

Department of Homeland Security

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Budget Overview



Fiscal Year 2024
Congressional Justification

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United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Appropriation Organization Structure

Organization Name	Level	Fund Type (* Includes Defense Funding)
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services	Component	
Operations and Support	Appropriation	
Employment Status Verification	PPA	Discretionary - Appropriation
Application Processing	PPA	Discretionary - Appropriation
Federal Assistance	Appropriation	
Citizenship and Integration Grants	PPA	Discretionary - Appropriation
Immigration Examinations Fee Account	Appropriation	
Adjudication Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Field Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Fraud Detection and National Security	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Service Center Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Support Services	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Immigration Policy and Support	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Refugee and Asylum Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
EB-5 Integrity Fund	Appropriation	
Adjudication Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account	Appropriation	
Adjudication Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account	Appropriation	
Adjudication Operations	PPA	Mandatory - Fee

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Appropriation and PPA Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget
Operations and Support	\$389,504	\$242,981	\$855,194
Employment Status Verification	\$114,504	\$109,611	\$111,865
Application Processing	\$275,000	\$133,370	\$743,329
Federal Assistance	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Citizenship and Integration Grants	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Immigration Examinations Fee Account¹	\$4,944,463	\$5,595,175	\$5,868,997
Adjudication Operations	\$1,832,963	\$2,174,211	\$2,389,083
<i>Field Operations</i>	-	\$1,051,375	\$1,168,497
<i>Fraud Detection and National Security</i>	-	\$263,779	\$295,134
<i>Service Center Operations</i>	-	\$576,702	\$643,097
<i>Support Services</i>	-	\$282,355	\$282,355
Immigration Policy and Support	\$1,297,020	\$1,218,924	\$1,293,872
Refugee and Asylum Operations	\$435,753	\$431,450	\$380,405
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	\$478,752	\$456,732	\$474,930
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	\$899,975	\$1,313,858	\$1,330,707
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account	\$52,870	\$53,960	\$56,140
Adjudication Operations	\$52,870	\$53,960	\$56,140
H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Adjudication Operations	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
EB-5 Integrity Fund	-	-	\$8,760
Adjudication Operations	-	-	\$8,760
Total	\$5,421,837	\$5,937,116	\$6,819,091

¹ Totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Operations and Support	1,342	847	\$389,504	965	914	\$242,981	3,996	3,124	\$855,194	3,031	2,210	\$612,213
Federal Assistance	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$25,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	(\$15,000)
Immigration Examinations Fee Account ²	20,654	18,649	\$4,944,463	21,659	20,576	\$5,595,175	22,512	20,650	\$5,868,997	853	74	\$273,822
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account	185	176	\$52,870	185	176	\$53,960	185	176	\$56,140	-	-	\$2,180
H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account	-	-	\$15,000	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	-
EB-5 Integrity Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	35	\$8,760	40	35	\$8,760
Total	22,181	19,672	\$5,421,837	22,809	21,666	\$5,937,116	26,733	23,985	\$6,819,091	3,924	2,319	\$881,975
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	1,342	847	\$409,504	965	914	\$267,981	3,996	3,124	\$865,194	3,031	2,210	\$597,213
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	20,839	18,825	\$5,012,333	21,844	20,752	\$5,669,135	22,737	20,861	\$5,953,897	893	109	\$284,762

Component Budget Overview

The FY 2024 Budget includes \$865.2M, 3,996 positions; and 3,124 full-time equivalents (FTE) in discretionary budget authority for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This funding level represents an increase of \$597.2M above the FY 2023 Enacted.

The FY 2024 Budget also estimates \$6.0B in total mandatory budget authority for the Immigration Examinations Fee Account (IEFA), the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account, EB-5 Integrity Fund, and the Fraud Prevention and Detection Account (FPDA).

The funding enables USCIS to fully meet its mission requirements, including the following:

² FTE and amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

- Strengthen and effectively administer the immigration system;
- Strengthen National security safeguards and combat fraud;
- Reinforce quality and consistency in administering immigration benefits.

The FY 2024 discretionary funding supports the E-Verify Program (Employment Status Verification PPA), the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, and Application Processing.

The Employment Status Verification (ESV) PPA provides funds for the operations, mission support, and associated management and administration costs of E-Verify. E-Verify is an internet-based program that enables an employer to determine a newly hired employee's eligibility to work in the United States by verifying information reported on an employee's Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, against data from the Department of Homeland Security, Social Security Administration, Department of State, and Departments of Motor Vehicles of participating States.

The Application Processing PPA provides funding for staffing, supplies, and equipment that supports the Administration's priority of decreasing application processing times, reducing the backlog, and expanding humanitarian processing efforts for additional asylum adjudication work and supporting the refugee affairs program. Application Processing supports up to 125,000 refugee admissions, and aids in processing credible fear applications including the adjudication of affirmative asylum applications as well as the adjudication of credible fear screenings, reasonable fear screenings, and asylum merits interviews for certain individuals placed in expedited removal.

USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant Program is funded via the Federal Assistance account. In FY 2024, USCIS expects to award \$10.0M in grants to organizations that help prepare lawful permanent residents (LPRs) for naturalization.³ The grants aim to promote prospective citizens' inclusion into American civic life by funding educational programs designed to increase their knowledge of English, U.S. history, and civics.

³ For a list of past grant recipients, please visit: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/organizations/grant-program>

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Budget Authority and Obligations

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget
Enacted/Request	\$5,328,334	\$5,414,843	\$6,505,516
Carryover - Start of Year	\$1,576,510	\$2,301,239	\$1,739,091
Recoveries	\$123,099	\$76,000	\$76,000
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	(\$2,612)	(\$36,145)	-
Net Sequestered Resources	(\$8,744)	(\$12,998)	(\$28,128)
Reprogramming/Transfers	(\$7,332)	\$3,208	-
Supplementals	\$193,000	-	-
CHIMP	(\$4,000)	(\$4,000)	(\$4,000)
Total Budget Authority	\$7,198,255	\$7,742,646	\$8,288,479
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	\$77,005	\$75,000	\$75,000
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$7,275,260	\$7,817,147	\$8,363,479
Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections) ^{4, 5}	\$4,883,916	\$6,015,056	\$6,881,867
Obligations – Reimbursable	\$83,687	\$63,000	\$74,000
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	22,181	22,809	26,733
Enacted/Request FTE	19,672	21,666	23,985
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	19,194	22,809	26,733
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	18,501	21,666	23,985

⁴ This total includes Operation Allies Welcome obligations.

⁵ Totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Collections – Reimbursable Resources

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Canada/UK Visa	-	-	\$9,500	-	-	\$9,500	-	-	\$9,500
Department of Defense - Department of Defense	-	-	\$7,500	-	-	\$7,500	-	-	\$7,500
Department of Health and Human Services - Department Wide	-	-	\$5	-	-	\$5	-	-	\$5
Department of Homeland Security - Department of Homeland Security	-	-	\$952	-	-	\$952	-	-	\$952
Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency	-	-	\$12,994	-	-	\$12,994	-	-	\$12,994
Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Customs and Border Protection	-	-	\$19,154	-	-	\$19,154	-	-	\$19,154
Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	-	-	\$12,500	-	-	\$12,500	-	-	\$12,500
Department of Justice - Department of Justice	-	-	\$311	-	-	\$311	-	-	\$311
Department of State	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SAVE Collections	-	-	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000
Department of Homeland Security – CISA	-	-	\$74	-	-	\$74	-	-	\$74
General Service Administration (GSA)	-	-	\$10	-	-	\$10	-	-	\$10
Total Collections	-	-	\$75,000	-	-	\$75,000	-	-	\$75,000

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Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted				FY 2023 Enacted				FY 2024 President's Budget				FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total			
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Operations and Support	1,342	847	\$159,102	\$187.84	965	914	\$131,919	\$144.33	3,996	3,124	\$566,596	181.35	3,031	2,210	\$434,677	\$37.02
Immigration Examinations Fee Account ⁶	20,654	18,649	\$2,787,629	\$149.48	21,659	20,576	\$3,214,766	\$156.24	22,512	20,650	\$3,478,371	168.44	853	74	\$263,605	\$12.20
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account	185	176	\$25,978	\$147.60	185	176	\$27,068	\$153.80	185	176	\$28,447	161.63	0	0	\$1,379	\$7.83
EB-5 Integrity Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	35	\$5,593	159.80	40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80
Total	22,181	19,672	\$2,972,709	\$151.11	22,809	21,666	\$3,373,753	\$155.72	26,733	23,985	\$4,079,007	\$170.06	3,924	2,319	\$705,254	\$14.35
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	1,342	847	\$159,102	\$187.84	965	914	\$131,919	\$144.33	3,996	3,124	\$566,596	\$181.35	3,031	2,210	\$434,677	\$37.02
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	20,839	18,825	\$2,813,607	\$149.46	21,844	20,752	\$3,241,834	\$156.22	22,737	20,861	\$3,512,411	\$168.37	893	109	270,577	\$6.25

⁶ FTE and Amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Pay by Object Class

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget⁷	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$2,084,976	\$2,346,716	\$2,811,810	\$465,094
11.3 Other than Full-time Permanent	\$14,856	\$15,404	\$16,460	\$1,056
11.5 Other Personnel Compensation	\$85,807	\$109,615	\$172,608	\$62,993
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$787,070	\$900,807	\$1,076,803	\$175,996
13.0 Benefits for Former Personnel	-	\$1,211	\$1,326	\$115
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$2,972,709	\$3,373,753	\$4,079,007	\$705,254
Positions and FTE				
Positions - Civilian	22,181	22,809	26,733	3,924
FTE - Civilian	19,672	21,666	23,985	2,319

⁷ Totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

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Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Operations and Support	\$230,402	\$111,062	\$288,598	\$177,536
Federal Assistance	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
Immigration Examinations Fee Account ⁸	\$2,156,834	\$2,380,409	\$2,390,626	\$10,217
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account	\$26,892	\$26,892	\$27,693	\$801
H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-
EB-5 Integrity Fund	-	-	\$3,167	\$3,167
Total	\$2,449,128	\$2,563,363	\$2,740,084	\$176,721
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	\$250,402	\$136,062	\$298,598	\$162,536
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	\$2,198,726	\$2,427,301	\$2,441,486	\$14,185

⁸ Totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Non Pay by Object Class*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget⁹	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$55,111	\$41,565	\$81,246	\$39,681
22.0 Transportation of Things	\$12,510	\$16,107	\$16,087	(\$20)
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$314,434	\$281,140	\$279,819	(\$1,321)
23.2 Rental Payments to Others	\$1,616	\$5,464	\$12,893	\$7,429
23.3 Communications, Utilities, & Miscellaneous	\$54,424	\$97,302	\$97,302	-
24.0 Printing and Reproduction	\$7,669	\$14,856	\$14,856	-
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$788,924	\$790,702	\$799,763	\$9,061
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	\$98,255	\$51,537	\$135,521	\$83,984
25.3 Other Purchases of goods and services	\$435,103	\$361,323	\$361,323	-
25.4 Operations & Maintenance of Facilities	\$3,134	\$2,725	\$2,725	-
25.6 Medical Care	\$1	-	-	-
25.7 Operation & Maintenance of Equipment	\$111,762	\$213,430	\$213,986	\$556
26.0 Supplies & Materials	\$35,607	\$39,726	\$40,566	\$840
31.0 Equipment	\$456,851	\$545,222	\$596,733	\$51,511
32.0 Land and Structures	\$49,408	\$72,358	\$72,358	-
41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	\$20,091	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
42.0 Insurance Claims and Indemnities	\$4,228	\$4,906	\$4,906	-
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$2,449,128	\$2,563,363	\$2,740,084	\$176,721

⁹ Totals for FY 2024 do not match the numbers displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

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Supplemental Budget Justification Exhibits

FY 2024 Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems (CUAS) Funding

The FY 2024 Budget for USCIS does not include any funding for Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems.

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Status of Congressionally Requested Studies, Reports and Evaluations

Fiscal Year	Due Date	Reference/Citation	Requirement	Status
2022	April 14, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	USCIS continues to have the authority to accept private donations to support the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. The Committee directs USCIS to provide an update on its planned use of this authority not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to include efforts undertaken to solicit private donations.	Transmitted - November 4, 2022
2022	April 27, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Budget Justification Materials.- ... Within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall confer with the Committees on the PPA structure to be used for future budget requests.	Transmitted - February 17, 2022
2022	April 29, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Within the total amount provided, \$87,619,000 is available until September 30, 2023, for application processing. Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committees on an updated spending and hiring plan, which shall include the funding provided in support of application processing, and shall also include a detailed breakout, by mission critical occupation category, of the total USCIS funded position levels, which shall include positions supported by fee funding, to provide a complete picture of USCIS's funded position levels for its various workstreams, which shall then be used to compare against realized hiring execution.	Transmitted - June 1, 2022
2022	May 14, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Backlog Reporting and Processing Times.—USCIS shall provide the Committees a plan within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act to establish a quarterly, public report on all backlogs, frontlogs, and pending forms, for all form types, which shall also indicate the form's processing goal.	Drafted - In Review
2022	May 14, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Trusted Employer Program—Within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a report to the Committee on the operation of the pilot program from 2016 to 2020 for the Trusted Employer Program, including information regarding any cost savings to the agency, cost savings to petitioners, and operational and security benefits to the agency.	Transmitted - August 11, 2022
2022	May 14, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Virtual Processes and Ceremonies – Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide the Committees with an analysis of the feasibility of leveraging video and audio teleconferencing capabilities to: (1) support remote refugee interviews; and (2) remotely administer the oath of citizenship during circumstances that impede the regular administration of naturalization ceremonies.	Transmitted - June 2, 2022
2022	May 16, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	p. 92 - Asylum Seeker Access to Employment Authorization. —The Committee recognizes the importance of employment authorization for asylum seekers awaiting the outcome of their cases, including individuals with positive Credible Fear or Reasonable Fear determinations or who have expressed a fear of return to their home countries and intend to apply for asylum or withholding of removal. The Committee directs DHS to establish a centralized mechanism for asylum seekers to	Pending

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			apply for employment authorization online and to brief the Committee not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act on its plan to meet this objective, including a projected schedule for meeting anticipated milestones. Further, the Committee directs USCIS to reduce printing and reproduction costs related to the cumbersome Form I-765 and to brief the Committee not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act on a plan for achieving this goal, including any anticipated resource savings and timeliness metrics.	
2022	May 16, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	H-2B Visa Program Oversight.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Department shall brief the Committee on the administrative remedies the Department of Labor has issued in each of the last three fiscal years against entities or persons who violate H-2B requirements. The report should contain, but not be limited to: (1) a list of entities or persons cited, by industry and violation; (2) the number of H-2B workers impacted and the nature of those impacts; (3) the effects on the domestic workforce; (4) the number of entities or persons debarred from the H-2B program due to violations; (5) a description of the criteria and methodology for debarment decisions; and (6) a justification for why any repeat offenders have been allowed to continue to participate in the program.	Transmitted - November 14, 2022
2022	June 7, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Department shall report to the Committee on the distribution of visas granted through the H-2B program, including a tabulation of the percentage of overall visas issued to the top 15 employers.	Drafted - In Review
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS is directed to make available, on a publicly accessible website, an interactive dashboard detailing the number of forms received, processed, approved, denied, and pending by month, along with the average processing time and the number of forms pending for more than six months, for each of the following: (1) form I-130 (Petition for Alien Relative); (2) form I-360 (Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant); (3) form I-485 (Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status), delineated by application type or filing category; (4) form I-751 (Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence); (5) form N-400 (Application for Naturalization); and (6) form I-765 (Employment Authorization Document). The dashboard shall include historical data beginning not later fiscal year 2016; be updated monthly by not later than the tenth business day following the end of each month; and permit the downloading of the underlying data in a searchable and sortable spreadsheet format. USCIS shall make every effort to continuously expand the dataset on this website to eventually include all forms.	Pending
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Asylum Processing — Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a report to the Committees that details its efforts and specific actions, if any, to reduce the backlog of asylum applications, while ensuring that asylum applicants are properly reviewed for security purposes.	Pending
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Backlog Reporting and Processing Times.—USCIS is directed to ensure that timeliness performance measures for all forms are developed, implemented, and routinely assessed. Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall report to the Committees on measures implemented to promptly reduce processing delays and provide the Committees a list of adjudication processing goals and whether the goal is required by statute, regulation, or is set internally.	Drafted - In Review

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2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	USCIS Quarterly Budget and Productivity Reporting— USCIS shall brief the Committee within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter on budget operations, including revenue projections, actual spending, and other financial forecasts. At a minimum, the briefing shall detail the spending of each directorate and office (compared to projections), provide revenue and expenses delineated by form type, other agency expenses including payments or transfers to other Federal agencies, and carryover or reserve fund projections and spending. USCIS shall ensure the agency maintains a sufficient carryover balance to provide stability amid fluctuating receipts. Additionally, USCIS shall develop productivity measures that convey the baseline capacity and capabilities for processing applications and petitions and capture the impact of investments in personnel, technology, or changes to processes and policies on such measures. Updates on USCIS performance against these measures shall be included with the quarterly budget reporting.	Drafted - In Review
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Electronic Processing— In addition to the requirements in Section 4103 of the USCIS Stabilization Act (Public Law 116-159) and not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, USCIS is directed to brief the Committees on its progress with further developing and implementing the plan, which shall include the following additional detailed information: (1) cost and schedule plans for 12 months; (2) cost and schedule actuals against the plans; (3) identification and justification for slippage in cost and/or schedule; (4) identification of any risks, and mitigation strategies to address such risks; (5) identification of any technological challenges facing the agency; (6) an examination of whether expanded premium processing could facilitate end-to-end electronic processing for all immigration benefit requests, and if so, the resulting project plan, including timelines and cost estimates for USCIS and customers; and (7) a plan for promoting public adoption, including by engaging with industry partners as applicable. USCIS shall specifically highlight the status of its efforts to establish a centralized mechanism for asylum seekers to apply for employment authorization online, including a projected schedule for meeting anticipated milestones. Further, USCIS shall review whether Form 1-765 can be more narrowly tailored to reduce paperwork and workloads, while still ensuring proper eligibility and security and shall include its plan for achieving this goal, including any anticipated resource savings and timeliness metrics, in the next semi-annual briefing.	Pending
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	E-Verify— USCIS shall examine and brief the Committees, within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, on a plan to implement an appeal process for a final nonconfirmation within the E-Verify system, as well as improvements in outreach efforts and training tools to assist employers in improving the accuracy of information they submit into the system.	Transmitted - October 13, 2022
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Use of Fee Waiver - Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committees on its policies regarding the use of full and partial fee waivers for applicants, petitioners, and requestors.	Transmitted - November 2, 2022
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Military Naturalization Applications – Absent exigent circumstances or additional time applicants may need to respond to Requests for Evidence or Notices of Intent to Deny, USCIS shall ensure that military naturalization applications are processed within six months, as was required by the Military Personnel Citizenship Processing Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-3 82). USCIS is directed to continue to build upon its military naturalization promotion program, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, to ensure all military service members and their families learn about and consider their eligibility to apply for naturalization before the military service member's separation	Transmitted - October 27, 2022

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			from the military, and to help military families navigate the naturalization process. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committees on the status of meeting these goals, including any efforts to streamline processes and improve the overall experience for service members and their families.	
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Refugee Admissions.—The Department shall submit to the Committee and make available to the public on its website not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act the following information for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2021: the number of USCIS staff assigned to the Refugee Corps at the Refugee Affairs Division of USCIS and the number of refugee processing circuit rides conducted; the number of USCIS Refugee Corps officers assigned to each circuit ride; the destination region and country for each circuit ride; the number of refugee interviews conducted by USCIS; and the number of approvals and denials issued by USCIS.	Transmitted - January 6, 2023
2022	June 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Workload Staffing Modeling—USCIS shall brief the Committee within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act on a plan to develop a strategic agency-wide workload staffing model that incorporates the impact of personnel, existing assets, and capabilities on USCIS operations. The model should reflect the impact of business transformation initiatives such as IT, business process reengineering, and the streamlining of data required on forms from applicants/petitioners. While the model shall not assume that work will be performed by employees detailed from other agencies to perform core USCIS mission duties, the model shall incorporate historical attrition and hiring delays to inform realistic staffing on-board assumptions. The model should be able to provide to USCIS data on the expected impacts that changes in USCIS assets and capabilities are expected to have on reducing backlogs and allowing USCIS the ability to test how changes in business processes and policies will impact its workforce, assets, and customers.	Transmitted - November 30, 2022
2022	July 13, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	H.R. 116-458; p. 77 - Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a report to the Committees that includes calculations of the percentage of all SAVE inquiries from user agencies made pursuant to mandates in Federal law and the percentage related to benefits for which Federal law does not require immigration status verification. The report shall provide this information for the last three fiscal years. In addition, the report shall include estimates of the per-inquiry and total amount of SAVE operational costs not recouped in user fees for each fiscal year.	Transmitted - January 6, 2023
2022	September 11, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Backlog Reporting and Processing Times.— ...Additionally, within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall develop and brief the Committees on a comprehensive Backlog Elimination Plan, modeled on prior successful efforts by USCIS to eliminate their backlogs in 2004–2006, along with any associated staffing models to support such plan.	Pending
2022	September 11, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Trauma-Informed Support—Within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committee any current training for employees who are regularly exposed to, or engage with, trauma survivors.	Transmitted - October 4, 2022
2022	September 12, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	B–1 Visa Holders.—The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a report not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act on B–1 personal or domestic workers, including the visa holder’s year of birth; gender; country of citizenship and birth; date of visa issuance and expiration; and the city, state, and zip code where the visa holder will be working. The report shall also be made available to the public.	Transmitted - September 29, 2022

