Card" Form I-688	Must have expiration date.
"Arrival-Departure Record" Form I-94	Must be stamped as a Refugee, Asylum Status, Conditional Entrant (before April 1, 1980), Parolee, Cuban-Haitian Entrant.
"Family Unity Status" Form I-797	Approved "Application for Voluntary Departure Under Family Unity Program." Must also have I-797 with approved "Visa Petition for Spouse" or "Immigrant Petition for Relative."

paste in Citizen not Born in U.S./Noncitizen National

paste in Permanent Resident/Other Eligible Noncitizen

paste in Permanent Resident

Glossary (of INS Terms)

Guidance counselors may encounter several unfamiliar terms when assisting students and parents with the financial aid process. **The definitions in this glossary are informational in nature and should not be used for any other purpose.** They do not represent any formal source or policy of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Official definitions have been shortened or edited whenever possible.

-A-

Alien: Any person who is not a citizen or national of the United States.

Alien File (A-file): This history file containing all data and documentation pertaining to an individual alien. An A-file is created or amended when any one of several actions occurs: for example, when applications for permanent resident status or for a Certificate of Citizenship are submitted. Alien Registration Numbers (A-Numbers) are assigned at the local File Control Office (FCO) processing the initial action.

Alien Registration Number (A-Number): An eight-digit or nine-digit number assigned to an alien at the time the alien file is created.

Alien Status Verification Index (ASVI): A database designed for the use of entitlement benefit agencies in verifying alien immigration status in accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA). The database, Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements, is commonly known as “SAVE.”

Asylee: An alien, already in the United States or at a port of entry, who is granted asylum in the United States. Asylum may be granted to those persons who are unable or unwilling to return to their countries of nationality, or who seek protection because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution upon returning to their countries. Asylum is covered by Section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (I&NA). See also *Refugee*.

-B-

No entries

-C-

Central Index System (CIS): An automated system containing information about aliens. The CIS, from which SAVE is extracted, is INS’s most complete database on aliens in the United States.

Certificate of Citizenship: An identity document proving U.S. citizenship.

Certificate of Naturalization: An identity document proving U.S. citizenship.

Change to Nonimmigrant Status: The act of changing a nonimmigrant’s classification (for example, changing from visitor to student status).

Citizen: A person born in a country or who has become a naturalized citizen of that country.

Conditional Entrant: A refugee. See *Refugee*.

Conditional Resident Alien: An alien granted a two-year period of permanent resident status based on a “qualifying” marriage to a U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident alien. Children of a U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident alien also may have this status. The conditional status may be removed after two years if INS rules favorably on granting lawful permanent resident status to the alien.

Cuban-Haitian Alien: The status afforded to (a) Cubans who entered the United States illegally between April 15, 1980 and October 10, 1980, and (b) Haitians who entered the country illegally before January 1, 1981. This status is covered by Section 502(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (I&NA).

-D-

Document Verification Request (Form G-845S): A form designed to request secondary confirmation of alien status from INS under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

Documented Alien: An alien who is in the United States and who is in possession of valid documents.

-E-

No entries

-F-

Family Unity Status: Individuals who have been granted relief from deportation by INS under the provision of the Family Unity Program and who are the beneficiaries of an approved “immigrant petition for relative” or “visa petition for spouse” are eligible noncitizens for purposes of the federal student financial aid programs.

File Control Office (FCO): An INS field office where alien files are maintained.

-G-

Green Card: A slang term describing the Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-151 or Form I-551). Many versions of these forms are not green in color.

-H-

No entries

-I-

Illegal Alien: A foreign national (a) who entered the United States without inspection or with fraudulent documentation or (b) who, after entering legally as a nonimmigrant, violated status and remained in the United States without authorization. See also *Undocumented Alien*.

Immigrant: An alien who has been lawfully afforded the privilege of residing permanently in the United States. His or her status allows authorization for work and entitlement benefits. See also *Lawful Permanent Resident Alien* and *Permanent Resident Alien*.