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2022	September 12, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	H-2B Visa Distribution—The Department shall, in consultation with the Department of Labor, examine the impacts of the current H-2B visa semiannual distribution on employers, employees, and agency operations and to provide the Committee with a briefing on the study not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.	Transmitted - November 14, 2022
2022	September 12, 2022	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2022 (P.L. 117-103)	Report on Nonimmigrant Visas— Within 180 days of the enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide to the Committee a monthly report on nonimmigrant visas granted to individuals from each country subject to a designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) [note that this information would need to come from the Department of State].	Transmitted - October 12, 2022, and monthly thereafter
2023	January 28, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS continues to have the authority to accept private donations to support the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. The Committee directs USCIS to provide an update on its planned use of this authority not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to include efforts undertaken to solicit private donations.	Transmitted - January 27, 2023
2023	February 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall provide the Committees a plan, within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act, to establish a quarterly, public report on all backlogs, frontlogs, and pending forms for all form types. The report shall include the number of applicants or petitioners in each USCIS backlog, frontlog, or pending status, including beneficiaries where applicable, by form type; and shall include the length of the status associated with the relevant form type.	Pending
2023	February 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	<p>USCIS is directed to continue to make available, on a publicly accessible website in a downloadable, searchable, and sortable format, a report containing not less than the previous 12 months of semimonthly data on:</p> <p>(1) the number of noncitizens determined to have a credible or reasonable fear of-</p> <p>(a) persecution, as defined in section 235(b)(1)(B)(v) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; or</p> <p>(b) torture, as defined in section 208.30 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on January 1, 2018);</p> <p>(2) the total number of cases received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to adjudicate credible or reasonable fear claims, as described in paragraph (1), and the total number of cases closed; and</p> <p>(3) the total pending asylum operations workload.</p> <p>Such report shall also disaggregate the data described above with respect to the following subsets:</p> <p>(1) claims submitted by aliens detained at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement family residential center or an emergency family shelter;</p> <p>(2) claims submitted by aliens, organized by each subdivision of legal or administrative authority under which claims are reviewed; and</p> <p>(3) the job series of the personnel reviewing the claims.</p> <p>Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, USCIS shall provide a briefing to the Committees on the implementation of the Credible Fear and Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule. The briefing shall include data on the number of credible fear interviews and Asylum Merits Interviews conducted; outcomes of such interviews, including, but not limited to, the number approved, denied, administratively closed, and pending cases; the Field Office location of such interviews; and whether the individual was represented.</p> <p>USCIS shall report publicly the number of individuals referred to immigration or criminal proceedings, or otherwise referred for an enforcement action.</p>	Pending

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2023	February 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter, the Department shall provide the Committees with updated reports on all applications and petitions for which fees are waived and any budgetary impacts resulting from the issuances of such waivers.	Pending
2023	February 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall brief the Committee, not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and in coordination with the Department of Labor, on efforts to prevent fraud and abuse in the H-2A and H-2B visa programs and efforts to ensure that employers, agents, attorneys, and recruiters who have been debarred by the Department of Labor cannot continue to participate in the programs.	Pending
2023	February 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Department shall report to the Committee on the distribution of visas granted through the H-2B program, including a tabulation of the percentage of overall visas issued to the top 15 employers.	Pending
2023	February 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	The Committee is concerned about the claims made in the OIG's January 6, 2022, report (OIG-22-10) regarding USCIS's management and implementation of the U Visa program. Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committee on the implementation of the recommendations included in the OIG report, including its rationale for not concurring with some of the OIG recommendations.	Drafted - In Review
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a report to the Committees that details its efforts to reduce the backlog of asylum applications, while ensuring that asylum applicants are properly reviewed for security purposes.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall coordinate with relevant Federal agencies that provide services to individuals who have been granted asylum to ensure that such persons are appropriately referred and informed of available services. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a briefing to the Committees on efforts to refer asylees for services.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, USCIS is directed to make available on a publicly accessible website: (1) the total number of pending employment authorization applications filed by individuals with pending applications for asylum or withholding of removal pursuant to 8 C.F.R. 274a.12(c)(8); and (2) the total number of such applications that have been pending 60 or fewer days, 61–90 days, 91–120 days, 121–179 days, and 180 or more days.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall provide semi-annual briefings to the Committees on budget operations, including revenue projections, actual spending, and other financial forecasts. At a minimum, the briefing shall detail spending by directorate and office, with comparisons to initial projections; revenue and expenses delineated by form type; other agency expenses, including payments or transfers to other Federal agencies; and carryover or reserve fund projections and spending. USCIS shall ensure the agency maintains a sufficient carryover balance to provide stability amid fluctuating receipts. Additionally, USCIS shall establish a baseline for current application and petition processing capacity, along with metrics for measuring the impact of investments in personnel, technology, and changes to processes and policies on productivity. Updates on USCIS performance against these metrics shall be included with the briefings.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall provide a semi-annual briefing to the Committees on its electronic processing efforts, as described in the explanatory statement accompanying the fiscal year 2022 funding Act (Public Law 117-103), including its efforts to establish a centralized mechanism for asylum seekers to apply for employment authorization online. Further, USCIS shall explore options, including through technology, to increase access to	Pending

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			interviews and other processes for individuals who may not be geographically located near a users Field Office.	
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	<p>USCIS shall ensure all regulatory, statutory, and court-ordered or stipulated agreement timelines are met for all applications for employment authorization. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, USCIS is directed to make available on a publicly accessible website:</p> <p>(1) the total number of pending employment authorization applications filed; and</p> <p>(2) the total number of such applications that have been pending for 60 or fewer days, 61- 90 days, 91- 120 days, 121- 179 days, and 180 or more days.</p> <p>The website shall also summarize, on an annual basis, all existing processing time goals, the source of the time goal, and whether the agency met the time goal for the prior fiscal year.</p>	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a briefing on the status of its plans to modernize and improve the quality and accuracy of information submitted into the E-Verify system, including the status of its efforts to implement an appeal process for a non-confirmation within the E-Verify system.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Also, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Department, in consultation with the Department of Labor, shall brief the Committee on the impacts of the current H-2B visa semiannual distribution on employers, employees, and agency operations.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	The Committee urges USCIS to continue to reevaluate its international footprint requirements to optimize its ability to meet its mission needs in a cost-effective manner. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committee on its international operations, its reliance on operations in foreign locations, and its plans for changing its international footprint over the next five fiscal years, along with estimated budget and operational impacts of such changes.	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	<p>The agreement provides sufficient resources for USCIS to meet the Presidential Determination on refugee admissions for the fiscal year. Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a briefing to the Committees on its detailed plan to achieve the Presidential Determination on refugee admissions for Fiscal Year 2023.</p> <p>The briefing shall include, for fiscal year 2022, the information identified under this heading in the explanatory statement accompanying the fiscal year 2022 funding Act (Public Law 117-103) related to staffing, interviews, approvals, and denials.</p> <p>USCIS shall examine whether any burdensome administrative or inefficiencies currently exist in the refugee admissions process including whether any duplicative fingerprint requirements exist that slow refugee admissions and shall include such information in the briefing to the Committees.</p>	Pending
2023	March 29, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	<p>Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter, USCIS shall make the following information available on a publicly accessible website:</p> <p>(1) the total number of SIJ petitions pending before USCIS and the length of time each case has been pending;</p> <p>(2) the total number of SIJ adjudications, broken down by grant or denial and the average length of time SIJ petitions were pending prior to adjudication, decision, or issuance of a Request for Evidence (RFE) or Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID);</p> <p>(3) the total number of RFEs and NO IDs issued; and</p>	Drafted - In Review

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			(4) the total numbers of SIJ petitions that have been pending for 60 or fewer days, 61 - 90 days, 91-120 days, 121-179 days, and 180 or more days.	
2023	April 28, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). - The Committee looks forward to working with USCIS on improvements to this grant program, such as reviewing the guidelines and requirements set forth in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to be sure that no unnecessary or overly restrictive conditions are preventing otherwise qualified prospective grant recipient organizations from participating. Not later than five business days prior to the finalization of the NOFO, USCIS shall brief the Committee on any changes to the execution of the program, including changes in the qualifications and expectations of grant recipients. Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committee on its metrics for evaluating the success of this grant program.	Pending
2023	April 28, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a report to the Committee that includes calculations for the prior three fiscal years of the percentage of all SAVE inquiries from user agencies made pursuant to mandates in Federal law and the percentage related to benefits for which Federal law does not require immigration status verification. In addition, the report shall provide an overview of the funding profile for the program, to include total operational costs, the program's reimbursement model, and the extent to which program costs are not fully recovered by user fees. The Committee expects that this program will not rely on fees paid by applicants and petitioners for immigration benefits; accordingly, the report shall also include any plans to achieve full-cost recovery.	Drafted - In Review
2023	April 28, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a briefing to the Committees regarding the status of its efforts in each field office to facilitate the registration of U.S. Citizens upon completion of their oath ceremonies. At a minimum, the briefing shall include details on agreements and partnerships with the appropriate state or local officials or agencies, or non-profits, as appropriate, and how USCIS works with the appropriate entities to electronically transfer voter information, or to pursue other avenues to reduce paperwork and facilitate voter registration for these individuals upon successfully obtaining U.S. Citizenship.	Pending
2023	April 28, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a briefing to the Committees that updates the information required under this heading in the explanatory statement accompanying the fiscal year 2022 funding Act (Public Law 117-103). The briefing shall include data outputs from the Staffing Allocation Model and the Model of Operational Planning in order to provide the Committees a better understanding of what the budget request and anticipated fee funded resources will support and the associated projections for improvements in performance.	Pending
2023	June 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	The Committee directs the Secretary to submit a report not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act that includes summary data on B-1 personal or domestic workers, including visa holders' years of birth; genders; countries of citizenship and birth; dates of visa issuance and expiration; and the cities and states where the visa holders will be working. The report shall employ data disclosure avoidance measures to protect personally identifiable data and be made available to the public. The Secretary shall promptly inform the Committee if a Federal agency partner does not comply with a request to provide relevant records needed to complete the report.	Pending
2023	June 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Additionally, within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall provide a briefing to the Committees on a plan for addressing ongoing backlogs and frontlogs.	Pending

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2023	June 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS shall brief the Committee on the number of individuals enrolled in the Filipino War Veteran Parole Program. The briefing shall also discuss opportunities to shorten the wait times for family members of Filipino World War II veterans and more quickly process the permanent resident applications of those enrolled in the Filipino War Veteran Parole Program, along with any resources and authorities needed.	Pending
2023	June 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall, in coordination with the Department of Labor's Office of Foreign Labor Certification, timely post public information provided by employers on Form I-129 and associated filings regarding recruiters, recruiting agents, or agencies they plan to use.	Pending
2023	June 27, 2023	Consolidated Appropriation Act 2023 (P.L. 117-396)	USCIS shall also establish a process whereby workers may confirm that they are the beneficiaries of H-2A or H-2B petitions and can receive information about their own immigration status, including their authorized period of stay and the status of any requested visa extensions.	Pending

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Authorized/Unauthorized Appropriations

Budget Activity <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	Last year of Authorization	Authorized Level	Appropriation in Last Year of Authorization	FY 2024 President's Budget
	Fiscal Year	Amount	Amount	Amount
Operations and Support	N/A	\$631,745	\$707,395	\$855,194
Employment Status Verification	2002	\$631,745	\$707,395	\$111,865
Application Processing	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$743,329
Federal Assistance	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$10,000
Citizenship and Integration Grants	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$10,000
Fee Accounts	N/A	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available
Immigration Examinations Fee	1988	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available
H-1B Non-immigrant Petitioner	1998	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available
Fraud Prevention and Detection	2004	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available
EB-5 Integrity Fund	2022	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available	Such sums as are available

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Proposed Legislative Language

Operations and Support

For necessary expenses of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for operations and support, including for the E-Verify Program and for the Refugee and International Operations Programs, *application processing, and additional support for asylum adjudication workloads*, [\$242,981,000] \$855,194,000: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be in addition to any other amounts made available for such purposes, and shall not be construed to require any reduction of any fee described in section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)): *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$5,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

Language Provision	Explanation
<i>..., application processing, and additional support for asylum adjudication workloads</i>	Funding is requested for backlog reduction and asylum adjudication work in FY 2024.
... [\$242,981,000] \$855,194,000	Dollar change only.

Federal Assistance

For necessary expenses of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for Federal assistance for the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, [\$25,000,000] \$10,000,000[, to remain available until September 30, 2024].

Language Provision	Explanation
... [\$25,000,000] \$10,000,000	Dollar change only.
... [, to remain available until September 30, 2024]	Updated for period of availability. This is no longer requested as two-year funding. Historically, one-year funding availability has been requested for \$10 million in funding.

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United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Strategic Context



Fiscal Year 2024
Congressional Justification

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Strategic Context

Component Overview

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) administers the Nation's lawful immigration system, safeguarding its integrity and promise by efficiently and fairly adjudicating requests for immigration benefits while protecting Americans, securing the homeland, and honoring our values.

The strategic context presents the performance budget by tying together programs with performance measures that gauge the delivery of results to our stakeholders. DHS has integrated a mission and mission support programmatic view into a significant portion of the Level 1 Program, Project, or Activities (PPAs) in the budget. A mission program is a group of activities acting together to accomplish a specific high-level outcome external to DHS, and includes operational processes, skills, technology, human capital, and other resources. Mission support programs are those that are cross-cutting in nature and support multiple mission programs. Performance measures associated with USCIS's mission programs are presented in two measure sets, strategic and management measures. Strategic measures communicate results delivered for our agency mission and are considered our Government Performance and Results Act Modernization Act (GPRAMA) measures. Additional supporting measures, known as management measures, are displayed to enhance connections to resource requests. The measure tables indicate new measures and those being retired, along with historical data if available.

Employment Status Verification: The electronic employment eligibility verification E-Verify program enables enrolled employers to confirm the work authorization of their newly hired employees quickly and easily. E-Verify is an Internet-based system that compares information from an employee's Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, to records available to DHS to confirm employment eligibility within seconds.

Strategic Measures

Measure Name:	Percent of workers determined to be Employment Authorized after an initial mismatch						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure reports the number of cases in which adjudicating officials in the E-Verify program find a person employment authorized under U.S. law after the program issued the person under examination with a Tentative Non-Confirmation (TNC) of eligibility for employment, and the person in question contested this initial mismatch. In cases when an employee contests an eligibility determination, the program's Legal Instrument Examiners (LIEs) make a final determination of the employee's eligibility for employment and transmits the determination both to the hiring employer and to VIS. Ensuring the accuracy of E-Verify program processing reflects the program's intent to minimize negative impacts imposed upon those entitled to employment in the U.S. while ensuring the integrity of immigration benefits by effectively detecting and preventing cases of unauthorized employment.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	≤0.60%	≤0.50%	≤0.40%	≤0.40%	≤0.40%	≤0.30%	≤0.30%
Results:	0.16%	0.21%	0.23%	0.13%	0.11%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	E-Verify continues to be very successful in matching employees to their government records during the initial electronic matching phase. In those rare cases where the electronic check does not find a match, it is very rare that the applicant will contest the case and						

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Strategic Context

	be found to be employment authorized. USCIS continues to improve its processes through E-Verify enhancements such as mismatch letter notices to employees and Self Check, a free online service that allows an individual to check his or her employment eligibility.
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Fraud Prevention and Detection Account: The Fraud Prevention and Detection program supports activities related to preventing and detecting immigration benefit fraud. The program leads efforts to identify threats to national security and public safety, deter, detect, and combat immigration benefit fraud, and remove systemic and other vulnerabilities. This is part of the Fraud Prevention and Detection Fee Account.

Strategic Measures

Measure Name:	Percent of system generated notifications related to national security, public safety, or fraud reviewed and addressed for pending applications within 60 day						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure gauges the timely resolution of system generated notifications SGNs related to national security, public safety, or fraud for immigration benefits in cases pending a decision to approve or deny immigration benefits. SGNs provide continuous vetting capabilities to alert FDNS to investigate potential issues of concern. Program officers may resolve the notification by determining that there is no basis for continuing the investigation or that a basis exists which warrants the opening of a fraud, public safety, or national security case in the Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS). Continuous vetting of information helps safeguard the integrity of the nation's lawful immigration system.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	85%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Results:	---	---	85%	75%	82%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	USCIS significantly improved its performance in triaging SGNs during FY 2022 by realizing the benefits of multiple long-term initiatives. Foremost, FDNS and the USCIS Office of Information Technology (OIT) deployed a modernization of the ATLAS rules based platform in August 2021, which provided a more stable cloud-based environment and opportunities to utilize newer technologies in FY 2022 and beyond. Secondly, FDNS, with support from OIT, deployed technology SGN optimizations which allowed refined algorithms to best isolate derogatory information in systems connected to ATLAS while reducing unnecessary notifications. USCIS has also trained new officers to bolster SGN triaging skillsets and increase compliance with best practices. The combination of technological improvements to the ATLAS architecture, focused development on increasing SGN efficiency and effectiveness, and ongoing training to promote best practices enabled USCIS to improve overall performance and meet this strategic measure.						

Immigration Examinations Fee Account: The Immigration Services program supports and promotes lawful immigration by processing benefit requests, so that only those eligible for immigration benefits are approved. This includes processing refugee and asylum applications as well as providing assimilation services for lawful immigrants. This is part of the Immigration Examinations Fee Account and the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Fee Account.

Strategic Measures

Measure Name:	Average processing time for adjustment of status to Permanent Resident Applications (I-485) (in months)
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United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Strategic Context

Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of the Field Operations Directorate (FOD) to meet adjudication processing goals for the Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust status. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤10.0	≤10.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Average processing time for detainees claiming Credible Fear (in days)						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses how quickly the program processes the credible fear claims of individuals held in ICE-operated detention centers. Specifically, for individuals claiming persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution or harm on account of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion if returned to their country. This measure reports the average number of days between individuals expressing their fear and the program completing the case. By evaluating how quickly the credible fear claims of detained individuals are completed, the program can assess the effectiveness of a critical element of the agency's goal to secure borders through effective use of detention capacity.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤14.0	≤14.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Average processing time for naturalization applications (N-400) (in months)						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of the Field Operations Directorate (FOD) to meet its published adjudication processing goals for the Applications for Naturalization (N-400). An N-400 is filed by an individual applying to become a United States citizen. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤8.0	≤8.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Average processing time to adjudicate form I-129 (Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker) (in months)						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of the Field Operations Directorate (FOD) to meet its published adjudication processing goals for the Applications for Naturalization (N-400). This measure assesses the ability of the Service Center Operations Directorate (SCOPS) to meet its published adjudication processing goals of Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker. An I-129 is filed on behalf of a nonimmigrant worker to come to the United States temporarily to perform services or labor, or to receive training, as an E-1, E-2, E-3,						

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	H-1B, H-2A, H-2B, H-3, L-1, O-1, O-2, P-1, P-1S, P-2, P-2S, P-3, P-3S, Q-1, R-1, or TN nonimmigrant worker. This process time information will help determine if the organization has the capability and capacity to process petitions and will also be used to make operational decisions. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.an individual applying to become a United States citizen. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤2.0	≤2.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Average processing time to adjudicate form I-140 (Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker) (in months)						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of Service Center Operations (SCOPS) to meet its published adjudication processing goals for the Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker (I-140). An I-140 is filed on behalf of an immigrant worker to come to the United States permanently to perform services or labor as an E11, E12, E13, E21, E31, E32, or EW3 immigrant worker. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤4.0	≤4.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Number of asylum determinations						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure gauges the total number of asylum determinations to approve, deny, refer to an Immigration Judge, or administratively close cases related to refugee and asylum. Individuals physically present in the U.S. may apply for asylum, regardless of their country of nationality or current immigration status, if they were persecuted or have a fear that they will be persecuted because of their race, nationality, religion, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. The processing of asylum determinations advances the objective to adjudicate protection, humanitarian, and other immigration benefits.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	65,000	50,000	65,000	65,000
Results:	---	---	---	---	41,453	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	Throughout FY 2022, RAIO has shifted its adjudicative strength across various programs and functional areas both internal and external. RAIO Affirmative Asylum determination completions are negatively impacted by growing credible and reasonable fear, refugee, and parole caseloads, and by providing substantial assistance to other priority humanitarian programs.						

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Corrective Action:	Appropriation funding was allocated and increases in workforce will be directly applied to backlog reduction and operational resource shortages. USCIS' ability to meet the target will improve when staffing vacancies are reduced, the proficiency of new hires increases, and USCIS international footprint is expanded to meet overseas interviewing demands that are heavily augmented. All corrections will continue to advance at a positive rate as USCIS is able to refocus the asylum workforce specifically on the Affirmative Asylum application process.
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Measure Name:	Percent of approved applications for naturalization that were appropriately decided						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the validity of final decisions by program adjudicators to approve all electronic N-400 Naturalization Forms received through USCIS Electronic Immigration System (ELIS) by reporting the findings of regular quality reviews of these decisions by experienced subject matter experts (SMEs). The program conducts quality reviews by drawing a statistically valid random sample of approved N-400s on a quarterly basis. Insuring that the program provides immigration services accurately and with full documentary support through quality reviews identifies opportunities to improve training and business processes and enhances confidence in the legal immigration system.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
Results:	99%	99%	99%	0%	100%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	During FY 2022, FOD continued to enhance the security and integrity of processing Naturalization cases through the continued implementation of process efficiencies, which included the increased review and processing of electronic case filing and scanning, continuous training efforts, rapid hiring, and the use of overtime hours funded largely through recent Congressional appropriations. In addition, automated electronic security checks enhanced the integrity of the immigration system at the critical naturalization stage of the process. FOD also expanded the use of video interviews of applicants that added additional flexibilities to the adjudication process.						

Measure Name:	Percent of approved applications for permanent residence that were appropriately decided						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the validity of final decisions by program adjudicators to approve Form I-485 applications to register for permanent residence or to adjust status by reporting the findings of regular quality reviews of these decisions by experienced subject matter experts (SMEs). The program conducts quality reviews of these cases, drawing a statistically valid random sample of approved I-485s on a quarterly basis. Insuring that the program provides immigration services accurately and with full documentary support through quality reviews identifies opportunities to improve training and business processes and enhances confidence in the legal immigration system.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
Results:	99%	99%	96%	0%	100%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	In FY 2022, FOD expanded its comprehensive interview strategy for Adjustment of Status cases, in order to better utilize resources by waiving interviews when the record establishes eligibility for the immigration benefit. This allowed for better triaging and routing of cases to officers, based on officer experience and case complexity. Additionally, more family based I-485s were ingested and processed electronically, allowing for more efficient security checks and improved overall integrity of the immigration system.						

Measure Name:	Percent of naturalization cases where derogatory information was identified and resolved prior to taking the oath of allegiance						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure gauges the rate at which derogatory information is identified and resolved before N-400 Form naturalization applicants take the final the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony. Taking the oath at a ceremony completes the process of becoming a U.S. citizen for approved applicants. USCIS employs continual vetting of applicants and a final check for derogatory information close to the oathing ceremony to ensure that ineligible applicants are not naturalized due to criminal activity, national security, or public safety concerns. Continuous vetting ensures the integrity of the immigration system and protects our national security.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Results:	---	---	100%	100%	100%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	This measure gauges the rate at which derogatory information is identified and resolved by USCIS before an N-400 Form (Naturalization Application) applicant takes the final the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony. Taking the oath at a ceremony completes the process of becoming a U.S. citizen for approved applicants. USCIS employs continual vetting of applicants and a final check for derogatory information close to the oathing ceremony to ensure that applicants who are ineligible due to criminal activity, national security, or public safety concerns are not naturalized. Continuous vetting ensures the integrity of the immigration system and protects our national security.						

Measure Name:	Percent of pending cases that are considered backlog						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	The measure assesses the proportion of pending cases considered as backlog. Backlog is defined as the number of cases pending within the government's control that exceed target processing time for each form. This measure will help senior leadership assess the effectiveness of the agency's multiple initiatives for reducing the backlog. These initiatives include strategic staffing, technology enhancements, regulatory and policy changes, and the use of overtime. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤42.2%	≤36.5%
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Percent of refugee and asylum adjudications that were legally sufficient						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of officers to adjudicate asylum and refugee determinations for Forms I-589 and Form I-590 in a legally sufficient manner. An adjudication is legally sufficient if the analysis breaks down the determination that an applicant does or does not qualify for asylum or refugee status into explanations and conclusions that makes clear to the reviewer the rationale behind the final determination. A panel of subject matter experts are convened to review a sample of refugee and asylum adjudications. The panel may sustain the decision to grant, recommend denial, or send the file back to the appropriate field office for correction or more						

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	information if it is determined that procedures were not correctly followed, or the case is lacking sufficient interview evidence. This measure helps ascertain the quality of decisions and to improve the policy and procedural guidance, training, and processes used in conducting asylum and refugee adjudications.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	90%	90%	90%
Results:	---	---	---	---	90%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	This FY 2022 annual measure will be reported on pending final analysis in Q2 of FY 2023.						

Measure Name:	Percent of respondents satisfied with the citizenship and immigration-related support received from the USCIS Contact Center						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure gauges the overall satisfaction of support received from the USCIS Contact Center based on accuracy of information, responsiveness to public inquiries, and accessibility to information. The Qualtrics Automated Omnichannel Survey Tool captures live feedback after customers complete their interaction with the contact center through the IVR, telephony, virtual assistant, live chat agent, myUSCIS account experience, and/or website. The survey question that pertains to this measure is: "I am satisfied with the service I received from the USCIS Contact Center," rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "strongly disagree" and 5 being "strongly agree." Scores of 4 and 5 are included in the results of this measure. Providing quality customer service helps to ensure applicants receive the information they need and increases trust in the Federal government.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	80.0%	80.0%	80.0%
Results:	---	---	---	---	84.5%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	The survey data covers the USCIS Contact Center, a multi-tiered operation providing immigration assistance to over 14 million callers a year. FY 2022 Q4 showed increases in customer satisfaction for 6 out of 7 survey questions. The largest percentage increases were observed in the questions "Employees I interacted with were helpful" (increased from 83.2% to 84.5%) and "I am satisfied with the service I received from the USCIS Contact Center" (increased from 79.5% to 80.7%). This increase in satisfaction was attributed to USCIS' continuous content refinement of the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system's capabilities which give more callers the ability to resolve their inquiry using self-service. USCIS plans in the future to provide more robust online account services to increase the capability for self-service for needs such as address changes, expedite requests, and other requests commonly handled by the Contact Center.						

Measure Name:	Percent of students with increased test scores after attending courses funded through USCIS Grant Programs						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure reports on the success of grant recipients to increase knowledge of English necessary for permanent resident students receiving services under the program to pass the naturalization test. Students receive specialized civics-based English as a Second Language (ESL) training on vocabulary and grammar needed to know in order to successfully navigate the naturalization test and interview. Grant recipients are required to use a nationally normed standardized test of English language proficiency for student placement and assessment of progress. This measure evaluates the percentage of students receiving civics-based English as a second language (ESL) classes who demonstrate a one point or greater increase in score. The classes equip immigrants with the tools they need to be successful throughout their journey to become new U.S. citizens.						

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Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	80.0%	80.0%	80.0%
Results:	---	---	---	---	82.3%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	During FY 2022, the Office of Citizenship (OoC) initiated hybrid grantee monitoring and was able to resume in-person site visits to provide technical support. Grantee performance has stabilized at/above the targeted performance level after falling off a bit in FY 2020 – FY 2021, due to COVID interruptions of service delivery. Grantees have seen success in implementing hybrid approaches to course delivery and have added digital literacy to their educational programs.						

Measure Name:	Total number of attendees at USCIS naturalization sessions						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the effectiveness of the program’s effort toward public engagement. These engagements include, but are not limited to, presentations by leadership, webinars, trainings, stakeholder events, conference presentations, summits, panel discussions, meetings, roundtables, and serving as guest speakers. Information sessions will include scheduled engagements, both virtual and in-person, conducted for the public under the coordination of the USCIS Office of Citizenship, Partnerships, and Engagement (OCPE). This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	85,000	90,000
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Management Measures

Measure Name:	Accuracy rate of USCIS's processing of manual verifications for Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements referrals						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure tracks the accuracy of manual verifications conducted for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program. A SAVE verification involves federal, state, tribal, or local government agency which grants licenses or benefits verifying an applicant’s immigration status. If SAVE cannot match an applicant’s data to a database record from U.S. Government systems used to adjudicate immigration benefits in the initial search, customer agencies pursue further verification if requested by the applicant. Status Verifiers (SV) perform these additional queries manually to determine the applicant’s immigration status. SAVE referrals are sampled quarterly to verify the work provided by SV correctly reflects the immigration status on record for persons seeking benefits from other Government agencies. Conducting accurate SAVE verifications ensures that federally funded benefits are awarded correctly to non-citizen applicants and recipients.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%
Results:	99.0%	99.1%	99.0%	99.3%	99.1%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	USCIS strives to ensure policies, internal processes and procedures are clearly defined and consistently implemented across the various field offices. To accomplish these objectives, USCIS does a quarterly review of verification work performed by status						

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	verifiers to determine whether SAVE referrals were resolved correctly, and also conducts periodic process reviews to evaluate how well staff are following their Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).						
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Measure Name:	Average processing time to adjudicate Premium Processing form I-129 (Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker) (in days)						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of the Service Center Operations Directorate (SCOPS) to meet its published adjudication processing goals for the Premium Processing of Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker. An I-129 is filed on behalf of a nonimmigrant worker to come to the United States temporarily to perform services or labor, or to receive training, as an E-1, E-2, E-3, H-1B, H-2B, H-3, L-1, O-1, O-2, P-1, P-1S, P-2, P-2S, P-3, P-3S, Q-1, R-1, or TN nonimmigrant worker. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤15.0	≤15.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Average processing time to adjudicate Premium Processing form I-140 (Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker) (in days)						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the ability of the Field Operations Directorate (FOD) to meet its published adjudication processing goals for the Premium Processing Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker (I-140). An I-140 is filed on behalf of an immigrant worker to come to the United States permanently to perform services or labor as an E11, E12, E13, E21, E31, E32, or EW3 immigrant worker. This process time information will help determine if the organization has the capability and capacity to process immigrant applications and will also be used to make operational decisions. This measure supports the DHS Strategic Goal Objective of Administering the Immigration System to ensure it is administered efficiently and fairly. External factors such as immigration policies, economic security, and issues like the COVID-19 pandemic could have a negative impact on the results for this measure.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	---	≤15.0	≤15.0
Results:	---	---	---	---	---	TBD	TBD

Measure Name:	Percent of actionable refugee interviews conducted						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure assesses the progress in conducting refugee interviews needed to feed the pipeline of individuals eligible for refugee admission to the U.S. Interview results are used to verify identity and make eligibility recommendations to immigration officers that inform adjudication decisions on refugee applications. Refugee interviews are considered actionable if there are no external factors preventing officers from interviewing cases presented by the Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM). The main purpose of the refugee interview is to elicit and provide information related to eligibility for refugee status. Each interview may involve multiple individuals connected to a single refugee case.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	95%	95%	95%
Results:	---	---	---	---	98%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	RAIO exceeded this target for 4 consecutive quarters. By September 30, the International Refugee Affairs Division interviewed 97.8% of adjusted actionable refugee cases for circuit rides ending on or before the close of Q4.						

Measure Name:	Percent of eligible immigration benefit requests processed electronically						
Strategic Alignment:	3.1 : Administer the Immigration System						
Description:	This measure gauges the degree to which immigration applications, petitions, and other eligible requests are electronically processed. USCIS provides a digital platform of services used to complete intake, case management, and adjudicative tasks. Ultimately, electronic processing reduces case processing times, improves adjudication rates, increases data quality, and enhances the customer experience. The targets for this measure also reflect the reality that USCIS will maintain a degree of paper/manual processing for those benefits that represent a very small portion of filings.						
Fiscal Year:	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Targets:	---	---	---	---	60%	70%	80%
Results:	---	---	---	---	55%	TBD	TBD
Explanation of Result:	Target measure was not achieved due to emerging priorities, which included Operation Allies Welcome (OAW) and Uniting for Ukraine (U4U). This resulted in diverting IT development resources. The following forms were planned to be made available for electronic processing but were not completed: I-131, I-140, I-751, I-485, and I-765 C03 A/B/C, C08, C09, C11, and C14.						
Corrective Action:	USCIS will work with business stakeholders to reassess the forms that will be digitized in FY 2023 and beyond, and update its target measures.						

Department of Homeland Security

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Operations and Support



Fiscal Year 2024
Congressional Justification

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Operations and Support

Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Employment Status Verification	389	370	\$114,504	321	302	\$109,611	321	302	\$111,865	-	-	\$2,254
Application Processing	953	477	\$275,000	644	612	\$133,370	3,675	2,822	\$743,329	3,031	2,210	\$609,959
Total	1,342	847	\$389,504	965	914	\$242,981	3,996	3,124	\$855,194	3,031	2,210	\$612,213
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	1,342	847	\$389,504	965	914	\$242,981	3,996	3,124	\$855,194	3,031	2,210	\$612,213

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Operations and Support (O&S) appropriation provides funding for ongoing mission operations, mission support, and associated management and administration (M&A) costs for the E-Verify program and application processing support.

The O&S Appropriation supports the following Level I Program, Project, and Activities (PPAs):

Employment Status Verification (ESV): E-Verify is a web-based system that allows enrolled employers to confirm the eligibility of their employees to work in the United States. E-Verify employers verify the identity and employment eligibility of newly hired employees by electronically matching information provided by employees on the Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, against records available in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Social Security Administration (SSA), Department of State (DoS), and State and local systems (DMVs).

The ESV PPA provides funding for E-Verify, which is one component of USCIS's immigration records and identity services directorate. The other component is the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program, which is funded within USCIS' Immigration Examinations Fee Account (IEFA). Due to the similarities between E-Verify and SAVE, both programs use the Verification Information System (VIS) and secondary IT systems and services. Shared costs are distributed between the two programs.

Application Processing: The Application Processing PPA provides funding for staff, equipment, and support services to process non-revenue generating refugee and asylum applications and petitions as well as those applications that are part of the backlog workload across USCIS' Field Operations and Service Center Operations directorates. This funding continues to support a refugee admissions ceiling up to 125,000, protection screening for migrants interdicted at sea, adjudication of certain parole and following-to-join refugee and asylee relative petitions, refugee travel documents, related appeals, and also supports the adjudication of affirmative asylum applications as well as the adjudication of credible fear screenings, reasonable fear screenings, and asylum merits interviews for certain individuals placed in expedited removal. Support services encompass a wide range of oversight, infrastructure, and administrative functions to enable adjudicative operations such as policy and procedural guidance, training, travel arrangements, hiring, data management, analysis, reporting, procurement actions, emergency management, budget, personal property management, facilities, and records.

Operations and Support
Budget Authority and Obligations
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Enacted/Request	\$389,504	\$242,981	\$855,194
Carryover - Start of Year	\$4,082	\$48,101	-
Recoveries	\$187	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	(\$2,612)	(\$36,145)	-
Net Sequestered Resources	-	-	-
Reprogramming/Transfers	(\$7,332)	\$3,208	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$383,829	\$258,145	\$855,194
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$383,829	\$258,145	\$855,194
Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	\$329,311	\$258,145	\$855,194
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	1,342	965	3,996
Enacted/Request FTE	847	914	3,124
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	797	965	3,996
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	421	914	3,124

Operations and Support Summary of Budget Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	1,342	847	\$159,102	\$230,402	\$389,504
FY 2023 Enacted	965	914	\$131,919	\$111,062	\$242,981
FY 2024 Base Budget	965	914	\$131,919	\$111,062	\$242,981
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Annualizations and Non-Recurs	-	-	-	-	-
Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$5,187	-	\$5,187
Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$1,065	-	\$1,065
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	\$6,252	-	\$6,252
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	\$6,252	-	\$6,252
FY 2024 Current Services	965	914	\$138,171	\$111,062	\$249,233
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Asylum Adjudications-IEFA Realignment	794	794	\$143,454	\$41,941	\$185,395
Asylum Adjudications-Ramp Up to 150K Caseload	1,241	621	\$103,688	\$52,807	\$156,495
Backlog Reduction	996	795	\$181,283	\$82,788	\$264,071
Total Program Changes	3,031	2,210	\$428,425	\$177,536	\$605,961
FY 2024 Request	3,996	3,124	\$566,596	\$288,598	\$855,194
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	3,031	2,210	\$434,677	\$177,536	\$612,213

Operations and Support
Justification of Pricing Changes
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Pricing Change 1 - Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$5,187	-	\$5,187
Employment Status Verification	-	-	\$1,697	-	\$1,697
Application Processing	-	-	\$3,490	-	\$3,490
Pricing Change 2 - Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$1,065	-	\$1,065
Employment Status Verification	-	-	\$557	-	\$557
Application Processing	-	-	\$508	-	\$508
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	\$6,252	-	\$6,252

Pricing Change 1 – Civilian Pay Raise Total:

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change impacts civilian pay funding in the Base and the Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise, which totals \$133M.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents the costs of the first three quarters of the calendar year 2024 5.2 percent civilian pay increase. It is calculated by adding the Base pay and the Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise pricing change, multiplying by the pay rate increase (5.2 percent) and then by three-fourths to account for nine months of the 2024 calendar year.

Pricing Change 2 – Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise:

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change accounts for the last quarter of civilian pay funding from the FY 2023 Congressional Justification.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents the costs of the fourth quarter of the calendar year 2023 4.6 percent civilian pay increase. It is calculated by adding the civilian portion of FY 2022 Congressional Justification Base pay and the FY 2023 Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise pricing change, multiplying by the pay rate increase (4.6 percent) and then by one-fourth to account for three months of the 2023 calendar year.

Operations and Support Justification of Program Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Program Change 1 - Asylum Adjudications-IEFA Realignment	794	794	\$143,454	\$41,941	\$185,395
Application Processing	794	794	\$143,454	\$41,941	\$185,395
Program Change 2 - Asylum Adjudications-Ramp Up to 150K Caseload	1,241	621	\$103,688	\$52,807	\$156,495
Application Processing	1,241	621	\$103,688	\$52,807	\$156,495
Program Change 3 - Backlog Reduction	996	795	\$181,283	\$82,788	\$264,071
Application Processing	996	795	\$181,283	\$82,788	\$264,071
Total Program Changes	3,031	2,210	\$428,425	\$177,536	\$605,961

Program Change 1 –Asylum Adjudications-IEFA Realignment:

(\$ in thousands)	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	-	-	-
Program Change	794	794	\$185,395

Description

The FY 2024 Budget includes an increase of 794 Positions, 794 FTE, and \$185.4M for asylum adjudications and screenings. USCIS has been making investments and staffing up in a phased approach with 266 positions funded in FY 2022 and 528 positions funded in FY 2023 through IEFA. The FY 2024 Budget seeks to shift these 794 positions from IEFA funding to appropriated funding.

Justification

In support of *Executive Order 14010: Creating a Comprehensive Regional Framework To Address the Causes of Migration, To Manage Migration Throughout North and Central America, and To Provide Safe and Orderly Processing of Asylum Seekers at the United States Border*, DHS and Department of Justice (DOJ) began implementing the Asylum Processing rule to support creating a more efficient and orderly process that facilitates timely adjudications and adherence to standards of fairness and due process for asylum seekers arriving at our borders.

This shift in funding source would provide the resources within the USCIS appropriated budget to support the payroll and other associated staffing costs to handle the processing of asylum adjudications, credible fear screenings, and asylum merit interviews. USCIS is primarily funded by immigration and naturalization benefit fees charged to applicants and petitioners; however, this asylum-related workload does not generate revenue and requires that the burden of these costs be borne by the pool of fee-paying applicants and petitioners for other USCIS form types.

Performance

USCIS aims to be better situated to support the Administration's and Nation's commitment to providing safe and orderly processing of asylum seekers and being a Nation of welcome. With the phased implementation of the Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule (IFR), which was announced on May 31, 2022, the USCIS Asylum Division has jurisdiction over the asylum applications of certain individuals placed in expedited removal and allows USCIS to retain and adjudicate applications for asylum and for withholding of removal who have received a positive credible fear determination, and are scheduled for an Asylum Merits Interview; rather than placing those individuals into removal proceedings with an immigration judge.

With this proposed funding, the 794 positions have the capacity to process up to 75,000 credible fear cases and maintain its capacity to conduct up to 52,500 Asylum Merits Interviews under the rule.

Program Change 2 – Asylum Adjudications-Ramp Up to 150K Caseload:

<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	794	794	\$185,395
Program Change	1,241	621	\$156,495

Description

The FY 2024 Budget includes an additional increase of 1,241 Positions, 621 FTE, and \$156.5M for asylum adjudications in support of the Asylum Processing IFR. This funding provides for the payroll, other associated staffing costs, and general expenses, which include increased interpreter and transcription services for credible fear workloads, new facilities, and physical security to house the increased staff, and an IT solution to handle the increasing caseloads.

Justification

Implementation is taking place in a phased manner, and will grow as USCIS builds operational capacity over time. USCIS has analyzed a range of credible fear cases to estimate staffing requirement costs, and USCIS expects volumes to fall within a primary estimate range of 150,000 credible fear cases.

These resources for increased USCIS capacity under the Asylum Processing IFR would allow for increases in the volume of cases that can be routed for credible fear screenings under the rule and potentially for Asylum Merits Interviews; as well as allow DHS and USCIS to reduce the estimated budget requirements funded by IEFA fees accordingly.

Performance

With this proposed funding, the 2,035 positions in total will have the capacity to process up to 150,000 credible fear cases and increase its capacity to conduct 105,000 Asylum Merits Interviews under the rule.

Prior to the Asylum Processing IFR, the process for hearing and deciding these asylum cases currently takes several years on average, due to existing court backlogs. Through a gradual process, and when fully implemented, the rule will shorten the administrative process from several years to several months. Increased capacity helps achieve the rule’s objective of providing a meaningful way to ensure that those subject to expedited removal who are eligible for asylum are granted relief quickly, and those who are not are promptly removed.

As also previously indicated, USCIS is primarily funded by immigration and naturalization benefit fees charged to applicants and petitioners. As DHS proposes to adjust these fees for the considerable costs increases due to higher demand since 2016, DHS has estimated that the associated requirements of the Asylum Processing Rule will be funded by a \$600 Asylum Program Fee to be paid by employers who file either a Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, or Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker, to ensure full cost of operations are recovered. DHS has determined that the Asylum Program Fee is an effective way to shift some costs to requests that are generally submitted by petitioners who have more ability to pay, as opposed to shifting those costs to all other fee payers. With this support, DHS may reduce USCIS' estimated IEFA resource requirements and the fees necessary to generate those resources in a final fee rule.

Program Change 3 – Backlog Reduction:

(\$ in thousands)	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	-	-	-
Program Change	996	795	\$264,072

Description

The FY 2023 Budget includes an increase of 996 Positions, 795 FTE, and \$264.1M to support USCIS’s multi-year effort of reducing the backlog and pending caseload. This program change includes a realignment of 644 positions from IEFA, while further supporting the hiring of an additional 352 positions to expedite the elimination of the backlog.

Justification

As part of the U.S. Government Accountability Office’s (GAO) recommendations in its report¹ on actions needed to address pending caseload, GAO states that USCIS should identify resources necessary to address its case backlog and inform key stakeholders, such as the Office of Management and Budget and Congress. Building on the FY 2022 and FY 2023 President’s Budget, USCIS continues to communicate the resources that are required and will be required to eliminate the backlog over a sustained multi-year period.

¹ GAO Report 21-529 – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services: Actions Needed to Address Pending Caseload (<https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-21-529>)

In FY 2022, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-103) crucially funded 644 backlog reduction positions in Operations and Support, which in part has reversed months of steady and incremental increases in the backlog starting April 2020, which coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding has demonstrated a measurable decrease of approximately 307,000 forms from its height in January 2022 of 5,258,000 down to 4,951,000, as of December 2022 - see Figure 1.

Addressing the backlog is a priority for the Administration and USCIS senior leadership. USCIS understands the impact that decision delays have on applicants and petitioners, and USCIS recognizes that its core mission is to ensure the timely processing of immigration requests with fairness, integrity, and respect for all we serve. USCIS will expand current efforts through increased capacity (additional FTE, overtime, expanded contractual support, and miscellaneous expenses) as well as a continued focus on efficiency. The current fee collections do not support the rapid increase in capacity needed to make the significant progress that is necessary to have a large impact on reducing the backlog. Sustained funding for backlog reduction is necessary to ultimately eliminate the current backlog.

Performance

This funding supports the downward trend of the backlog realized in FY 2022 as a result of increased staff to support backlog reduction efforts.