Immigrant Visa: A document issued by a U.S. Consul abroad, which authorizes an alien to apply for admission as an immigrant to the United States.

Immigrant and Nationality Act of 1952

(I&NA): Legislation that defined most immigration status now in use and that helped form the basis for U.S. immigration law and policies.

Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986

(IRCA): Legislation that was passed to deter illegal immigration to the United States; the legislation uses employer sanctions and status verification and allows the legalization of specific groups of aliens.

Immigration Status: The legal status conferred on an alien by immigration law.

Immigration Status Verifier (ISV): An INS employee or contractor that performs secondary verification duties at local INS File Control Offices.

-J,K-

No entries

-L-

Lawful Permanent Resident Alien: An alien who has been lawfully afforded the privilege of residing permanently in the United States. See also *Immigrant* and *Permanent Resident Alien*.

Legalization: A program whereby an illegal alien could receive amnesty and adjustment of his or her immigration status to that of a temporary resident. The alien was required to establish proof of entry prior to January 1, 1982, and continuous unlawful residence since that time. This program is covered by section 245(A)(c)(5) of IRCA.

-M-

No entries

-N-

Nationality: The state or country to which a person owes allegiance. Note that the country of birth does not necessarily correspond to the nationality.

Naturalization: The conferring of nationality of a state or country upon a person who has been born under allegiance to another nation.

Nonimmigrant: An alien who seeks temporary entry to the United States for a specific purpose. This category includes foreign government officials, visitors for business and pleasure, and students. Some nonimmigrants have specialized employment privileges (for example, foreign nationals who are employees of the U.S. office of a foreign-owned company).

Nonimmigrant Information System (NIS): INS online files that store information on nonimmigrants in the United States, such as foreign visitors, government personnel, and ship and flight crews.

-O-

No entries

-P-

Parolee: An alien who appears to be inadmissible to the inspecting officer but who is allowed to enter the United States either under emergency conditions or under a determination that the alien's entry is determined to be in the public interest. Although parolees are required to leave when the conditions supporting their parole cease to exist, they may sometimes adjust immigration status to asylee. Parolee status is covered by Section 212 of the I&NA.

Passport: Any travel document issued by competent authority showing the bearer's origin, identity, and nationality which is valid for the entry of the bearer into a foreign country.

Permanent Resident Alien: A person who enters the country with an immigrant visa or adjusts his status after entering as a nonimmigrant, refugee, or asylee. Persons with this status are entitled to live and work in the United States and collect entitlement benefits, if qualified. See also *Immigrant* and *Lawful Permanent Resident*.

Primary Confirmation: A query to confirm alien documentation using the ASVI database.

PRUCOL: A person permanently residing in the United States under color of law. This is not a status as defined by the I&NA of 1952, and persons residing under this status are not eligible for federal student aid funds.

-Q-

No entries

-R-

Refugee: Any person who is outside his country of nationality and who is unable or unwilling to return to that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. Unlike asylees, refugees apply for and receive this status prior to entry in the United States. This status is covered by

Section 207 (formerly Section 203(a)(7)) of the I&NA. See also *Asylee*.

Refugee Conditional Entrant: An alien who entered the United States or who adjusted his or her status to Lawful Permanent Resident under the seventh preference category of Public Law 89-236, which was enacted in 1965. This status was established by Section 203(a)(7) of the I&NA, but was abolished by the Refugee Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-212).

-S-

Secondary Confirmation: A request to validate alien documentation, using Form G-845S, after Primary Confirmation has been attempted. Secondary confirmation is performed by the immigration status verifier, using various automated and manual sources.

Special Agricultural Worker (SAW): This was part of the legalization program in which an alien who had resided in the United States and performed agricultural labor for at least 90 person-days during the one-year period prior to May 1, 1986 could apply for temporary lawful resident alien status. The SAW status was limited to the first 350,000 aliens that applied. Although most successful applicants have now been converted to permanent resident status, there are a limited number of pending cases, who may have I-688, I-688a or I-688b status. See the description in the text for the eligibility of these statuses.

Student/School System (STSC): INS's online file that contains information on foreign students in U.S. academic and vocational educational institutions.

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE): An automated or manual information sharing program whereby institutions can certify the immigration status of alien applicants for federal student financial aid. See also *Alien Status Verification Index*.

-T-

Temporary Lawful Resident Alien: An alien granted a one-year period of lawful residence status based on his or her qualifications under the legalization or SAW programs. The temporary status may be removed after one year, when INS rules favorably or unfavorably on granting permanent resident status to the alien.

-U-

Undocumented Alien: An alien in the United States without proper documentation. He or she is in violation of U.S. immigration law. See also *Illegal Alien*.

-V,W,X,Y,Z-

No entries

INS Field Offices Directory

ALASKA

Anchorage

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Suite 102
620 East 10th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99513

Phone: 907-271-4519
Fax: 907-271-3112

ARIZONA

Phoenix

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
2035 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Phone: 602-379-3255
Fax: 602-379-4009

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
300 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 213-894-6285/6286
Fax: 213-894-6660

San Francisco

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Appraisers Building
630 Sansome Street, Room 300
San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415-705-4206/4585/4586
Fax: 415-705-4466

San Diego

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
880 Front Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: 619-557-6727
Fax: 619-557-6565

California Service Center

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
P.O. Box 30080
Laguna Niguel, CA 92607

Phone: 714-360-2800

COLORADO

Denver

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
4730 Paris Street
Denver, CO 80239

Phone: 303-371-4415
Fax: 303-361-0617

CONNECTICUT

Hartford

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
450 Main Street
Ribicoff Federal Building
Hartford, CT 06103-3060

Phone: 203-240-3166
Fax: 203-240-3214

FLORIDA**Miami**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
7880 Biscayne Boulevard, Room 620
Miami, FL 33138

Phone: 305-536-5703/5704
Fax: 305-350-5708

GEORGIA**Atlanta**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
77 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: 404-331-3251
Fax: 404-331-1146

GUAM**Agana**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Pacific Daily News Building, Suite 801
238 Archbishop Flores Street
Agana, Guam 96910

Phone: 671-472-7349
Fax: 671-472-7491

HAWAII**Honolulu**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
595 Ala Moana Boulevard
P.O. Box 461
Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 808-532-3721

ILLINOIS**Chicago**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
10 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 222
Chicago, IL 60604

Phone: 312-886-0909
Fax: 312-353-7260

INDIANA**Indianapolis**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Gateway Plaza, Room 400
950 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone: 317-226-6009

LOUISIANA**New Orleans**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Postal Service Building
Room T-8005
701 Loyola Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70113

Phone: 504-589-6614/6615
Fax: 504-589-4451

MAINE**Portland**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
739 Warren Avenue
Portland, ME 04103

Phone: 207-780-3443/3266
Fax: 207-780-3481

MARYLAND**Baltimore**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 Equitable Tower 1, 12th Floor
 100 South Charles Street
 Baltimore, MD 21201

Phone: 410-962-2436/2437
 Fax: 410-962-9229

MASSACHUSETTS**Boston**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 JFK Federal Building
 Government Center
 Boston, MA 02203

Phone: 617-565-3046/3048

MICHIGAN**Detroit**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 Federal Building
 333 Mt. Elliott Street
 Detroit, MI 48207

Phone: 313-568-6012
 Fax: 313-568-6014

MINNESOTA**St. Paul**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 2901 Metro Drive, Suite 100
 Bloomington, MN 55425

Phone: 612-335-2235/2236
 Fax: 612-335-2262

MISSOURI**Kansas City**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 9747 N. Conant Avenue
 Kansas City, MO 64153

Phone: 816-891-0640
 Fax: 816-891-7006

St. Louis

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 Robert A. Young Federal Building
 1222 Spruce Street, Room 1100
 St. Louis, MO 63103-2815

Phone: 314-539-2534/2535
 Fax: 314-539-2539

MONTANA**Helena**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 2800 Skyline Drive
 Helena, MT 59601