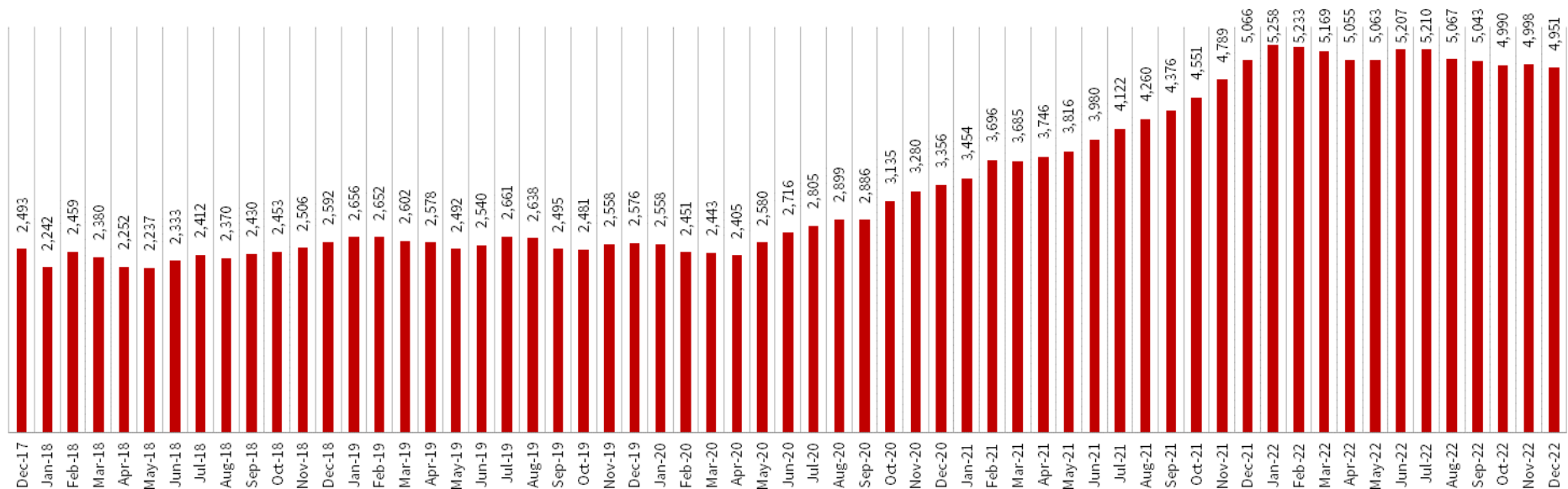


Figure 1: Backlog Trends, December 2017 – December 2022 (Backlog Forms in Thousands)

Operations and Support Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted				FY 2023 Enacted				FY 2024 President's Budget				FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total			
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Employment Status Verification	389	370	\$48,105	\$130.01	321	302	\$42,958	\$142.25	321	302	\$45,212	\$149.71	-	-	\$2,254	\$7.46
Application Processing	953	477	\$110,997	\$232.70	644	612	\$88,961	\$145.36	3,675	2,822	\$521,384	\$184.74	3,031	2,210	\$432,423	\$39.38
Total	1,342	847	\$159,102	\$187.84	965	914	\$131,919	\$144.33	3,996	3,124	\$566,596	\$181.35	3,031	2,210	\$434,677	\$37.02
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	1,342	847	\$159,102	\$187.84	965	914	\$131,919	\$144.33	3,996	3,124	\$566,596	\$181.35	3,031	2,210	\$434,677	\$37.02

Pay by Object Class (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$113,612	\$100,061	\$388,220	\$288,159
11.3 Other than Full-time Permanent	\$736	\$2,244	\$2,332	\$88
11.5 Other Personnel Compensation	\$2,066	\$5,178	\$59,611	\$54,433
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$42,688	\$24,436	\$116,385	\$91,949
13.0 Benefits for Former Personnel	-	-	\$48	\$48
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$159,102	\$131,919	\$566,596	\$434,677
Positions and FTE				
Positions - Civilian	1,342	965	3,996	3,031
FTE - Civilian	847	914	3,124	2,210

Operations and Support
Permanent Positions by Grade – Appropriation
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
SES	-	1	1	-
GS-15	30	22	50	28
GS-14	137	178	615	437
GS-13	130	181	1,139	958
GS-12	896	437	1,558	1,121
GS-11	47	29	263	234
GS-10	3	4	238	234
GS-9	97	48	57	9
GS-8	-	5	5	-
GS-7	2	39	49	10
GS-6	-	7	7	-
GS-5	-	13	13	-
GS-4	-	1	1	-
Total Permanent Positions	1,342	965	3,996	3,031
Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY	593	965	3,996	3,031
Unfilled Positions EOY	749	-	-	-
Position Locations				
Headquarters Civilian	613	441	1,568	1,127
U.S. Field Civilian	724	521	2,401	1,880
Foreign Field Civilian	5	4	42	38
Averages				
Average Personnel Costs, ES Positions	-	\$164,300	\$170,872	\$6,572
Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions	\$110,810	\$105,371	\$109,586	\$4,215
Average Grade, GS Positions	12	12	12	-

Operations and Support Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Employment Status Verification	\$66,399	\$66,653	\$66,653	-
Application Processing	\$164,003	\$44,409	\$221,945	\$177,536
Total	\$230,402	\$111,062	\$288,598	\$177,536
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	\$230,402	\$111,062	\$288,598	\$177,536

Non Pay by Object Class (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$16,461	\$29,228	\$73,200	\$43,972
22.0 Transportation of Things	\$7	\$670	\$670	-
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$3,750	\$9,222	\$9,222	-
23.2 Rental Payments to Others	\$438	\$2,944	\$12,691	\$9,747
23.3 Communications, Utilities, & Miscellaneous	\$51	-	-	-
24.0 Printing and Reproduction	\$12	\$139	\$139	-
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$107,652	\$11,712	\$16,247	\$4,535
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	\$31,960	\$208	\$97,676	\$97,468
25.3 Other Purchases of goods and services	\$11,151	\$11,791	\$11,791	-
25.4 Operations & Maintenance of Facilities	-	\$258	\$258	-
25.7 Operation & Maintenance of Equipment	\$9,916	\$44,283	\$44,283	-
26.0 Supplies & Materials	\$17,669	\$268	\$1,341	\$1,073
31.0 Equipment	\$31,335	\$339	\$21,080	\$20,741
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$230,402	\$111,062	\$288,598	\$177,536

Employment Status Verification – PPA**Budget Comparison and Adjustments****Comparison of Budget Authority and Request***(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Employment Status Verification	389	370	\$114,504	321	302	\$109,611	321	302	\$111,865	-	-	\$2,254
Total	389	370	\$114,504	321	302	\$109,611	321	302	\$111,865	-	-	\$2,254
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	389	370	\$114,504	321	302	\$109,611	321	302	\$111,865	-	-	\$2,254

PPA Level I Description

The ESV PPA provides funds for the operations, mission support, and associated management and administration costs of E-Verify. E-Verify is authorized by the *Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA)* and is administered by SSA and USCIS. USCIS facilitates compliance with U.S. immigration law by providing E-Verify program support, user support, training, outreach, compliance, and developing innovative technological solutions to streamline employment eligibility verification.

In the E-Verify process, employers create cases based on information from an employee's Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, which is electronically compared to records available in DHS, SSA, DoS, and DMVs. The employer usually receives a response within a few seconds either confirming the employee's employment eligibility or indicating that the employee needs to take further action to complete the case due to a data mismatch, what was provided on the Form I-9 and what the government has in its records. Cases that cannot be resolved automatically are manually resolved by E-Verify or SSA employees.

This PPA also funds USCIS's E-Verify Account Compliance and Engagement Branch, which protects E-Verify against system misuse through activities such as identifying and resolving compliance issues, notifying employers of noncompliant behaviors, and offering compliance assistance in the form of emails, phone calls, desk reviews, and site visits. USCIS conducts these monitoring and compliance activities to prevent misuse, abuse, discrimination, breach of privacy, and suspected fraudulent use of E-Verify under applicable laws, rules, regulations, and agency policies.

As of September 30, 2022, there were over 1,072,000 employers enrolled in E-Verify; of those enrolled, approximately 300,800 actively used E-Verify and ran 49 million queries in FY 2022. Approximately 1,300 new employers enroll in E-Verify per week.

Operations and Support**Employment Status Verification – PPA**

The following table depicts the actual E-Verify workload for FY 2022 and projections for FY 2023 and FY 2024 Budget:

E-Verify Actual and Projected Workload for FY 2022- FY 2024				
Activity	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projection	FY 2024 Projection	Change from FYs 2023-2024
E-Verify				
E-Verify Cases	49,000,000	50,000,000	52,000,000	2,000,000
E-Verify cases requiring secondary review by staff	414,000	384,500	396,000	11,500
E-Verify cases requiring additional review by staff	61,000	78,100	84,200	6,100
Enrolled Employers (Cumulative)	1,072,000	1,170,000	1,270,000	100,000
Account Compliance				
Emails	280,270	370,000	460,270	90,270
Compliance Calls	3,087	4,500	5,500	1,000
Desk Reviews	130	400	490	90
Site Visits	-	36	46	10
Enhanced Compliance Assistance	3045	3045	3495	450
Case Reviews	1,928	2,500	3,000	500
Webinars	389	397	405	8
Total Employer Actions	288,849	380,878	473,206	92,328

E-Verify Actual and Projected External Actions from FY 2022 - FY 2024				
External Actions	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projection	FY 2024 Projection	Change from FY 2023-2024
Referrals to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Fraud)	38	50	75	25
Referrals to Department of Justice (Discrimination)	389	500	600	100
Law Enforcement Requests (LERs) - IER, ICE, Other Agencies	111	125	150	25
Referrals from DOJ (IMARR)	-	-	-	-
Locked Social Security Numbers (SSNs)	1,772	1,952	2,132	180
Total External Activity	2,310	2,627	2,957	330

Employment Status Verification – PPA
Budget Authority and Obligations
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Enacted/Request	\$114,504	\$109,611	\$111,865
Carryover - Start of Year	-	-	-
Recoveries	-	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	(\$1,368)	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	-	-	-
Reprogramming/Transfers	\$1,368	-	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$114,504	\$109,611	\$111,865
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$114,504	\$109,611	\$111,865
Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	\$114,301	\$109,611	\$111,865
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	389	321	321
Enacted/Request FTE	370	302	302
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	219	321	321
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	246	302	302

Employment Status Verification – PPA
Summary of Budget Changes
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	389	370	\$48,105	\$66,399	\$114,504
FY 2023 Enacted	321	302	\$42,958	\$66,653	\$109,611
FY 2024 Base Budget	321	302	\$42,958	\$66,653	\$109,611
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Annualizations and Non-Recurs	-	-	-	-	-
Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$1,697	-	\$1,697
Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$557	-	\$557
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	\$2,254	-	\$2,254
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	\$2,254	-	\$2,254
FY 2024 Current Services	321	302	\$45,212	\$66,653	\$111,865
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Program Changes	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2024 Request	321	302	\$45,212	\$66,653	\$111,865
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	-	-	\$2,254	-	\$2,254

Employment Status Verification-PPA Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted				FY 2023 Enacted				FY 2024 President's Budget				FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total			
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Employment Status Verification	389	370	\$48,105	\$130.01	321	302	\$42,958	\$142.25	321	302	\$45,212	\$149.71	-	-	\$2,254	\$7.46
Total	389	370	\$48,105	\$130.01	321	302	\$42,958	\$142.25	321	302	\$45,212	\$149.71	-	-	\$2,254	\$7.46
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	389	370	\$48,105	\$130.01	321	302	\$42,958	\$142.25	321	302	\$45,212	\$149.71	-	-	\$2,254	\$7.46

Pay by Object Class (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$34,590	\$31,034	\$32,661	\$1,627
11.5 Other Personnel Compensation	\$638	\$564	\$593	\$29
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$12,877	\$11,360	\$11,958	\$598
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$48,105	\$42,958	\$45,212	\$2,254
Positions and FTE				
Positions - Civilian	389	321	321	-
FTE - Civilian	370	302	302	-

Pay Cost Drivers

		FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes	
	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate
Other Personnel Costs	370	\$48,105	\$130.01	302	\$42,958	\$142.25	302	\$45,212	\$149.71	-	\$2,254	\$7.46
Total - Pay Cost Drivers	370	\$48,105	\$130.01	302	\$42,958	\$142.25	302	\$45,212	\$149.71	-	\$2,254	\$7.46

Explanation of Pay Cost Driver

Other Personnel: Funds for personnel that support the operations, mission support, associated management, and administration of E-Verify. Changes to this cost driver in the budget reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise and FY 2024 pay raise.

Employment Status Verification – PPA

Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Employment Status Verification	\$66,399	\$66,653	\$66,653	-
Total	\$66,399	\$66,653	\$66,653	-
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	\$66,399	\$66,653	\$66,653	-

Non Pay by Object Class

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$157	\$428	\$428	-
22.0 Transportation of Things	\$7	-	-	-
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$3,750	\$6,078	\$6,078	-
23.2 Rental Payments to Others	\$63	\$2,944	\$2,944	-
23.3 Communications, Utilities, & Miscellaneous	\$51	-	-	-
24.0 Printing and Reproduction	\$12	\$139	\$139	-
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$38,017	\$4,606	\$4,606	-
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	\$1,774	\$208	\$208	-
25.3 Other Purchases of goods and services	\$11,151	\$7,179	\$7,179	-
25.4 Operations & Maintenance of Facilities	-	\$258	\$258	-
25.7 Operation & Maintenance of Equipment	\$9,916	\$44,283	\$44,283	-
26.0 Supplies & Materials	\$84	\$191	\$191	-
31.0 Equipment	\$1,417	\$339	\$339	-
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$66,399	\$66,653	\$66,653	-

Non Pay Cost Drivers

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Verification Information System (VIS) Development and Operations	\$30,679	\$41,942	\$41,942	-
Social Security Administration Reimbursement and Technology Enhancements	\$8,200	\$7,179	\$7,179	-
Telephony - Contact Center	\$3,750	\$6,078	\$6,078	-
Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)	\$3,226	\$2,340	\$2,340	-
Other Costs	\$20,544	\$9,114	\$9,114	-
Total - Non-Pay Cost Drivers	\$66,399	\$66,653	\$66,653	-

Explanation of Non-Pay Cost Drivers

Verification Information System (VIS) Development and Operations (Formerly VIS O&M) – Sustainment of System: Cost includes day-to-day operations and application maintenance. This includes teams to provide development, security, and operations (DevSecOps) services to support United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Information Technology (IT) system delivery. The teams perform operations and maintenance activities and modernizing complex, legacy, large-scale, Internet-facing websites and IT systems in a cloud environment using forward-thinking, modern, open-source technologies and backend systems with heavy customer engagement. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Social Security Administration Reimbursements and Technology Enhancements: Reimbursement to the SSA for all E-Verify queries that cannot be resolved electronically. These costs are dependent upon query volume and include technology enhancements supporting electronic query resolution through the SSA's E-Verify SSA Tentative Non-confirmation Automated Response system (EV-STAR), which allows SSA personnel to query VIS for information. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Telephony – Contact Center: This cost driver funds the USCIS enterprise Telephony Call Center Solution to service its Verification callers. It uses the technology that allows people to interact and transmit voice over a data network. Callers can speak their information and the interactive voice recognition (IVR) transmits it into a case management tool, Salesforce, used by the Verification call representatives. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA): Rental Payments to GSA for USCIS facilities space. The FY 2024 amount is based on recent GSA estimates provided in FY 2022. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Other Costs: Funds the remaining costs for the general operating expenses, technical contract support, outreach, and associated management and administration of E-Verify. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Application Processing – PPA**Budget Comparison and Adjustments****Comparison of Budget Authority and Request***(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Application Processing	953	477	\$275,000	644	612	\$133,370	3,675	2,822	\$743,329	3,031	2,210	\$609,959
Total	953	477	\$275,000	644	612	\$133,370	3,675	2,822	\$743,329	3,031	2,210	\$609,959
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	953	477	\$275,000	644	612	\$133,370	3,675	2,822	\$743,329	3,031	2,210	\$609,959

PPA Level I Description

The Application Processing PPA provides funding for asylum adjudications and processing applications, including high volumes of backlogged cases in the Field Office Directorate, Service Center Operations Directorate, and the Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate (RAIO) with long processing times, by funding additional staff, equipment, and support services. The funding for backlog reduction will support additional staff and contract support to continue a multiyear effort to reduce the backlog. The backlog reduction effort will focus on the forms with the highest volumes of backlogged cases and the longest processing times.

This PPA also provides funding to support RAIO's International and Refugee Affairs Division (IRAD) operations. IRAD administers the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), along with the other USRAP partners; oversees USCIS international operations; and manages certain domestic and international parole adjudications. With regard to refugee processing, IRAD is responsible for interviewing and vetting refugee applicants identified by DoS for possible resettlement to the United States. This PPA supports ongoing efforts to create the next generation of refugee processing in an electronic and secure environment, maximizes remote technologies as appropriate; provides timely and in-depth training to adjudicators; and meets the ever-changing demands of shifting populations of vulnerable refugee populations worldwide. IRAD is also responsible for conducting protection screenings for certain migrants interdicted at sea, which is done by specially trained refugee officers either in-person on Coast Guard cutters or remotely.

Regarding parole, IRAD is responsible for the administration of the Secretary of Homeland Security's exercise of authority to grant parole to certain individuals outside the United States for urgent humanitarian or significant public benefit reasons, including special parole programs or populations at particular risk as authorized by the Administration's priorities. This authority is generally carried out through domestic adjudication by IRAD's Humanitarian Affairs Branch, although adjudication of certain special parole program applications requires front-end processing by other USCIS components followed by final adjudication after interviews in international locations. IRAD manages USCIS' permanent international presence and its expected footprint expansion, where it is most cost effective and efficient to do so, in support of Administration priorities related to refugee, parole, and other international programs. USCIS international offices adjudicate follow-to-join relative petitions for asylee and refugee family members located outside of the United States; verify the authenticity of evidence submitted in support of immigration benefit applications and petitions; share the workload to interview and vet refugee applicants; and staff administration of international special parole programs.

With the implementation of the Asylum Processing IFR (effective May 31, 2022), the Asylum Division has jurisdiction over the asylum applications of certain individuals placed in expedited removal who receive a positive credible fear determination and are scheduled for an Asylum Merits Interview (AMI). The AMI explores an applicant's eligibility for asylum, as well as statutory withholding of removal and withholding or deferral of removal under the Convention against Torture (CAT). The Asylum Division adjudicates asylum applications processed under the IFR by deciding whether the individual is eligible for asylum and warranting of a grant of asylum as a matter of discretion and, for any case where asylum is not granted by USCIS, an additional determination is produced related to whether the applicant demonstrated eligibility for withholding or deferral of removal based on the record before USCIS. Additionally, if a case processed under the IFR has dependents, the Asylum Division interviews all dependents on a case who have the ability to testify sufficient to make a determination as to whether there is a significant possibility they have experienced past harm or fear future harm that could be an independent basis for asylum, statutory withholding of removal, or withholding or deferral of removal under CAT and, if asylum is not granted to the principal applicant by USCIS, an "independent basis determination" is also produced for every dependent.

Summary of FY 2024 Budget Request

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Application Processing	3,675	2,822	\$521,384	\$221,945	\$743,329
Refugee and International Operations	644	612	\$92,959	\$44,409	\$137,368
Backlog Reduction	996	795	\$181,283	\$82,788	\$264,071
Asylum Adjudications	2,035	1,415	\$247,142	\$94,748	\$341,890

Application Processing – PPA
Budget Authority and Obligations
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Enacted/Request	\$275,000	\$133,370	\$743,329
Carryover - Start of Year	-	\$47,914	-
Recoveries	-	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	(\$35,958)	-
Net Sequestered Resources	-	-	-
Reprogramming/Transfers	(\$7,488)	\$3,208	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$267,512	\$148,534	\$743,329
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$267,512	\$148,534	\$743,329
Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	\$213,384	\$148,534	\$743,329
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	953	644	3,675
Enacted/Request FTE	477	612	2,822
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	578	644	3,675
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	175	612	2,822

Application Processing – PPA Summary of Budget Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	953	477	\$110,997	\$164,003	\$275,000
FY 2023 Enacted	644	612	\$88,961	\$44,409	\$133,370
FY 2024 Base Budget	644	612	\$88,961	\$44,409	\$133,370
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Annualizations and Non-Recurs	-	-	-	-	-
Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$3,490	-	\$3,490
Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$508	-	\$508
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	\$3,998	-	\$3,998
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	\$3,998	-	\$3,998
FY 2024 Current Services	644	612	\$92,959	\$44,409	\$137,368
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Asylum Adjudications-IEFA Realignment	794	794	\$143,454	\$41,941	\$185,395
Asylum Adjudications-Ramp Up to 150K Caseload	1,241	621	\$103,688	\$52,807	\$156,495
Backlog Reduction	996	795	\$181,283	\$82,788	\$264,071
Total Program Changes	3,031	2,210	\$428,425	\$177,536	\$605,961
FY 2024 Request	3,675	2,822	\$521,384	\$221,945	\$743,329
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	3,031	2,210	\$432,423	\$177,536	\$609,959

Application Processing Verification-PPA Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted				FY 2023 Enacted				FY 2024 President's Budget				FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total			
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Application Processing	953	477	\$110,997	\$232.70	644	612	\$88,961	\$145.36	3,675	2,822	\$521,384	\$184.74	3,031	2,210	\$432,423	\$39.38
Total	953	477	\$110,997	\$232.70	644	612	\$88,961	\$145.36	3,675	2,822	\$521,384	\$184.74	3,031	2,210	\$432,423	\$39.38
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	953	477	\$110,997	\$232.70	644	612	\$88,961	\$145.36	3,675	2,822	\$521,384	\$184.74	3,031	2,210	\$432,423	\$39.38

Pay by Object Class (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$79,022	\$69,027	\$355,559	\$286,532
11.3 Other than Full-time Permanent	\$736	\$2,244	\$2,332	\$88
11.5 Other Personnel Compensation	\$1,428	\$4,614	\$59,018	\$54,404
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$29,811	\$13,076	\$104,427	\$91,351
13.0 Benefits for Former Personnel	-	-	\$48	\$48
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$110,997	\$88,961	\$521,384	\$432,423
Positions and FTE				
Positions - Civilian	953	644	3,675	3,031
FTE - Civilian	477	612	2,822	2,210

Pay Cost Drivers

		FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes	
	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate
Immigration Services Officer	290	\$67,491	\$232.73	75	\$12,378	\$165.04	862	\$179,217	\$207.91	787	\$166,839	\$42.87
Asylum Officer	66	\$15,256	\$231.15	-	-	-	780	\$137,743	\$176.59	780	\$137,743	\$176.59
Refugee Officer	115	\$26,761	\$232.70	465	\$65,629	\$141.14	465	\$69,042	\$148.48	-	\$3,413	\$7.34
Adjudication Officer	3	\$726	\$242.00	14	\$2,249	\$160.64	14	\$2,833	\$202.36	-	\$584	\$41.71
Other Personnel Costs	3	\$763	\$254.33	58	\$8,705	\$150.09	701	\$132,501	\$189.02	643	\$123,796	\$38.93
Other PC&B Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$48	-	-	\$48	-
Total - Pay Cost Drivers	477	\$110,997	\$232.70	612	\$88,961	\$145.36	2,822	\$521,384	\$184.74	2,210	\$432,423	\$39.38

Explanation of Pay Cost Drivers

Immigration Services Officer: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Immigration Services Officers. Immigration Services Officers research and analyze applications, petitions and supporting documentation; interview petitioners and applicants to assess credibility; and deny or grant petitions and applications. These positions supplement the other positions currently adjudicating immigration benefits that are funded by the fee accounts. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, FY 2024 pay raise, and staffing requirements for backlog reduction and the Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule.