Phone: 406-449-5428
 Fax: 406-449-5752

NEBRASKA**Lincoln**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
 850 S Street
 Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: 402-437-5769
 Fax: 402-437-5475

Omaha

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
3736 S. 132nd Street
Omaha, NE 68144

Phone: 402-697-9302/9305
Fax: 402-697-9064

NEVADA**Las Vegas**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
3373 Pepper Lane, Room 104
Las Vegas, NV 89120

Phone: 702-388-6626
Fax: 702-388-6627

Reno

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
1351 Corporate Boulevard
Reno, NV 89502

Phone: 702-784-5186
Fax: 702-784-5899

NEW JERSEY**Newark**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Federal Building, Room 304
970 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 201-645-4537/4538/4539
Fax: 201-645-3543

NEW YORK**Albany**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
U.S. Post Office & Courthouse
445 Broadway
Room 220
Albany, NY 12207

Phone: 518-431-0320
Fax: 518-472-4531

Buffalo

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
130 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone: 716-551-4741, ext. 4218/4627/4207

New York

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
26 Federal Plaza, Room 7-130
New York, NY 10278

Phone: 212-264-5872
Fax: 212-264-2189

NORTH CAROLINA**Charlotte**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
6 Woodlawn Green, Suite 138
Charlotte, NC 28217

Phone: 704-523-1704

OHIO**Cleveland**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
1240 E. 9th Street, Room 1917
Cleveland, OH 44199

Phone: 216-522-2268/2612
Fax: 216-522-7039

OKLAHOMA**Oklahoma City**

Contact the Dallas, TX office

OREGON**Portland**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Federal Office Building
511 Northwest Broadway
Portland, OR 97209

Phone: 503-326-7186
Fax: 503-326-7182

PENNSYLVANIA**Philadelphia**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
1600 Callowhill Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

Phone: 215-656-7184/7185
Fax: 215-656-7200

Pittsburgh

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
2130 Federal Building
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Phone: 412-644-4552
Fax: 412-644-6375

PUERTO RICO**San Juan**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
GPO Box 5068
San Juan, PR 00936

Phone: 809-766-5278/5021
Fax: 809-766-5838

RHODE ISLAND**Providence**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
200 Dyer Street
Providence, RI 02903

Phone: 401-454-2865

TENNESSEE**Memphis**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
1341 Sycamore View
Memphis, TN 38134

Phone: 901-544-3089
Fax: 901-544-4123

TEXAS**Dallas**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
8101 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, TX 75247

Phone: 214-655-3073/3080
Fax: 214-655-3052

El Paso

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
1545 Hawkins Boulevard
El Paso, TX 79925

Phone: 915-540-1776

Harlingen

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
2102 Teege Avenue
Harlingen, TX 78550

Phone: 210-427-8922

Fax: 210-423-7147

Houston

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
509 North Sam Houston Parkway
Houston, TX 77070

Phone: 713-847-7964

San Antonio

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
8940 Fourwinds Drive
Suite 2020
San Antonio, TX 78239

Phone: 210-871-7065/7037/7038/7039

UTAH**Salt Lake City**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
5272 South College Drive, Suite 100
Salt Lake City, UT 84123

Phone: 801-265-8892

VERMONT**St. Albans**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Federal Building
P.O. Box 328
St. Albans, VT 05478

Eastern Service Center

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
75 Lower Welden Street
St. Albans, VT 05479-0001

Phone: 802-527-3160

VIRGINIA**Norfolk**

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
5280 Hannamon Drive
Norfolk, VA 23513

Phone: 804-858-6292

Washington, DC Processing Center

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
4420 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203

Phone: 202-307-1501

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Charlotte Amalie

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
P.O. Box 610
St. Thomas, VI 00804

Phone: 809-774-1390
Fax: 809-776-4981

WASHINGTON

Seattle

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
815 Airport Way South
Seattle, WA 98134

Phone: 206-553-7928/2319
Fax: 206-553-2730

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee

INS: Immigration Status Verifier
Federal Building, Room 186
517 E. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Phone: 414-297-3565