Asylum Officer: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Asylum Officers. Asylum Officers adjudicates asylum applications, review the applications for supporting evidence, conduct asylum protection interviews, research appropriate information, and interpret and apply appropriate policy, regulations, and precedent decisions to make formal, written eligibility determinations. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, FY 2024 pay raise, and staffing requirements for backlog reduction and the Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule.

Refugee Officer:

This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Refugee Officers. Refugee Officers establish identity and make findings of eligibility for refugee and related benefits by analyzing facts, identifying and examining documents for authenticity, and researching and analyzing appropriate information, law, and country conditions. Changes to this cost driver in the budget reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise and the FY 2024 pay raise.

Adjudication Officer: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Adjudication Officers. Adjudication Officers review applications for immigration benefits and make decisions regarding these requests based on their extensive knowledge of immigration laws and practices. These positions supplement the other positions currently adjudicating immigration benefits that are funded by the fee accounts. Changes to this cost driver in the budget reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise and the FY 2024 pay raise.

Other Personnel Costs: Funds for personnel that support the operations, mission support, associated management, and administration of Application Processing. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, FY 2024 pay raise, and staffing requirements for backlog reduction and the Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule.

Other PC&B Costs: This cost driver funds estimated benefits paid to former personnel and includes pensions, annuities, and other benefits due to former employees or their survivors based on (at least in part) the length of service to the Government.

Application Processing – PPA

Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Application Processing	\$164,003	\$44,409	\$221,945	\$177,536
Total	\$164,003	\$44,409	\$221,945	\$177,536
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	\$164,003	\$44,409	\$221,945	\$177,536

Non Pay by Object Class

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$16,304	\$28,800	\$72,772	\$43,972
22.0 Transportation of Things	-	\$670	\$670	-
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	-	\$3,144	\$3,144	-
23.2 Rental Payments to Others	\$375	-	\$9,747	\$9,747
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$69,635	\$7,106	\$11,641	\$4,535
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	\$30,186	-	\$97,468	\$97,468
25.3 Other Purchases of goods and services	-	\$4,612	\$4,612	-
26.0 Supplies & Materials	\$17,585	\$77	\$1,150	\$1,073
31.0 Equipment	\$29,918	-	\$20,741	\$20,741
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$164,003	\$44,409	\$221,945	\$177,536

Non Pay Cost Drivers

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Asylum Adjudications	-	-	\$94,748	\$94,748
Backlog Reduction Capacity Costs	\$144,797	-	\$82,788	\$82,788
Refugee Travel	\$14,418	\$28,800	\$28,800	-
Other Refugee Costs	\$4,788	\$15,609	\$15,609	-
Total - Non-Pay Cost Drivers	\$164,003	\$44,409	\$221,945	\$177,536

Explanation of Non-Pay Cost Drivers

Asylum Adjudications: All costs associated with the adjudication of credible fear interviews and asylum applications. This cost driver supports interpreter and transcription services, facilities expansion, and physical security to support additional staffing and interview spaces, IT case management systems, background checks, and other necessary support contracts, supplies, and equipment. This is a new cost driver for FY 2024 with some costs transferred from IEFA. Costs are expected to increase as USCIS increases capacity to support up to 150,000 credible fear cases, and 105,000 subsequent merit interviews.

Backlog Reduction Capacity Costs: USCIS’s backlog reduction capacity requires a significant investment across the enterprise. This cost driver supports an array of necessary expenses as USCIS moves forward with implementing its backlog reduction plan, which include funds for contract costs for case file management, funds for provisioning equipment to support increased video interviewing, additional IT equipment and supply purchases, travel, onboarding, and training expenses.

Refugee Travel: All costs associated with travel and circuit rides in support of refugee interviews to various locations in Africa, Asia, Latin America/Caribbean, Middle East, and Europe are determined in consultation with the DoS. There is no anticipated change in this cost driver.

Other Refugee Costs: This cost driver will support administrative support services contracts for field and headquarters organizational units, medical examinations, required training, parole programs, international offices and deployment of associated personnel, International Cooperative Administrative Support Services, and Capital Security Cost Sharing. For administrative support service contracts, this includes contracts with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) (or the most cost-effective and secure service provider) for local travel needs where infrastructure does not support transportation of officers to refugee centers, travel facilitation for individuals denied refugee status but granted parole under the Central American Minor Refugee and Parole Program, and additional service contracts that may be necessary for operations such as interpreters, services, and equipment to support staffing periods of high-volume protections screenings for at-sea interdictions below the level of a Presidentially-declared mass migration event (e.g., support for operations at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba), and medical examinations for employees traveling abroad. All Worldwide Refugee Officers and staff deployed on international rotations must maintain medical clearances, and the medical services have been required to comply with COVID mitigation measures. For USCIS refugee officers, it is required that all attend the RAIO Directorate Officer Training Program. There is no anticipated change in this cost driver.

Department of Homeland Security

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Federal Assistance



Fiscal Year 2024
Congressional Justification

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Federal Assistance

Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Citizenship and Integration Grants	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$25,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	(\$15,000)
Total	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$25,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	(\$15,000)

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Federal Assistance appropriations provides funding for the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program.

The Federal Assistance appropriation includes the following Level I Program, Project, and Activity (PPA):

Citizenship and Integration Grants¹: The Citizenship and Integration Grant Program (CIGP) expands the availability of high-quality services throughout the Nation as part of a multifaceted USCIS effort to provide citizenship preparation resources, support, and information to immigrants and immigrant-serving organizations.

¹ For additional information on the USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant program, please visit: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/organizations/grant-program>.

Federal Assistance
Budget Authority and Obligations
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Enacted/Request	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Carryover - Start of Year	-	-	-
Recoveries	-	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	-	-	-
Reprogramming/Transfers	-	-	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	-	-	-
Enacted/Request FTE	-	-	-
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	-
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	-

Federal Assistance
Summary of Budget Changes
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	-	-	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
FY 2023 Enacted	-	-	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
FY 2024 Base Budget	-	-	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Annualizations and Non-Recurs	-	-	-	-	-
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2024 Current Services	-	-	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Citizenship and Integration Grants Adjustment	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
Total Program Changes	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
FY 2024 Request	-	-	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)

Federal Assistance Justification of Program Changes

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Program Change 1 - Citizenship and Integration Grants Adjustment	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
Citizenship and Integration Grants	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
Total Program Changes	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)

Program Change 1 – Citizenship and Integration Grants Adjustment:

<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	-	-	\$25,000
Program Change	-	-	(\$15,000)

Description

This program change will decrease federal assistance (FA) awards funding by 60 percent to return this program to its historically requested levels.

Justification

Since 2009, the CIGP has awarded \$132M through 579 competitive grants to immigrant serving-organizations across the country and the District of Columbia to provide citizenship preparation services. Between 2013 and 2021, the program has historically and steadily been funded at an average level of approximately \$10M, which consistently resulted in grants to roughly 41 organization annually.

Performance

This budget proposes to maintain funding for the CIGP at \$10M. FA award funds are used to provide citizenship preparation services to immigrants who are preparing for the naturalization test and interview. Services include classroom instruction and legal services to assist immigrants with completion of the naturalization application. This funding level will award 35 grants and provide approximately 22,000 immigrants with citizenship preparation services, while also continuing to support recent enhancements to this program such as the two newly established Regional Hub and Innovations in Citizenship Education grant programs.

Federal Assistance
Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Citizenship and Integration Grants	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
Total	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)

Non Pay by Object Class
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)

Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA

Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Citizenship and Integration Grants	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$25,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	(\$15,000)
Total	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$25,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	(\$15,000)
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	\$25,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	(\$15,000)

PPA Level I Description

Citizenship and Integration Grant Program: This PPA funds the USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, which awards grants to organizations that help prepare Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) for naturalization. The grants aim to promote prospective citizens' inclusion into American civic life by funding educational programs designed to increase their knowledge of English, U.S. history, and civics. In addition, through these grant opportunities, USCIS expands the availability of high-quality citizenship preparation services and provides opportunities for immigrants to gain knowledge and training necessary to promote their integration into the fabric of American society. Increased learning opportunities and additional citizenship instruction resources in communities help immigrants gain the tools to become successful citizens and meet their responsibilities as U.S. citizens.

The tables below reflect program award funds from FY 2021 – FY 2024, as well as FY 2022 actual and projected FY 2023 - FY 2025 program outputs and outcomes.

Financial Assistance Awards	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
Amount Funded	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Grants Awarded	40	66	76	35

Accomplishments	FY 2022 Actual		FY 2023 Projected ²		FY 2024 Projected ³		FY 2025 Projected	
(Award Year Reporting)	\$10,000		\$15,000		\$22,500		\$17,500	
Number of Grantees	<i>FY 2020</i>	<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>	<i>FY 2023</i>	<i>FY 2023</i>	<i>FY 2024</i>
Per-year Funding	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$5,000
Total Number of Grantees	79		106		142		111	
	<i>FY 2020</i>	<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>	<i>FY 2023</i>	<i>FY 2023</i>	<i>FY 2024</i>
	39	40	40	66	66	76	76	35
Monitoring Visits Conducted	8		27		30		27	
Total Permanent Residents Served	22,890		34,300		51,500		40,000	
Total students enrolled in citizenship classes	8,900		13,350		20,000		15,500	
Total clients provided with naturalization eligibility screenings	14,325		21,500		32,200		25,000	
Total N-400 applications for naturalization submitted to USCIS	10,500		15,750		23,500		18,000	

²Generally the accomplishments (i.e. the immigrants served, screenings, etc) are typically recorded in a 2-year period of performance following the year of obligations. For example, the increase in funding from \$10M annually to \$20M in FY 2022 will only begin to produce an increase in the number of Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) served starting in FY 2023. This is because the period of performance for grants awarded the \$20M in FY 2022 funding begins on Oct. 1, 2022 (at the beginning of FY 2023).

³ Projections are based on the FY 2023 appropriation of \$25M enacted.

Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA

Budget Authority and Obligations

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Enacted/Request	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Carryover - Start of Year	-	-	-
Recoveries	-	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	-	-	-
Reprogramming/Transfers	-	-	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	-	-	-
Enacted/Request FTE	-	-	-
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	-
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	-

Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA

Summary of Budget Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	-	-	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
FY 2023 Enacted	-	-	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
FY 2024 Base Budget	-	-	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Annualizations and Non-Recurs	-	-	-	-	-
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2024 Current Services	-	-	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Citizenship and Integration Grants Adjustment	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
Total Program Changes	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)
FY 2024 Request	-	-	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	-	-	-	(\$15,000)	(\$15,000)

Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA

Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Citizenship and Integration Grants	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
Total	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)

Non Pay by Object Class

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)

Non Pay Cost Drivers*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services Grant	\$13,700	\$17,000	\$7,000	(\$10,000)
Community and Regional Integration Network Grant	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	-
Regional Hub Program	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$1,200	(\$2,800)
Innovations in Citizenship Education Program	\$2,000	\$2,700	\$500	(\$2,200)
Total - Non-Pay Cost Drivers	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	(\$15,000)

Explanation of Non Pay Cost Driver

Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services (CINAS) Grant: The Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services Grant is for public or nonprofit organizations that prepare immigrants for citizenship by offering both citizenship instruction and naturalization application services. In FY 2022, USCIS increased the maximum award amount to \$300,000, the first such increase since 2013. This was a much-needed change, given the cumulative inflation rate of more than 28 percent between 2013 and 2022. In FY 2022, USCIS established multiple funding levels, aligned to performance metrics, in order to allow smaller organizations to participate. This cost driver is decreasing to restore program funding back to historic levels.

Community and Regional Integration Network Grant (CARING): The second opportunity (formerly known as the *Refugee and Asylee Integration Services* Program) is for organizations that provide extended integration services to vulnerable immigrant populations who entered the United States through USCIS' humanitarian programs or benefitted from those programs while already in the United States. These groups often experience unique challenges with civic, linguistic, economic, cultural, and institutional integration when resettling in the United States, which may impact their progress toward full civic integration. As with the CINAS grant, in order to allow smaller organizations the opportunity to participate, USCIS established multiple funding levels that are aligned to a range of performance metrics. The maximum award amount for this grant was not increased in FY 2022, but USCIS intends to raise it commensurately with the rate of inflation. The target organizations for this grant are groups providing extended integration services to immigrant populations who entered the U.S. through USCIS' humanitarian programs or benefitted from those programs while already in the United States. There is no change to this cost driver.

Regional Hub: A revitalization of the hub and spoke model of the FY 2010-FY 2011 USCIS National Capacity Building grant program, the Regional Hub Program is intended to fund regional or statewide citizenship support networks that build in capacity among their affiliates/members to provide direct citizenship preparation services to immigrants, especially in underserved areas. This model enhances the traditional direct services grant programs (CINAS and CARING) through the principal awardee's provision of ongoing capacity building and technical assistance, overall programmatic and fiscal management of all grant-funded activities, and management of sub-awardees' program performance and outcomes. The sub-awardees must develop or expand and enhance a direct citizenship preparation program, including citizenship instruction services and naturalization

application services, in conjunction with the principal awardee. The target organizations for this grant are Regional or statewide citizenship support networks that build capacity among their affiliates/members to provide direct citizenship preparation services to immigrants. This cost driver is decreasing to restore program funding back to historic levels.

Innovations in Citizenship Education Grant: The Innovations in Citizenship Education Grant considers proposed innovations that address an existing challenge within the citizenship preparation field, such as engaging hard-to-reach populations, developing digital access and literacy, or supporting traditionally underserved groups. The target organizations for this grant are for-profit and nonprofit organizations that foster creative approaches to preparing immigrants for naturalization and encouraging the civic, linguistic, and cultural integration of immigrants into their communities. It is expected that projects will enhance citizenship education opportunities; build the capacity of other immigrant-serving organizations; and/or develop new citizenship education tools or resources that can be shared with a broad audience. FY 2022 awards supported a wide range of projects. Some examples include: revising the free [USALearns](#) website, which teaches English and U.S. citizenship by providing engaging multimedia content and educational activities; developing a citizenship curriculum to bridge the gap between “zero” English proficiency and the “high beginner” level needed to enter most citizenship preparation programs; the development of visual gesture materials to prepare deaf immigrants for the citizenship test; and the creation of a mobile citizenship classroom by creating portable sites/classrooms with desks and teaching equipment. USCIS will be receiving preliminary outcomes of the FY 2022 funding cycle in mid-FY 2023. This cost driver is decreasing to restore program funding back to historic levels.

Department of Homeland Security
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Immigration Examinations Fee Account



Fiscal Year 2024
Congressional Justification

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Immigration Examinations Fee Account

Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Comparison of Fee Collections

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
(Dollars in Thousands)	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
IEFA Premium	\$1,244,039	\$1,259,374	\$1,325,745	\$66,371
IEFA Non Premium	\$3,590,798	\$3,794,811	\$4,219,404	\$424,593
Total¹	\$4,834,837	\$5,054,185	\$5,545,149	\$490,964
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	\$4,834,837	\$5,054,185	\$5,545,149	\$490,964

The Immigration Examinations Fee Account (IEFA) is the primary funding source for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The IEFA provides the resources to:

- Strengthen and effectively administer the immigration system.
- Strengthen national security safeguards and combat fraud.
- Reinforce quality and consistency in administering immigration benefits.

Fee Authority: The IEFA is authorized via Section 286(m) of the *Immigration and Nationality Act* (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)). A separate provision for premium processing is authorized under section 286(u) by the same act (8 U.S.C. 1356(u)). This act increased the fee for petitions that were previously designated for premium processing service, broadened the authorized use of funds, and allows for the expansion of premium processing to new categories of petitions and applications.

Fee Uses: Fees collected with the submission of immigration benefit applications and petitions are deposited into IEFA and used to fund the full cost of processing immigration benefit requests, including the cost of providing services without charge to applicants whose fees are waived or to whom a fee exemption applies.

¹Fee Collections: These values reflect actual (FY 2022), estimated (FY 2023), and projected (FY 2024) fee receipts.

The IEFA supports the following activities:

- Adjudication Operations: Contains Directorate and Program Offices (DPOs) responsible for adjudicating applications in regional, district, and field offices for immigration and visa benefit applications both in person and those not requiring interviews. Also included are anti-fraud and public safety components affiliated with processing benefits and associated overhead. Included in this PPA are the following DPOs and the duties they perform:
 - Field Operations (FOD): Processing of immigration benefit applications while ensuring the security and integrity of the immigration system where an in-person interview is required. USCIS primarily accomplishes this through its network of domestic district and field offices.
 - Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS): Leads the Agency's efforts to determine whether individuals or organizations filing for immigration benefits pose a threat to national security, public safety, or the integrity of the Nation's immigration system.
 - Service Center Operations (SCOPS): Processing of immigration benefit applications while ensuring the security and integrity of the immigration system where an in-person interview is generally not required. USCIS primarily accomplishes this through its five service centers: California Service Center, Nebraska Service Center, Potomac Service Center, Texas Service Center, and the Vermont Service Center.
 - Support Services: Managing of the USCIS field overhead, such as guard services, janitorial services, rent, and others. The support services also include the managing of USCIS headquarters overhead, such as litigation settlements, postage fees and others.
- Immigration and Policy and Support: Contains policy and advisory components as well as program office components not included elsewhere. Also includes components responsible for management of space, contracts, training, human resources, as well as costs associated with design, development, and deployment of IT services and solutions in support of immigration policy and the USCIS enterprise.
- Refugee and Asylum Operations²: Supports the Refugee, Asylum and International Operations directorate (RAIO) where it is responsible for adjudicating asylum and refugee status applications for individuals seeking protection from persecution and facilitates the process for qualifying relatives of admitted refugees and approved asylees to immigrate to the United States. This activity also supports protection screening of individuals claiming a fear of return (e.g., credible fear screening), and certain migrants interdicted at sea. In addition, the asylum division adjudicates affirmative asylum applications, including conducting applicant interviews, and conducts credible fear screenings for certain individuals placed in expedited removal and reasonable fear screenings for certain individuals subject to final administrative removal

² This is in addition to funding requested in USCIS's Operation and Support budget for USCIS' International and Refugee Affairs Division (IRAD), asylum adjudications to support the Credible Fear and Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule, and asylum backlog reduction; which is in addition to any other amounts made available for such purposes, and shall not be construed to require any reduction of any fee described in 8 U.S.C. 1356(m).

or reinstatement of removal. The Asylum Division also conducts non-refoulement interviews (NRIs), Safe Third Country screenings at the Canadian Border, processes domestic Form I-730 petitions filed by refugees, and adjudicates applications for suspension of deportation or cancellation of removal under *the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act* (NACARA 203). The Asylum Division is also mandated to interview and adjudicate the asylum applications from Operation Allies Welcome Afghan applicants on a strictly expedited timeframe per the *Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022* (P.L. 117-43).

- Immigration Records and Applicant Services: Contains DPOs that primarily provide interaction and services to the general public and associated overhead, as well as provides for the development of both external public products and internal communications, the administration of biometric services, responses to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and verification of employment and immigration status.
- Premium Processing (Including Transformation)³: Expenditures from the collection of premium processing fees in front line DPOs (RAIO, FOD and SCOPS) and program office components to support information technology and other infrastructure improvements in adjudication processes, personnel and contracts supporting the processing of premium processing requests, other costs associated with overheads and the lockbox operations, and otherwise offset the cost of providing adjudications and naturalization services.

Change Mechanism: Notice and comment rulemaking for non-premium funds; direct final rule for premium funds.

- Non-premium: USCIS conducts a biennial fee review, which takes into consideration existing operations, workload volume forecasts, and proposed policy initiatives to determine if current fees will recover the full cost of its operations including the cost of services provided at no charge. If USCIS determines its fees will not recover full cost, then the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) may propose to adjust its fees via a notice and comment rulemaking in the Federal Register. DHS receives public comments on USCIS' Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), incorporates feedback as appropriate, and publishes a final rule in the Federal Register to adjust fees.
- Premium: USCIS is authorized to adjust its premium processing fee on a biennial basis by the percentage (if any) by which the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the month of June preceding the date on which such adjustment takes effect exceeds CPI-U for the same month of the second preceding calendar year. DHS issues a direct final rule in the Federal Register to reflect this change and notify the public.

USCIS published the FY 2022/2023 IEFA Fee Rule Notice of Public Rule Making (NPRM) in the Federal Register on January 4, 2023. The Public Comment period for this NPRM ends March 13, 2023. The NPRM proposes updates to the current Fee Schedule and additional changes in forms and fee structure.⁴ The Final IEFA Fee Rule is estimated for publication in FY 2024.

³ The uses of premium processing fees are statutorily defined in 8 U.S.C. 1356(u).

⁴ For additional information, see the Unified Agenda entry for the USCIS fee schedule at [Federal Register: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Fee Schedule and Changes to Certain Other Immigration Benefit Request Requirements](#)

Premium processing was expanded under the *Emergency Stopgap USCIS Stabilization Act* that was included in the *Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act*, P.L. 116-159. This act increased the fee for petitions that were previously designated for premium processing service, broadened the authorized use of funds, and allows for the expansion of premium processing to new categories of petitions and applications. Notably, it authorized the expansion of premium processing beyond the current I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, and I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker forms. The act also explicitly allows for premium processing of the I-539, Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status, and the I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. Expansion of premium processing to benefits not included in Section 4102(b)(1) or requested using a form for which premium processing was available on August 1, 2020, which requires notice and comment rulemaking to implement.⁵ DHS published a final rule which codified changes made by the *Emergency Stopgap USCIS Stabilization Act (USCIS Stabilization Act)*.⁶ The *USCIS Stabilization Act* requires that when DHS implements the expansion of immigration benefit types that are designated for premium processing, it must not result in an increase in processing times for immigration benefit requests not designated for premium processing or an increase in regular processing of immigration benefit requests so designated.⁷ Premium processing will be made available for newly designated immigration benefit requests only when DHS determines that it will have the resources in place to adjudicate the requests within the time required, and that the availability of premium processing for that immigration benefit request will not adversely affect other immigration benefit requests not designated for premium processing or the regular processing of immigration benefit requests so designated. *Id.*

Previous Changes:

Current non-premium fees became effective on December 23, 2016.⁸ DHS is operating under two injunctions that preclude it from implementing or following the changes made by the 2020 fee rule, as well as an injunction that precludes it from implementing the 2019 fee waiver revisions.⁹ The fee for petitions that were previously designated for premium processing service was last adjusted on October 1, 2020, in accordance with P.L. 116-159. USCIS implemented the new premium processing fees on October 19, 2020.¹⁰ DHS codified further premium processing changes in a final rule, effective May 31, 2022.

⁵ The expanded premium processing for I-140 E13 and I-140 EB-2 NIW took effect beginning August 1, 2022. For additional information, please see: <https://www.uscis.gov/newsroom/alerts/uscis-to-implement-second-phase-of-premium-processing-for-certain-previously-filed-eb-1-and-eb-2>.

⁶ See 87 FR 18227: Implementation of the Emergency Stopgap USCIS Stabilization Act. For additional information, please see: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/03/30/2022-06742/implementation-of-the-emergency-stopgap-uscis-stabilization-act>.

⁷ See Pub. L. 116-159, sec. 4102(c) (Oct. 1, 2020).

⁸ For additional information on non-premium fee changes, please see 81 FR 73292: <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/FR-2016-10-24/2016-25328>.

⁹ See 86 FR 7493: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/29/2021-02044/us-citizenship-and-immigration-services-fee-schedule-and-changes-to-certain-other-immigration>.

¹⁰ USCIS, Premium Processing Fee Increase Effective Oct. 19, 2020, <https://www.uscis.gov/news/premium-processing-fee-increase-effective-oct-19-2020> (last reviewed/updated 10/16/2020).

Recovery Rate: IEFA non-premium fees are intended to recover full cost. Premium fees are not intended to recover full cost. The charts below are provided to identify the recovery rate over the past five years.

Historical Collections and Cost Recovery Rate¹¹

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Five-Year Total
Immigration Examinations Fee Account (Non-Premium)	\$3,331,435	\$3,318,284	\$3,334,165	\$3,726,269	\$3,590,798	\$17,300,951
Total of Eligible Expenses	\$3,427,938	\$3,793,542	\$3,367,355	\$3,540,254	\$3,537,038	\$17,666,127
Cost Recovery %	97.2%	87.5%	99.0%	105.3%	101.5%	97.9%

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Five-Year Total
Immigration Examinations Fee Account (Premium)	\$480,137	\$577,327	\$493,000	\$987,116	\$1,244,039	\$3,781,619
Total of Eligible Expenses	\$542,098	\$536,463	\$528,474	\$761,681	\$872,076	\$3,240,792
Cost Recovery %	88.6%	107.6%	93.3%	129.6%	142.7%	116.7%

Changes in Fee Collections: USCIS projects increased filing volumes in FY 2024. USCIS' volume projections assume that the pandemic will have limited impact by FY 2023, leading to higher volumes of approved immigrant visas and additional immigrant visa revenue in FY 2024. Given the fee-paying rates in the relevant revenue forecast, all else equal, increased workload volume may equate to higher collections.

USCIS also forecasts increased premium processing revenue in FY 2024. The “*Emergency Stopgap USCIS Stabilization Act*” included in P.L. 116-159 allowed USCIS to establish and collect additional premium processing fees and authorized their use for expanded purposes. The statute also permits USCIS to expand premium processing to certain benefit requests. USCIS plans to phase in additional premium processing availability for other eligible benefit requests, which will increase forecast volumes for premium revenue.

USCIS has incorporated these increased fees in the FY 2024 budget under the assumption of a mid-year implementation. Part of the increase in fees covers non-fee funded applications by USCIS, most notably fee waivers and statutory exemptions.

¹¹ Includes minor variations due to rounding.

Immigration Examinations Fee Account Budget Spending Authority Request¹²

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget ¹³			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Adjudication Operations	12,790	11,431	\$1,832,963	13,434	12,762	\$2,174,211	14,116	13,004	\$2,389,083	682	242	\$214,872
<i>Field Operations</i>	-	-	-	7,329	6,963	\$1,051,375	7,701	7,095	\$1,168,497	372	133	\$117,122
<i>Fraud Detection and National Security</i>	-	-	-	1,955	1,857	\$263,779	2,054	1,892	\$295,134	99	35	\$31,355
<i>Service Center Operations</i>	-	-	-	4,150	3,942	\$576,702	4,361	4,017	\$643,097	211	75	\$66,395
<i>Support Services</i>	-	-	-	-	-	\$282,355	-	-	\$282,355	-	-	-
Immigration Policy and Support	2,919	2,674	\$1,297,020	2,919	2,773	\$1,218,924	3,200	2,957	\$1,293,872	281	184	\$74,948
Refugee and Asylum Operations	2,180	1,943	\$435,753	1,809	1,719	\$431,450	1,665	1,287	\$380,405	(144)	(432)	(\$51,045)
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	1,384	1,295	\$478,752	1,384	1,315	\$456,732	1,418	1,356	\$474,930	34	41	\$18,198
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	1,381	1,306	\$899,975	2,113	2,007	\$1,313,858	2,113	2,046	\$1,330,707	-	39	\$16,849
Total	20,654	18,649	\$4,944,463	21,659	20,576	\$5,595,175	22,512	20,650	\$5,868,997	853	74	\$273,822
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	20,654	18,649	\$4,944,463	21,659	20,576	\$5,595,175	22,512	20,650	\$5,868,997	853	74	\$273,822

¹² “Budget Spending Authority Request” refers to the funding USCIS anticipates to obligate, as opposed to “Budget Authority” which refers to budget resources.

¹³ FTE and amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Immigration Examinations Fee Account Budget Authority and Obligations

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 ¹⁴
Collections (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	\$4,834,837	\$5,054,185	\$5,545,149
Carryover - Start of Year	\$1,533,835	\$2,190,225	\$1,663,536
Recoveries	\$121,301	\$76,000	\$76,000
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	(\$7,351)	(\$12,503)	(\$27,985)
Reprogramming/Transfers (CHIMP)	(\$4,000)	(\$4,000)	(\$4,000)
Supplementals	\$193,000	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$6,671,622	\$7,303,907	\$7,252,700
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	\$77,005	\$75,000	\$75,000
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$6,748,627	\$7,384,487	\$7,327,700
Projected Obligations			
Obligations ¹⁵	\$4,878,463	\$5,595,175	\$5,868,997
Operation Allies Welcome (OAW) Obligations	\$66,000	\$62,776	\$62,776
Obligations - Reimbursables	\$75,000	\$63,000	\$74,000
Actual Obligations			
Obligations	\$4,474,715	-	-
Obligations – Reimbursable	\$83,687	-	-
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	20,654	21,659	22,512
Enacted/Request FTE	18,649	20,576	20,650
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	18,231	21,659	22,512
FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)	17,911	20,576	20,650

¹⁴ FTE and amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

¹⁵ Tied to “Budget Spending Authority Request” which refers to the funding USCIS anticipates to obligate, as opposed to “Budget Authority” which refers to budget resources.

Immigration Examinations Fee Account Collections – Reimbursable Resources

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Canada/UK Visa	-	-	\$9,500	-	-	\$9,500	-	-	\$9,500
Department of Defense - Department of Defense	-	-	\$7,500	-	-	\$7,500	-	-	\$7,500
Department of Health and Human Services - Department Wide	-	-	\$5	-	-	\$5	-	-	\$5
Department of Homeland Security - Department of Homeland Security	-	-	\$952	-	-	\$952	-	-	\$952
Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency	-	-	\$12,994	-	-	\$12,994	-	-	\$12,994
Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Customs and Border Protection	-	-	\$19,154	-	-	\$19,154	-	-	\$19,154
Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	-	-	\$12,500	-	-	\$12,500	-	-	\$12,500
Department of Justice - Department of Justice	-	-	\$311	-	-	\$311	-	-	\$311
SAVE Collections	-	-	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000
Department of Homeland Security – CISA	-	-	\$74	-	-	\$74	-	-	\$74
General Service Administration (GSA)	-	-	\$10	-	-	\$10	-	-	\$10
Total Collections	-	-	\$75,000	-	-	\$75,000	-	-	\$75,000

Immigration Examinations Fee Account**Summary of Budget Changes***(Dollars in Thousands)*

	Positions	FTE	Pay	Non-Pay	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	20,654	18,649	\$2,787,629	\$2,156,834	\$4,944,463
FY 2023 Enacted	21,659	20,576	\$3,214,766	\$2,380,409	\$5,595,175
FY 2024 Base Budget	21,659	20,576	\$3,214,766	\$2,380,409	\$5,595,175
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Pricing Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Annualization of Prior Year Pay Increase	-	-	\$36,970	-	\$36,970
Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$126,818	-	\$126,818
Asylum Processing Rule Annualization for a 75,000 Credible Fear Interview Caseload	-	-	\$31,511	\$13,489	\$45,000
FY 2023 Pay Annualization	-	366	\$57,703	-	\$57,703
Total Pricing Changes	-	366	\$253,002	\$13,489	\$266,491
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	366	\$253,002	\$13,489	\$266,491
FY 2023 Current Services	21,659	20,942	\$3,467,768	\$2,393,898	\$5,861,666
Anticipated Fee Rule Positions	2,291	1,146	\$236,577	\$38,669	\$275,246
Realignment of Backlog Reduction to Operations and Support	(644)	(644)	(\$82,520)	-	(\$82,520)
Realignment of Asylum Adjudications to Operations and Support	(794)	(794)	(\$143,454)	(\$41,941)	(\$185,395)
Total Program Changes	853	(292)	\$10,603	(\$3,272)	\$7,331
FY 2024 Request¹⁶	22,512	20,650	\$3,478,371	\$2,390,626	\$5,868,997
FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change	853	74	\$263,605	\$10,217	\$273,822

¹⁶ FTE and amount totals do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Immigration Examinations Fee Account**Justification of Pricing Changes***(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Pricing Change 1 – Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$36,970	-	\$36,970
Adjudication Operations	-	-	\$21,466	-	\$21,466
<i>Field Operations</i>	-	-	<i>\$11,711</i>	-	<i>\$11,711</i>
<i>Fraud Detection and National Security</i>	-	-	<i>\$3,123</i>	-	<i>\$3,123</i>
<i>Service Center Operations</i>	-	-	<i>\$6,632</i>	-	<i>\$6,632</i>
Immigration Policy and Support	-	-	\$6,823	-	\$6,823
Refugee and Asylum Operations	-	-	\$3,715	-	\$3,715
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	-	-	\$2,551	-	\$2,551
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	-	-	\$2,415	-	\$2,415
Pricing Change 2 – Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$126,818	-	\$126,818
Adjudication Operations	-	-	\$73,635	-	\$73,635
<i>Field Operations</i>	-	-	<i>\$40,172</i>	-	<i>\$40,172</i>
<i>Fraud Detection and National Security</i>	-	-	<i>\$10,716</i>	-	<i>\$10,716</i>
<i>Service Center Operations</i>	-	-	<i>\$22,747</i>	-	<i>\$22,747</i>
Immigration Policy and Support	-	-	\$23,404	-	\$23,404
Refugee and Asylum Operations	-	-	\$12,744	-	\$12,744
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	-	-	\$8,750	-	\$8,750
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	-	-	\$8,285	-	\$8,285

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Immigration Examinations Fee Account

Pricing Change 3 – Asylum Processing Rule Annualization for a 75,000 Credible Fear Interview Caseload	-	-	\$31,511	\$13,489	\$45,000
Refugee and Asylum Operations	-	-	\$31,511	\$13,489	\$45,000
Pricing Change 4 – FY 2023 Pay Annualization	-	366	\$57,703	-	\$57,703
Adjudication Operations	-	223	\$35,158	-	\$35,158
<i>Field Operations</i>	-	121	\$19,077	-	\$19,077
<i>Fraud Detection and National Security</i>	-	33	\$5,203	-	\$5,203
<i>Service Center Operations</i>	-	69	\$10,878	-	\$10,878
Immigration Policy and Support	-	43	\$6,779	-	\$6,779
Refugee and Asylum Operations	-	37	\$5,833	-	\$5,833
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	-	24	\$3,784	-	\$3,784
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	-	39	\$6,149	-	\$6,149
Total Pricing Changes	-	366	\$253,002	\$13,489	\$266,491

Pricing Change 1 – Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change impacts civilian pay funding in the Base and Annualizations, which totals \$3.2B.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents the costs of the fourth quarter of the calendar year 2023 4.6 percent civilian pay increase. It is calculated by adding the base pay of the FY 2022 Congressional Justification and the FY 2023 Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise pricing change, multiplying by the pay rate increase (4.6 percent) and then by one-fourth to account for three months of the 2023 calendar year.

Change 2 – Civilian Pay Raise Total

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change impacts civilian pay funding in the Base and Annualizations, which totals \$3.3B.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents the costs of the first three quarters of the calendar year 2024 with a 5.2 percent civilian pay increase. It is calculated by adding Base pay, Pay Base of the Annualization of FY 2023 Program Changes and the Annualization of Prior Year

Pay Raise pricing change, multiplying by the pay rate increase (5.2 percent) and then by three-fourths to account for nine months of the 2024 calendar year.

Pricing Change 3 – Asylum Processing Rule Annualization for a 75,000 Credible Fear Interview Caseload

Base Activity Funding: The base funding of this activity reflects a total of 794 positions, 794 FTE, and \$135.0M.

Pricing Change Explanation: This annualization of \$45.0M represents the remaining costs needed to support up to 75,000 credible fear cases. This pricing change will increase pay to \$138.1M and non-pay to \$41.9M which is consistent with costs needed to support up to 75,000 credible fear cases.

Pricing Change 4 – FY 2023 Pay Annualization

Base Activity Funding: The base funding of this activity reflects a total of 732 positions, 366 FTE, and \$57.7M.

Pricing Change Explanation: This annualization of \$57.7M represents the remaining costs needed to support up to 732 positions that were added in FY 2023 as enhancements.

Immigration Examinations Fee Account

Justification of Program Changes

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Program Change 1 – Anticipated Fee Rule Positions	2,291	1,146	\$236,577	\$38,669	\$275,246
Adjudication Operations	1,326	663	\$143,653	\$23,479	\$167,132
<i>Field Operations</i>	723	362	\$78,371	\$12,810	\$91,181
<i>Fraud Detection and National Security</i>	193	96	\$20,905	\$3,417	\$24,322
<i>Service Center Operations</i>	410	205	\$44,377	\$7,253	\$51,630
Immigration Policy and Support	281	141	\$32,611	\$5,331	\$37,942
Refugee and Asylum Operations	650	325	\$57,637	\$9,421	\$67,058
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	34	17	\$2,676	\$437	\$3,113
Program Change 2 – Realignment of Asylum Adjudications to Operations and Support	(794)	(794)	(\$143,454)	(\$41,941)	(\$185,395)
Refugee and Asylum Operations	(794)	(794)	(\$143,454)	(\$41,941)	(\$185,395)
Program Change 3 – Realignment of Backlog Reduction from IEFA	(644)	(644)	(\$82,520)	-	(\$82,520)
Adjudication Operations	(644)	(644)	(\$82,520)	-	(\$82,520)
Field Operations	(351)	(351)	(\$45,019)	-	(\$45,019)
Fraud Detection and National Security	(94)	(94)	(\$12,009)	-	(\$12,009)
Service Center Operations	(199)	(199)	(\$25,492)	-	(\$25,492)
Total Program Changes	853	(292)	\$10,603	(\$3,272)	\$7,331

Program Change 1 – Anticipated Fee Rule Positions

(\$ in thousands)	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	21,659	20,576	\$5,595,175
Program Change	2,291	1,146	\$275,246

Description

USCIS has increased the FY 2024 pay budget by \$275.2M from FY 2023 to account for changes due to an anticipated implementation of the FY 2022/2023 fee rule and for initiatives that require additional pay resources to meet mission goals.

Justification

It has been almost seven years since USCIS raised fees and the agency's current fees fall short of recovering the full cost of USCIS's operational needs. The fees proposed in the new rule will allow USCIS to recover operational costs, re-establish and maintain timely case processing and prevent the accumulation of future case backlogs. These positions are being requested with the understanding that the FY 2022/2023 fee rule is not on a set timeline and the implementation date may vary. USCIS will be required to adjust the application of this program change based on implementation date of the FY 2022/2023 fee rule.

Performance

The 2,291 positions in this program change are necessary to meet adjudicative processing goals and other USCIS mission objectives, including administrative functions. This additional staffing requirement reflects the fact that it takes USCIS longer to adjudicate many workloads than was planned for in the FY 2016/2017 fee rule and that workload volumes and operational needs have grown.

Program Change 2 – Realignment of Asylum Adjudications to Operations and Support

(\$ in thousands)	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	794	794	\$185,395
Program Change	(794)	(794)	(\$185,395)

Description

The FY 2024 Budget includes a realignment of 794 Positions, 794 FTE, and \$185.4M for the Refugee and Asylum Operations PPA. The decrease in positions from this PPA is in direct correlation with the request to fund these positions within the Operations and Support Congressional Justification chapter of USCIS' budget request for FY 2024. These 794 positions have the capacity to process up to 75,000 credible fear cases. In FY 2022, 266 positions were funded to support up to 35,000 credible fear cases. In FY 2023, an additional 528 positions were funded to total 794 positions and

\$135 million in funding. In FY 2024 an additional \$45 million in annualization and \$5.4 million in pay raises was added to the \$135 million for a total of \$185.4 million in current services for asylum adjudications.

Justification

USCIS is primarily funded by immigration and naturalization benefit fees charged to applicants and petitioners; however, the workload these positions support do not generate revenue and requires that the burden of these costs be borne by the small pool of fee-paying applicants and petitioners. This shift in funding source would eliminate the extra burden on fee-paying applicants to support the payroll and other associated staffing costs to handle the processing of credible fear interviews and asylum adjudications.

Performance

USCIS will fully implement the Asylum Processing Interim Final Rule, as of May 31, 2022, USCIS may retain the asylum and withholding of the removal application of certain individuals found to have a credible fear, rather than placing the individuals into removal proceedings with an immigration judge. USCIS will increase its capacity to conduct Asylum Merits Interviews under this rule and the movement of these positions to discretionary funding will provide USCIS with full flexibility to successfully carry out this new mission.

As DHS proposes to adjust these fees for the considerable costs increases due to higher demand since 2016, DHS has estimated that the associated requirements of the Asylum Processing Rule will be funded by a \$600 Asylum Program Fee to be paid by employers who file either a Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, or Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker, to ensure full cost of operations are recovered. DHS has determined that the Asylum Program Fee is an effective way to shift some costs to requests that are generally submitted by petitioners who have more ability to pay, as opposed to shifting those costs to all other fee payers. With this realignment, DHS may reduce USCIS' estimated IEFA resource requirements and the fees necessary to generate those resources in a final fee rule.

Program Change 3 – Realignment of Backlog Reduction from IEFA

<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	644	644	\$82,520
Program Change	(644)	(644)	(\$82,520)

Description

The FY 2024 Budget includes a decrease of 644 Positions, 644 FTE, and \$82.5M which was used to support the reduction of USCIS backlogs in FY 2023. The decrease in positions from this PPA is in direct correlation with the request to fund these positions within the Operations and Support Congressional Justification chapter of USCIS' budget request for FY 2024. This program was originally funded through appropriations in FY 2022 and was not funded in FY 2023. Rather than eliminate the progress and work that had been accomplished through the backlog effort, USCIS supported the backlog reduction effort through IEFA funds. USCIS absorbed the 477 onboarded personnel from Operations and Support in FY 2022 and continued hiring up to 644 positions through FY 2023.

Justification

As part of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) recommendations in its report¹⁷ on actions needed to address pending caseload, GAO states that USCIS should identify resources necessary to address its case backlog and inform key stakeholders, such as the Office of Management and Budget and Congress.

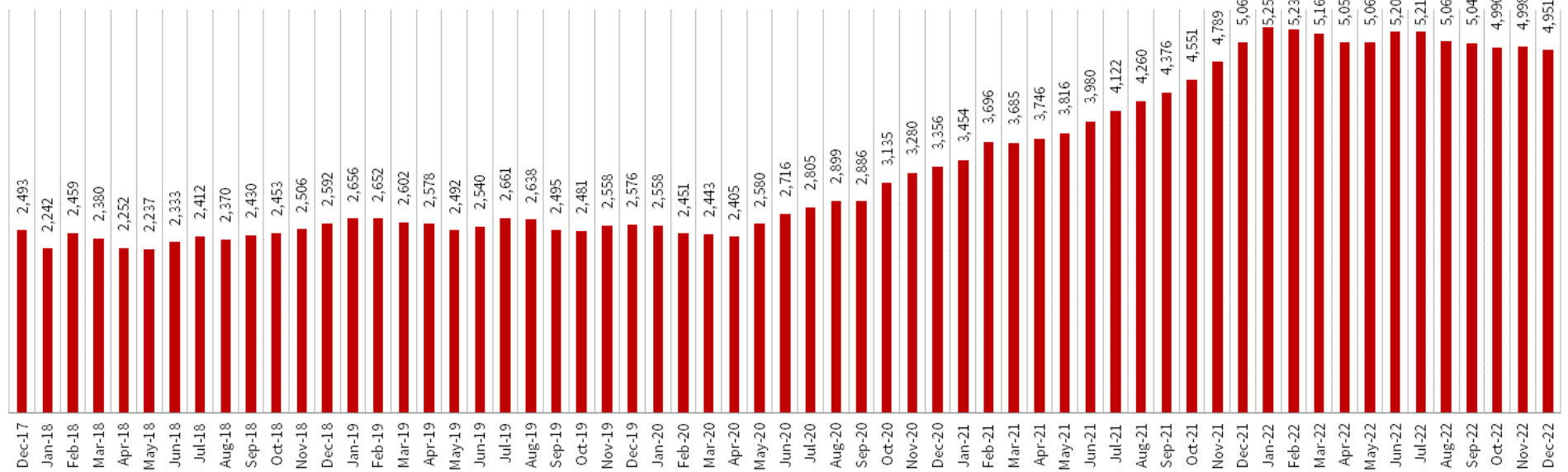
Addressing the backlog is a priority for the Administration and USCIS senior leadership. The current fee collections do not support the financial burden required to have an impact on reducing the backlog. Sustained funding for backlog reduction is necessary to ultimately eliminate the current backlog. USCIS understands the impact that decision delays have on applicants and petitioners and USCIS recognizes that its core mission is to ensure the timely processing of immigration requests with fairness, integrity, and respect for all we serve. USCIS is requesting to transfer the current support of this program from fee funds and expand current efforts through increased capacity (additional FTE, additional overtime, expanded contractual support, additional equipment and supply purchases, and onboarding and training expenses) under appropriations.

Performance

This transfer of funding and positions supports the downward trend of the backlog realized in FY 2022 as a result of increased staff to support backlog reduction efforts through appropriated funds. Without appropriated funds, USCIS will be unable to support backlog reduction efforts to make any real progress in the near future.

¹⁷ GAO Report 21-529 – *U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services: Actions Needed to Address Pending Caseload* (<https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-21-529>)

Graphic 1: Backlog Trends, December 2017 – December 2022



Immigration Examinations Fee Account

Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

Organization	FY 2022 Enacted				FY 2023 Enacted				FY 2024 President's Budget ¹⁸				FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes			
<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Adjudication Operations	12,790	11,431	\$1,681,439	\$147.09	13,434	12,762	\$1,784,493	\$139.83	14,116	13,004	\$1,975,885	\$151.94	682	242	\$191,392	\$12.11
Field Operations	-	-	-	-	7,329	6,963	\$973,536	\$139.82	7,701	7,095	\$1,077,848	\$151.92	372	132	\$104,312	\$12.10
Fraud Detection and National Security	-	-	-	-	1,955	1,857	\$259,698	\$139.85	2,054	1,892	\$287,636	\$152.03	99	35	\$27,938	\$12.18
Service Center Operations	-	-	-	-	4,150	3,942	\$551,259	\$139.84	4,361	4,017	\$610,401	\$151.95	211	75	\$59,142	\$12.11
Immigration Policy and Support	2,919	2,674	\$475,306	\$177.75	2,919	2,773	\$587,127	\$211.73	3,200	2,957	\$656,744	\$222.10	281	184	\$69,617	\$10.37
Refugee and Asylum Operations	2,180	1,943	\$303,616	\$156.26	1,809	1,719	\$330,899	\$192.50	1,665	1,287	\$298,885	\$232.23	-144	-432	(\$32,014)	\$39.73
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	1,384	1,295	\$175,850	\$135.79	1,384	1,315	\$201,903	\$153.54	1,418	1,356	\$219,664	\$161.99	34	41	\$17,761	\$8.45
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	1,381	1,306	\$151,418	\$115.94	2,113	2,007	\$310,344	\$154.63	2,113	2,046	\$327,193	\$159.92	0	39	\$16,849	\$5.29
Total	20,654	18,649	\$2,787,629	\$149.48	21,659	20,576	\$3,214,766	\$156.24	22,512	20,650	\$3,478,371	\$168.44	853	74	\$263,605	\$12.20
Mandatory - Fee	20,654	18,649	\$2,787,629	\$149.48	21,659	20,576	\$3,214,766	\$156.24	22,512	20,650	3,478,371	\$168.44	853	74	\$263,605	\$12.20

¹⁸ FTE and amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Pay by Object Class*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget¹⁹	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$1,953,010	\$2,227,531	\$2,399,374	\$171,843
11.3 Other than Full-time Permanent	\$14,116	\$13,156	\$14,124	\$968
11.5 Other Personnel Compensation	\$83,017	\$103,683	\$112,204	\$8,521
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$737,486	\$869,185	\$951,391	\$82,206
13.0 Benefits for Former Personnel	-	\$1,211	\$1,278	\$67
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$2,787,629	\$3,214,766	\$3,478,371	\$263,605
Positions and FTE				
Positions - Civilian	20,654	21,659	22,512	853
FTE - Civilian	18,649	20,576	20,650	74

¹⁹ FTE and amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Pay Cost Drivers

Pay Cost Drivers (Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget ²⁰			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate
Immigration Services Officer	11,352	\$1,559,575	\$137.40	12,002	\$1,714,001	\$142.81	12,045	\$1,854,532	\$153.97	43	\$140,531	\$11.16
Asylum Officer	1,048	\$158,802	\$151.53	1,136	\$178,931	\$157.51	1,140	\$193,590	\$169.82	4	\$14,659	\$12.31
Adjudication Officer	279	\$58,966	\$211.35	277	\$60,854	\$219.69	278	\$65,845	\$236.85	1	\$4,991	\$17.16
Refugee Officer	235	\$37,968	\$161.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hearings and Appeals	69	\$15,459	\$224.04	71	\$16,534	\$232.87	71	\$17,826	\$251.07	-	\$1,292	\$18.20
Other	5,667	\$956,859	\$168.85	7,090	\$1,244,446	\$175.52	7,116	\$1,346,578	\$189.23	26	\$102,132	\$13.71
Total – Pay Cost Drivers	18,649	\$2,787,629	\$149.48	20,576	\$3,214,766	\$156.24	20,650	\$3,478,371	\$168.44	74	\$263,605	\$12.20

Explanation of Pay Cost Drivers

Immigration Services Officer: This cost driver funds salaries and benefits of USCIS Immigration Services Officers. Immigration Services Officers research and analyze applications, petitions and supporting documentation; interview petitioners and applicants to assess credibility; and deny or grant petitions and applications. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, FY 2024 pay raise, and the annualized hiring and onboarding of additional positions.

Asylum Officer: This cost driver funds salaries and benefits of USCIS Asylum Officers. Asylum Officers conduct interviews, process Credible Fear claims, and adjudicate asylum applications that are not made in Immigration Court. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, FY 2024 pay raise, and the annualized hiring and onboarding of additional positions.

Adjudication Officer: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Adjudication Officers. Adjudication Officers review applications for immigration benefits and make decisions regarding these requests based on their extensive knowledge of immigration laws and practices. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, and FY 2024 pay raise.

Refugee Officer: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Refugee Officers. Refugee Officers establish identity and make findings of eligibility for refugee benefits by analyzing facts, examining documents (including identifying documents) for authenticity, and researching and

²⁰ FTE and amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

analyzing appropriate information, law, and country conditions. In FY 2023, USCIS is proposing to realign IRAD's fee-funded positions to appropriations in the USCIS' FY 2023 Operations and Support under the Application Processing PPA. This realignment will move 155 Refugee Officer positions along with approximately \$23.2M in associated FTE dollars.

Hearings and Appeals: This cost driver funds salaries and benefits of USCIS Hearings and Appeals staff. Hearings and Appeals staff support a wide range of legal services involving administrative, criminal, and civil prosecutions in support of mandamus and other immigration-related litigation actions. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, and FY 2024 pay raise.

Other: This cost driver funds salaries and benefits of non-Mission Critical Occupation Positions that include: legal, privacy, policy and strategy, equal opportunity and inclusion, procurement operations; management of property, plant, and equipment, and other material resources; budget, planning and performance measures, strategic sourcing, financial and capital asset management; human resources and personnel recruitment, hiring, training, leadership development, employee benefits, and work-life programs, immigration forms, print services, and the management of security and emergency management operations. Changes to this cost driver reflect an increase due to the annualization of prior year pay raise, FY 2024 pay raise, and the annualized hiring and onboarding of additional positions.

Immigration Examinations Fee Account

Permanent Positions by Grade – Appropriation

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Total, SES	80	78	78	-
GS-15	1,076	1,104	1,219	115
GS-14	2,495	2,510	2,574	64
GS-13	4,214	4,443	4,504	61
GS-12	6,268	6,705	6,788	83
GS-11	1,004	1,068	1,080	12
GS-10	46	76	3	(73)
GS-9	3,504	3,634	4,014	380
GS-8	29	30	33	3
GS-7	1,561	1,621	1,787	166
GS-6	226	234	259	25
GS-5	144	149	165	16
GS-4	7	7	8	1
GS-3	-	-	-	-
GS-2	-	-	-	-
Total Permanent Positions	20,654	21,659	22,512	853
Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY	18,231	21,659	22,512	853
Unfilled Positions EOY	2,423	-	-	-
Position Locations				
Headquarters Civilian	4,303	4,050	4,210	160
U.S. Field Civilian	16,311	17,609	18,302	693
Foreign Field Civilian	40	-	-	-
Averages				
Average Personnel Costs, ES Positions	\$191,440	\$199,959	\$208,857	\$8,898
Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions	\$104,351	\$108,995	\$113,845	\$4,850
Average Grade, GS Positions	12	12	12	-

Immigration Examinations Fee Account

Non Pay Budget Exhibits**Non Pay Summary***(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget²¹	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Adjudication Operations	\$151,524	\$389,718	\$413,198	\$23,480
Field Operations	-	\$77,839	\$90,649	\$12,810
Fraud Detection and National Security	-	\$4,081	\$7,498	\$3,417
Service Center Operations	-	\$25,443	\$32,696	\$7,253
Support Services	-	\$282,355	\$282,355	
Immigration Policy and Support	\$821,714	\$631,797	\$637,128	5331
Refugee and Asylum Operations	\$132,137	\$100,551	\$81,520	(\$19,031)
Immigration Records and Applicant Services	\$302,902	\$254,829	\$255,266	437
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	\$748,557	\$1,003,514	\$1,003,514	0
Total	\$2,156,834	\$2,380,409	\$2,390,626	\$10,217
Subtotal Mandatory – Fee	\$2,156,834	\$2,380,409	\$2,390,626	\$10,217

²¹ Amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Non Pay by Object Class*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget²²	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$37,561	\$11,248	\$6,601	(\$4,647)
22.0 Transportation of Things	\$11,783	\$14,717	\$14,717	-
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$308,350	\$269,584	\$268,263	(\$1,321)
23.2 Rental Payments to Others	\$1,178	\$2,520	\$202	(\$2,318)
23.3 Communications, Utilities, & Miscellaneous	\$52,729	\$95,658	\$95,658	-
24.0 Printing and Reproduction	\$7,657	\$14,717	\$14,717	-
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$663,978	\$756,696	\$758,760	\$2,064
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	\$66,244	\$51,278	\$37,794	(\$13,484)
25.3 Other Purchases of goods and services	\$423,941	\$349,521	\$349,521	-
25.4 Operations & Maintenance of Facilities	\$3,119	\$2,452	\$2,452	-
25.6 Medical Care	\$1	-	-	-
25.7 Operation & Maintenance of Equipment	\$100,714	\$168,015	\$168,015	-
26.0 Supplies & Materials	\$17,736	\$39,256	\$38,855	(\$401)
31.0 Equipment	\$408,116	\$527,483	\$557,807	\$30,324
32.0 Land and Structures	\$49,408	\$72,358	\$72,358	-
41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	\$91	-	-	-
42.0 Insurance Claims and Indemnities	\$4,228	\$4,906	\$4,906	-
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$2,156,834	\$2,380,409	\$2,390,626	\$10,217

²² Amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

Non Pay Cost Drivers*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
USCIS Support Contracts and Miscellaneous Services	\$70,975	\$315,858	\$319,293	\$3,435
Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)	\$308,350	\$248,766	\$267,084	\$18,318
Development Contract	\$307,485	\$157,706	\$159,421	\$1,715
O&M and Software Licensing	\$239,027	\$126,921	\$128,301	\$1,380
Service Center Operations Support Contract	-	\$142,268	\$142,268	-
Network	-	\$126,468	\$126,468	-
Federal Bureau of Investigation IAA	\$65,209	\$84,806	\$85,728	\$922
Program Office Related Expenses	\$39,249	\$90,119	\$90,119	-
USCIS Initiatives predominantly involving Printing, Training, Equipment, Transportation of Things, Travel, and Supplies	-	\$74,243	\$75,050	\$807
Overheads & Shared Services	\$96,435	\$83,295	\$83,295	-
Lockbox IAA	\$77,570	\$83,030	\$83,030	-
Lease Acquisitions Program	\$72,749	\$82,665	\$82,665	-
MyUSCIS	-	\$77,639	\$77,639	-
Application Support Center Operations Contract	\$61,845	\$62,065	\$62,740	\$675
Other Rent and Utilities	\$53,907	\$59,751	\$40,295	(\$19,456)
IT Security	-	\$57,615	\$58,242	\$627
Card Production & Security Identification Contracts	\$5,902	\$55,541	\$56,145	\$604
Record Contract Support	\$27,077	\$56,286	\$56,286	-
National Benefits Center Records Contract	\$86,091	\$48,264	\$48,264	-
Data Center and Cloud	-	\$38,371	\$38,788	\$417
Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) Operations	-	\$27,256	\$27,552	\$296
Infrastructure-Information Technology Field Services (ITFS)	-	\$29,328	\$29,328	-
Background Investigations	-	\$27,769	\$27,769	-
Field Office Records Contract	\$22,890	\$24,423	\$24,423	-
HR Support Services	\$18,345	\$22,884	\$22,884	-
Interpreter and Transcription Services	\$24,866	\$20,697	\$20,697	-

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Immigration Examinations Fee Account

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Contract	\$1,589	\$16,391	\$16,569	\$178
Cyber Security Contracts	\$136,831	\$16,285	\$16,462	\$177
Employment Based (EB-5) Program	-	\$19,158	\$19,158	-
Contact Center	\$31,696	\$11,231	\$11,353	\$122
Department of State (DOS) IAA Economy Act w/Consular Affairs	\$12,600	\$12,600	\$12,600	-
Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) support and services	\$8,775	\$8,926	\$8,926	-
Physical Security Support	\$15,941	\$8,766	\$8,766	-
Federal Oaths IAA	\$6,427	\$5,655	\$5,655	-
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center	\$673	\$4,726	\$4,726	-
Technical Operations Center (TOC) (Formerly known as Network Operations Center)	\$85,882	\$4,469	\$4,469	-
Asylum Vetting Center	-	\$4,025	\$4,025	-
Capital Security Cost Share and International Cooperative Administrative Support Services	\$7,057	\$2,807	\$2,807	-
Other Costs	\$271,391	\$41,336	\$41,336	-
Total Non Pay ²³	\$2,156,834	\$2,380,409	\$2,390,626	\$10,217

Explanation of Non-Pay Cost Drivers

This provides an explanation of the major non pay cost drivers:

- **USCIS Support Contracts and Miscellaneous Services:** This cost driver includes contracts and services that support Field Operations, Service Center Operations, Asylum, Information Technology, Immigration Records and Identity Services, External Affairs, Contracting, and other USCIS Program Offices. These contracts and services include things such as maintenance contracts, shredding services, contractual services for human resources, case management, file storage, county court services, and other miscellaneous cost drivers.
- **Rental Payments to the General Services Administration (GSA):** This cost driver funds rental payments to GSA for USCIS facilities space, per USCIS' most recent estimates.
- **Development Contract:** This cost driver provides IT development in three Task Areas: Transformation DevOps, Integration and Configuration Services (ICS) and User Experience Design and User Interface Design (UXD).
- **O&M and Software Licensing:** This cost driver procures licenses, subscriptions, and maintenance for the software and hardware comprising the USCIS IT infrastructure, and supports multi-cloud hosting environment for mission critical systems. Software licenses and products aid in maintaining USCIS systems and build future systems in a consistent manner across the USCIS enterprise environment.

²³ Amount totals for FY 2024 do not match the figures displayed in the FY 2024 Budget Appendix due to a print timing issue.

- **Service Center Operations Support Contract:** This cost driver funds contractual costs for correspondence management, fee receipting, data entry, and file operations support for four of the five USCIS service centers: California Service Center, Nebraska Service Center, Texas Service Center, and Vermont Service Center. This contract is overseen by the Service Center Operations and Office of Intake and Document Production as USCIS continues to transition to an electronic adjudicative process.
- **Network:** This cost driver funds and supports the Back Office Refresh effort as part of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Information Technology Asset Replacement plan to provide funding and deployments to upgrade network, infrastructure, hardware, or other improved technological replacements across USCIS on a continuous schedule. The wireless network deployments are part of USCIS' initiative to provide wireless network capabilities to all USCIS offices. Having wide-spread wireless network capabilities provides constant internet connection world-wide, creating a more efficient environment to enhance the immigration application process, while allowing USCIS to support the public by efficiently and fairly adjudicating requests for immigration benefits while protecting Americans, securing the homeland, and honoring our values.
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation IAA:** This cost driver funds DHS-USCIS required background checks during the immigration benefit process. The background check process is a critical element in USCIS's mission to ensure the integrity of the U.S. immigration system. This process identifies individuals who may pose a risk to our national security or public safety. The process also identifies other derogatory information that may affect eligibility for the immigration benefit sought. As part of the background check process, the USCIS IRIS Directorate's Biometrics Division is responsible for collecting biometrics capture from applicants, who seek to obtain immigration benefits in the United States; biometrics capture is then transmitted electronically to the Department of Justice (DOJ)- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) [DOJ-FBI] to run the fingerprint checks and name checks. DOJ-FBI will receive and process non-criminal justice fingerprint requests from DHS-USCIS and provide results of fingerprint requests to DHS-USCIS. Unit costs are set by reimbursable agreement with the FBI.
- **Program Office Related Expenses:** This cost driver funds administrative support contracts for File Room, Regulatory Support, Data Strategy Services, Disability Accommodation, and Transcription/Translation contracts.
- **USCIS Initiatives predominantly involving Printing, Training, Equipment, Transportation of Things, Travel, and Supplies:** This cost driver funds initiatives predominantly involving Printing, Training, Equipment, Transportation of Things, Travel, and Supplies for every USCIS directorates and program office to maintain current operations.
- **Overheads & Shared Services:** This cost driver funds USCIS overhead requirements like Guard Services, credit monitoring, some attorney fees, etc.
- **Lockbox IAA** – This cost driver funds for services provided by its fiscal agent to collect and deposit revenue from immigration fees. The lockbox performs the initial intake and data entry of applications, scanning of materials, transmission of data to USCIS case management systems, transfer of files to USCIS processing centers, and depositing of checks into USCIS' Treasury accounts. There is no change in this cost driver.
- **Lease Acquisitions Program:** This cost driver funds the acquisition of space and facilities.
- **MyUSCIS:** This cost driver funds the MyUSCIS investment which provides an integrated, simplified, transparent digital experience that makes it easy for customers to understand the benefits process, apply for benefits, view information about their case, and contact USCIS for support.
- **Application Support Center Operations Contract:** This cost driver funds the Application Support Center (ASC) contract which supports facilities and labor costs to operate 131 ASC sites in the U.S. and its territories. The ASC program was established by an Act of Congress in

1997 to capture biometric and biographic data for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), now USCIS. Annually, the ASCs process a significant portion of all applicants seeking immigration benefits. ASC workload is dependent on current immigration policies and customer population size.

- **Other Rent and Utilities:** This cost driver funds rental payments to non-GSA facilities as well as costs for utilities and telecommunications associated with facilities.
- **IT Security:** This cost driver funds the Information Security investment which prepares and conducts Certification and Accreditation (CA) audits and reports. Also conducts annual system reviews, assists in preparation of business cases, and monitors all cognizant plans of actions and milestones (POAM). This also provides incident detection, resolution, and reporting capability. Includes fundamental analysis, test, forensics, continuity planning, and classified network processing support. Finally, this investment contributes towards continually informing program managers of security requirements.
- **Card Production & Security Identification Contracts:** This cost driver funds the Secure Identification Platform (SIP) Card Production System and Technology Refresh.
- **Records Contract Support:** Records and Operations services supporting all incoming, retrieval, and compaction of A-files at the National Records Center.
- **National Benefits Center Records Contract:** The Records Contract for the National Benefits Center is essential for the pre-adjudication, staging and distribution of benefit applications for the 88 field offices throughout USCIS' Field Operations Directorate. The Records Contract handles over 1 million applications each year that are distributed 21 days in advance of scheduled applicant interviews to maintain constant workflow to each field office. There is no change to this cost driver.
- **Data Center and Cloud:** This cost driver funds the USCIS Cloud and Data Center SRI investment which manages the development and integration of enterprise data center infrastructure by providing production data center environments to legacy USCIS programs. Currently, the program is migrating all applications to the cloud and will be leveraging Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure and Google Cloud Platform (GCP) to provide more efficient immigration application processes to the public. The program is in the support lifecycle phase.
- **Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) Operations:** This cost driver funds the CIO and IT leadership team to efficiently plan and manage the enterprise technology environment. Supported activities include planning, consulting, innovation, project and program management, travel, training, supplies, and vendor management.
- **Infrastructure-Information Technology Field Services (ITFS):** This cost driver funds the Infrastructure-Information Technology Field Services (I-ITFS) investments which supports the operations and maintenance infrastructure of the immigration system. This investment consists of an enterprise Service Desk which includes Tier I, Incident and Problem Management support, Deskside Support, Deployment Services, Hardware Maintenance, and Asset Management. I-EUS I-ITFS provides an enterprise contract vehicle for purchasing information technology hardware and minimal maintenance support.
- **Background Investigations:** This cost driver funds all investigations for USCIS. USCIS' Office of Security and Integrity evaluates each background investigation to determine whether an applicant is an acceptable risk.
- **Field Office Records Contract:** Provides administrative and clerical support for USCIS Field Offices.
- **HR Support Services:** This cost driver funds HR Support services for Employee Assistance Program and Professional Development.
- **Interpreter and Transcription Services:** This cost driver provides funds for interpreter and transcription contracts.

- **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Contract:** This cost driver funds support services (FOIA processors) in support of FOIA/Privacy Act (PA) requests.
- **Cyber Security Contracts:** This cost driver supports security programs responsible for the protection of the USCIS network, systems, and information ensuring a reliable and secure environment.
- **Employment Based (EB-5) Program:** This cost driver funds general expenses to support the EB-5 program, the costs associated with a new form build out, and additional support to the Administrative Appeals Office as mandated by the *EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act*.
- **Contact Center:** This cost driver funds nationwide contact center contracts to operate the bilingual (English/Spanish) USCIS Contact Center.
- **Department of State (DOS) IAA Economy Act w/ Consular Affairs:** This cost driver funds the DOS interagency agreement for services, such as cashiering services, overseas verifications, DNA sample collection, and processing of forms such as certain Form I-130 Immediate Relative Petitions, Form I-131A Travel Document (Carrier Documentation), and Form I-730 Refugee/Asylee Following-to-Join Petitions, DOS provides for USCIS at overseas consular and embassy locations.
- **Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Support and Services:** This cost driver funds the Verification Information System webservices along with the Telephony Contact Center, program management support, licensing, independent test evaluation, and other operating expenses required to run the SAVE program.
- **Physical Security Support:** This cost driver funds PIV card issuance and Protective Security.
- **Federal Oaths IAA:** USCIS reimburses the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AOUSC) for naturalization oaths administered to Immigration and Naturalization Act (INA) approved applicants at naturalization ceremonies organized and conducted by United States Federal District Courts.
- **Federal Law Enforcement Training Center:** This cost driver provides reimbursement for training of FDNS personnel at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.
- **Technical Operations Center (TOC) (Formerly known as Network Operations Center):** This cost driver provides support to the USCIS Local Area Network (LAN) which constitutes approximately 5,000 devices and 600 voice and data circuits across the United States and USCIS overseas locations. This also funds IT support including deployments, field services, USCIS service desk, service center and enterprise infrastructure services to all USCIS sites which is approximately 230 Contiguous U.S. (CONUS) and 28 Outside Contiguous U.S. (OCONUS) offices.
- **Asylum Vetting Center:** This cost driver funds the Asylum Vetting Center which supports the new facility in Atlanta, GA. The Asylum Vetting Center serves a variety of projects such as Domestic Processing of I-730s (Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition), I-589 Intake (Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal), a variety of administrative support projects for Asylum Division, and FDNS investigations, security reporting.
- **Capital Security Cost Share and International Cooperative Administrative Support Services:** This cost driver aims to provide new, safe, and secure U.S. diplomatic overseas facilities. RAIO must pay a prorated portion of these costs based on staffing numbers.
- **Other Costs:** Funds the remaining management and support costs for the day-to-day operations across USCIS.

Operational Activities

The USCIS website²⁴ provides information on activities supported through IEFA. In general, applicants can check case status, check processing times, find USCIS office locations, and file certain form online. The public may also be interested in learning about citizenship, the USCIS electronic reading room, and certain data and statistics. While large amounts of data regarding USCIS operational activities is available online, below are additional highlights of specific activities that are generally not provided via the website.

Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS)

The FDNS Data System (FDNS-DS) records, tracks, and manages immigration inquiries, investigative referrals, law enforcement requests, and case determinations involving benefit fraud, criminal activity, public safety, and national security concerns.

Fraud Detection Referrals Processed²⁵

Workload Type	FY 2022 Actual ²⁶	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
Total Referrals	117,441	121,000	124,000
National Security Concerns	6,750	7,400	7,600
Public Safety Cases	9,143	9,900	10,000
Fraud Leads	23,987	25,000	26,000
Fraud Cases	12,646	13,500	14,000
Requests for Assistance	54,540	57,000	58,000
Request for Overseas Verification	479	500	500
Administrative Site Visit and Verification Program (ASVVP)	4,037	2,000	2,000
Targeted Site Visit and Verification Program (TSVVP)	5,859	5,700	5,900

Biometrics

The Identity and Information Management Division (IIMD) is responsible for collecting biometric and biographic data from applicants and petitioners that are required to provide this data when they request immigration benefits in the United States.

²⁴ For additional information, please visit: <http://www.uscis.gov>.

²⁵ For the purpose of this document, the term “referral” indicates any request for FDNS to review, investigate, or support USCIS workload. This differs from the standard definition of FDNS-DS “referral” that does not include requests to FDNS to conduct administrative investigations of fraud.

²⁶ Case type and subtype data is as of September 30, 2022 for FY 2022 data. FDNS-DS is an active system. Cases may be created, deleted, converted, or merged at any time. As of Q3 FY 2022, FDNS began incorporating business forecasting into its referral projections as a best practice, rather than exclusively creating straight line referral projections derived from trends in recent actuals. The new projection method has resulted in a more stable and accurate referral forecast. Source: Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS).

The following table depicts actual workload volumes for FY 2022, and projected volumes for FY 2023 and FY 2024 for the USCIS Biometrics program, which consists of applicant/petitioner processing at an Application Support Centers (ASC), as well as fingerprint checks and name checks with the FBI. FBI checks increased in FY 2021 and leveled in FY 2022 as USCIS reopened ASCs, instituted fingerprint reuse, and cleared the queue. Now that the queue is cleared, USCIS is trending back to pre-pandemic projections in FY 2023 and FY 2024 barring any unforeseen circumstances. When required by USCIS, applicants and petitioners appear at an ASC to have their biometrics (fingerprints, photographs, and signatures) collected. The biometrics are used for identity verification, as well as for performing the required FBI checks for security purposes. USCIS reimburses the FBI for the cost of these security checks. The biometrics workload is a derivative of immigration benefit application and petition receipts.

Activity	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
Individuals Processed at an ASC	2,467,043	3,000,000	3,000,000
FBI Fingerprint Checks	4,406,042	4,216,800	4,343,304
FBI Name Checks	1,983,910	1,758,444	1,811,197

Immigration Policy and Support

This Directorate contains policy and advisory components as well as program office components not included elsewhere, and also includes components responsible for management of space, contracts, training, human resources, as well as costs associated with the design, development, and deployment of IT services and solutions in support of immigration policy and the USCIS enterprise. Support for a variety of USCIS headquarters offices include the Office of the Director, Administration, Investment Management Division, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Counsel, Privacy, Contracting, Policy and Strategy, Equal Opportunity and Inclusion, Human Capital and Training, Security and Integrity, and External Affairs (Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Affairs).

The following table depicts actual and projected workloads for select functions:

Responsible Office	Workload Measure	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
Office of Human Capital and Training	Personnel Actions ²⁷	40,183	44,000 – 46,000	45,000 – 47,000
Office of Human Capital and Training	Employees Attending BASIC Immigration Adjudicator Training	628	960	960
Office of Security and Integrity	Adjudicative Determinations ²⁸	3,307	9,000	9,000
Office of Security and Integrity	Entry on Duty (EOD) Determinations ²⁹	13,742	9,500	9,500
Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion	Formal Complaint Filings ³⁰	104	145	180
Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion	Disability Accommodation ³¹	1,560	1,600	1,700
Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion	Informal Complaint Filings	180	210	250
Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion	Anti-Harassment Contracts ³²	351	421	505

²⁷ These figures have been updated since the estimate included in the FY 2023 USCIS IEFA Congressional Justification to adjust for a new internal job process and a surge in USCIS' hiring.

²⁸ Includes suitability, fitness, and security, reinvestigation, and Secure Compartmented Information (SCI) eligibility case types not including contract-to-contract transfers or internal employee selections, or applications of reciprocity.

²⁹ Includes contractor new hires, federal new hires, and transfers from other Federal agencies.

³⁰ Formal complaint filing for future years are anticipated to increase as the agency grows significantly as a result increased hiring and personnel growth. This growth will create additional supervisory positions tied to the additional workforce which, will likely result in non-selection complaints arising from assertions that non-selection occurred because of a discriminatory reason.

³¹ Significant increase in accommodation request in FY 2022 resulting from employees returning to the offices and many requests tied to employees seeking to continue to work from home. These figures are more in line with pre-pandemic levels of accommodation request activity.

³² It is expected there will continue to be increases in FY 2023 and FY 2024 as anti-harassment training increases and the Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion begins to refer harassment allegations raised in the EEO complaint process to its Anti-Harassment Program, as required by Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidance.

USCIS Contact Center

The USCIS Contact Center provides a pathway for applicants to obtain consistent, accurate information and answers to immigration case questions. Tier 1 inquiries are managed by contractors, and the more complicated inquiries are routed to Tiers 2 and 3 and are handled by experienced USCIS Federal staff.³³ USCIS Contact Center is refining channel strategy and limiting inbound and outbound calling while increasing use of chats and webform/email communication with customers. The following table depicts actual and projected Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 call, and chat volumes:

Call and Chat Volume			
Call Centers	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
Tier 1	4,183,985	5,500,000	4,000,000
Tier 2	1,795,700	1,800,000	1,600,000
Tier 3	179,570	180,000	160,000

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)

The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program provides immigration information to federal, state, and local benefit-issuing agencies, institutions, and licensing agencies to assist in determining public benefit eligibility. SAVE provides individualized training, support, and customer service for agency users.

In FY 2024, USCIS is increasing SAVE user fees to fully fund the program. The current user fee is \$0.50 per initial verification request handled by the SAVE system, plus an additional \$0.50 for any additional manual verification request processed by SAVE status verification personnel. USCIS will incorporate a phased-in user fee increase to about \$3.10 per verification request, regardless of whether the case involves additional verification.

Budget and cost allocation analysis over the past several years has highlighted a need to increase the SAVE budget to \$51.2 million. Historically, SAVE user agency fees have funded about 30 percent of the \$30-35 million SAVE operating budget. The remaining 70 percent has been funded by IEFA and Premium Processing fees, subject to some fluctuation.

The following table depicts SAVE workload actuals for FY 2022, and projections for FY 2023 and FY 2024. Staffing is mainly driven by SAVE second and third step queries, which are those that cannot be automatically resolved and manually require employees to research the case and provide a response to the agency.

³³ Tier 1: The first level of live assistance, Tier 1, is managed by contractors who can provide general information and assist with inquiries for case status and similar.

Tier 2: More complicated inquiries are escalated to the next level of live service, Tier 2, which is staffed by Immigration Services Officers (ISO).

Tier 3: If an ISO is unable to resolve an inquiry, the officer can further escalate this to a supervisor at Tier 3.

As of September 30, 2022, there were over 17,000,000 SAVE queries; of those, approximately 1,174,000 required second step and 350,000 required third step. At the end of FY 2022, there were 1,195 agencies enrolled in SAVE.

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Actual and Projected Workload for FY 2022 - FY 2024			
Activity	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
SAVE Automated Queries	17,000,000	18,300,000	18,401,000
SAVE Queries requiring second step review by staff	1,174,000	860,000	921,500
SAVE Queries requiring third step review by staff	350,000	681,000	620,000
SAVE Registered Agencies (Cumulative)	1,195	1,205	1,211

Department of Homeland Security
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account



Fiscal Year 2024
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H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account**Budget Comparison and Adjustments****Comparison of Fee Collections***(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Fee Account ¹	-	-	\$23,743	-	-	\$24,068	-	-	\$24,856	-	-	\$788
Total	-	-	\$23,743	-	-	\$24,068	-	-	\$24,856	-	-	\$788
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	-	-	\$23,743	-	-	\$24,068	-	-	\$24,856	-	-	\$788

Fee Authority: The H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Fee Account was established by Section 286(s) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(s)) and amended by the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), Public Law 105-277, Division C, Title IV, 112 Stat. 2681. The ACWIA fee was reauthorized and made permanent by the L-1 Visa and H-1B Visa Reform Act of 2004 (part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, Public Law 108-447, 118 Stat. 2809, 3351-61 (2004)).

Fee Uses: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service' (USCIS) H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account supports activities related to the processing of petitions for nonimmigrant workers in the H-1B visa classification. The H-1B visa program allows U.S. employers to temporarily employ foreign workers in specialty occupations. USCIS receives 5 percent of the collections generated by these fees to fund USCIS' immigration benefit adjudication efforts, while the remaining 95 percent of ACWIA collections are deposited in accounts managed by the Department of Labor and the National Science Foundation.

Change Mechanism: Statutory. Requires action through House and Senate Judiciary Committees, and passage into law.

Previous Changes: The H-1B Visa Reform Act reauthorized and increased the ACWIA fee. Section 214(c)(9) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1184(c)(9), requires certain H-1B petitioners with more than 25 employees in the United States to pay an ACWIA fee of \$1,500, while similar petitioners with 25 or fewer employees in the United States pay an ACWIA fee of \$750.

Recovery Rate: The fee was not designed for full cost recovery for H-1B petition processing.

¹ Fee Collections: These values reflect actual (FY 2022), estimated (FY 2023), and projected (FY 2024) fee receipts.

Historical Collections and Cost Recovery Rate

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021²	FY 2022	Five-Year Total
Total Amount of Fee Collected	\$19,499	\$19,590	\$19,129	\$26,682	\$23,743	\$108,643
Total of Eligible Expenses	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$35,000	\$14,333	\$14,909	\$94,242
Cost Recovery %	130.00%	130.60%	54.70%	186.20%	159.25%	132.15%

Changes in Fee Collections: The H-1B Non-Immigrant Petitioner account fees are set in statute and in the past there has been very little fluctuation in annual revenue. For FY 2024, USCIS is projecting an increase of form volume, yielding slightly increased revenues.

² Pursuant to P.L. 116-260, Division H, Title I, Section 115, \$7,500,000 was rescinded from the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account, in an amount that is equal to the amount that became available on October 1, 2020, pursuant to the temporary rescission in Section 115 of Division A of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94). When factoring in this rescission for FY 2021, the cost recovery rate is 133.83%

H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account Budget Authority and Obligations

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Collections (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	\$23,743	\$24,068	\$24,856
Carryover - Start of Year ³	\$18,608	\$27,688	\$31,737
Recoveries	\$507	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	(\$260)	(\$19)	(\$45)
Reprogramming/Transfers	-	-	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$42,597	\$51,737	\$56,548
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$42,597	\$51,737	\$56,548
Obligations (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	\$14,909	\$20,000	\$20,000
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	-	-	-
Enacted/Request FTE	-	-	-
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Estimates/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	-
FTE (Estimates/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	-

³ The minimum carryover target is equivalent to an average of actual first quarter (Q1) obligations during the last three fiscal years (FY), i.e., \$1,990,914. This method may produce a larger reserve than may be needed as it does not factor in projected current year fee collections. In other words, it provides sufficient time for current year collections to be realized by Q2 without hindering operations in Q1. USCIS considers external factors in determining planned obligations. These factors may include, but are not limited to net sequestration between the prior FY and the upcoming FY, planned policy and/or regulatory changes, etc.

H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account
Summary of Budget Changes
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount ⁴	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	-	-	-	\$15,000	\$15,000
FY 2023 Enacted	-	-	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
FY 2024 Base Budget	-	-	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2024 Current Services	-	-	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
FY 2024 Request	-	-	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
FY 2023 To FY 2024 Change	-	-	-	-	-

⁴ These values reflect estimated (FY 2022), estimated (FY 2023), and projected (FY 2024) obligations.

H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account

Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Adjudication Operations	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-
Total	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-

Non Pay by Object Class

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	-
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$13,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	-
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-

Non Pay Cost Drivers*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Service Center Operations Support Services Contract	\$13,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	-
Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	-
Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	-

Explanation of Non Pay Cost Drivers

Service Center Operations Support Services Contract: This funds contractual costs for correspondence management, fee receipting, data entry, and file operations support for four of the five USCIS service centers: California Service Center, Nebraska Service Center, Texas Service Center, and Vermont Service Center. The SCOSS contract shared costs are distributed between the IEFA and H-1B account. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA): The FY 2024 amount is based on projections developed by USCIS' Facilities Division, using information provided by the GSA. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Department of Homeland Security
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account



Fiscal Year 2024
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Fraud Prevention and Detection Account

Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Comparison of Fee Collections

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account ¹	\$60,250	\$59,849	\$61,557	\$1,708
Total	\$60,250	\$59,849	\$61,557	\$1,708
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	\$60,250	\$59,849	\$61,557	\$1,708

Fee Authority: The Fraud Prevention and Detection Account (FPDA) is authorized via Section 286(v) of the *Immigration and Nationality Act* (INA) (8 U.S.C. 1356 (v)) and the L-1 Visa and H-1B Visa Reform Act of 2004 (part of Pub. L. 108-447). FPDA supports the operations, mission support, and associated management and administration (M&A) costs related to preventing and detecting fraud in the adjudication of all immigration benefit types.

Fee Uses: FPDA directly supports U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) efforts to strengthen the integrity of the United States' immigration system. FPDA resources enable USCIS operations to identify threats to national security and public safety, detect and combat immigration benefit fraud, and remove systemic and other vulnerabilities. USCIS receives one-third of the collections generated by the fees to fund a portion of USCIS' fraud detection and prevention efforts.

The FPDA funds a portion of the operational costs for the Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate (FDNS) and Service Center Operations Directorate (SCOPS). FDNS leads the Agency's efforts to determine whether individuals or organizations filing for immigration benefits pose a threat to national security, public safety, or the integrity of the Nation's immigration system.

The FPDA funds salaries and benefits for 115 FDNS positions and 70 SCOPS positions. Resources from the FPDA are not sufficient to fund all of USCIS' fraud detection and national security programs and represent a portion of the overall staff required to determine whether individuals or organizations filing for immigration benefits pose a threat to national security, public safety, or the integrity of the Nation's immigration system. Therefore, these activities are also supported by the Immigration Examinations Fee Account (IEFA).

¹ Fee Collections: These values reflect actual (FY 2022), estimated (FY 2023), and projected (FY 2024) fee receipts.

The following table provides a summary of the total USCIS fraud detection referrals processed:

Fraud Detection Referrals Processed²

Workload Type	FY 2022 Actual ³	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected
Total Referrals	117,441	121,000	124,000
National Security Concerns	6,750	7,400	7,600
Public Safety Cases	9,143	9,900	10,000
Fraud Leads	23,987	25,000	26,000
Fraud Cases	12,646	13,500	14,000
Requests for Assistance	54,540	57,000	58,000
Request for Overseas Verification	479	500	500
Administrative Site Visit and Verification Program (ASVVP)	4,037	2,000	2,000
Targeted Site Visit and Verification Program (TSVVP)	5,859	5,700	5,900

Change Mechanism: Statutory. Requires action through the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, and passage into law.

Previous Changes: Last change was made through the L-1 Visa and H-1B Visa Reform Act of 2004 (part of Pub. L. 108-447). The Act amended section 214(c) of the INA by adding a new subsection (c)(12) which imposed a \$500 fraud prevention and detection fee on certain employers filing H-1B petitions.

Recovery Rate: This fee is not designed to be full cost recovery. The recovery rate in FY 2022 was 133.9 percent.

² For the purpose of this document, the term “referral” indicates any request for FDNS to review, investigate, or support USCIS workload. This differs from the standard definition of FDNS-DS “referral” that does not include requests to FDNS to conduct administrative investigations of fraud.

³ Case type and subtype data is as of September 30, 2022 for FY 2022 data. FDNS-DS is an active system. Cases may be created, deleted, converted, or merged at any time. As of Q3 FY 2022, FDNS began incorporating business forecasting into its referral projections as a best practice, rather than exclusively creating straight line referral projections derived from trends in recent actuals. The new projection method has resulted in a more stable and accurate referral forecast. Source: Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS).

Historical Collections and Cost Recovery Rate

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	Five-Year Total
Total Amount of Fee Collected	\$51,285	\$52,139	\$41,692	\$40,375	\$60,250	\$245,741
Total of Eligible Expenses	\$62,099	\$43,873	\$77,116	\$36,679	\$44,981	\$264,748
Cost Recovery %	82.6%	118.8%	54.1%	110.1%	133.9%	92.8%

Changes in Fee Collections: USCIS does not anticipate any statutory changes in FY 2024 that would affect collections. USCIS fee collections increased in FY 2022 compared to prior years, due to increasing I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, filings. This increase in filings is in part due to jointly published temporary final rules which allowed the Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security to increase the FY 2022 H-2B allocation by up to 55,000 additional visas.⁴ Subsequently, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Labor are issuing a temporary final rule that makes available 64,716 additional H-2B temporary nonagricultural worker visas for FY 2023.⁵ USCIS anticipates this trend to continue and sustain fee revenue levels through FY 2024.

⁴ This increase in the cap is in accordance with Section 204 of Division O of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, Public Law 117-103, which provided the secretary of DHS with the authority to make available additional H-2B visas for FY 2022. For additional information, please see: <https://www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/temporary-workers/h-2b-non-agricultural-workers/temporary-increase-in-h-2b-nonimmigrant-visas-for-fy-2022>

⁵ For more information: <https://www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/temporary-workers/h-2b-temporary-non-agricultural-workers>

Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Budget Authority and Obligations

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Collections (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	\$60,250	\$59,849	\$61,557
Carryover - Start of Year	\$19,985	\$35,225	\$41,137
Recoveries	\$1,104	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	(\$1,133)	\$23	(\$98)
Reprogramming/Transfers	-	-	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	\$80,206	\$95,097	\$102,596
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	\$80,206	\$95,097	\$102,596
Obligations (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	\$44,981	\$53,960	\$56,140
Personnel: Positions and FTE			
Enacted/Request Positions	185	185	185
Enacted/Request FTE	176	176	176
Onboard and Actual FTE			
Onboard (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	166	185	185
FTE (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	169	176	176

Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Summary of Budget Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	185	176	\$25,978	\$26,892	\$52,870
FY 2023 President's Budget	185	176	\$27,068	\$26,892	\$53,960
FY 2024 Base Budget	185	176	\$27,068	\$26,892	\$53,960
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$311	-	\$311
Civilian Pay Raise Total	-	-	\$1,068	-	\$1,068
Fraud Detection and National Security Program Support Contract	-	-	-	\$801	\$801
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	\$1,379	\$801	\$2,180
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	\$1,379	\$801	\$2,180
FY 2024 Current Services	185	176	\$28,447	\$27,693	\$56,140
Total Program Changes	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2024 Request	185	176	\$28,447	\$27,693	\$56,140
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	-	-	\$1,379	\$801	\$2,180

Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Justification of Pricing Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
Pricing Change 1 – Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise	-	-	\$311	-	\$311
Adjudication Operations	-	-	\$311	-	\$311
Pricing Change 2 – Civilian Pay Raise	-	-	\$1,068	-	\$1,068
Adjudication Operations	-	-	\$1,068	-	\$1,068
Pricing Change 3 – Fraud Detection and National Security Program Support Contract	-	-	-	\$801	\$801
Adjudication Operations	-	-	-	-	\$801
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	\$1,379	\$801	\$2,180

Pricing Change 1 – Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change impacts civilian pay funding in the Base and Annualizations, which totals \$26.2M.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents the costs of the fourth quarter of the calendar year 2023 4.6 percent civilian pay increase. It is calculated by identifying the costs of civilian pay funding in the Base and Annualizations, backing out the impact of the first three quarters of the calendar year 2023 pay increase, and then multiplying that amount by one-quarter of the pay increase rate.

Pricing Change 2 – Civilian Pay Raise Total

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change impacts civilian pay funding in the Base and Annualizations, which totals \$27.4M.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents the costs of the first three quarters of the calendar year 2024 5.2 percent civilian pay increase. It is calculated by adding Base pay, Pay Base of the Annualization of FY 2023 Program Changes and the Annualization of Prior Year Pay Raise pricing change, multiplying by the pay rate increase (5.2 percent) and then by three-fourths to account for nine months of the 2024 calendar year.

Pricing Change 3 – Fraud Detection and National Security Program Support Contract:

Base Activity Funding: This pricing change impacts the National Security Program Support Contract, which totals \$6.8M. This funds a portion of contractual costs to continue to deploy advanced fraud detection devices and techniques and intelligence-driven planning in systems that facilitate the operation of every FDNS software application, and which currently facilitates the development of the FDNS-Data System (FDNS-DS) successor application, NexGen.

Pricing Change Explanation: This pricing change represents increased costs in FY 2024 with no change in services rendered. The increase in cost is derived from increased vendor costs/expenses such as increased overhead and other expenses associated with fulfilling the support contract for USCIS. The total increase in cost to USCIS is \$801K bringing the FY 2024 total to \$7.6M.

Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted				FY 2023 Enacted				FY 2024 President's Budget				FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total			
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Adjudication Operations	185	176	\$25,978	\$147.60	185	176	\$27,068	\$153.80	185	176	\$28,447	\$161.63	-	-	\$1,379	\$7.83
Total	185	176	\$25,978	\$147.60	185	176	\$27,068	\$153.80	185	176	\$28,447	\$161.63	-	-	\$1,379	\$7.83
Mandatory – Fee	185	176	\$25,978	\$147.60	185	176	\$27,068	\$153.80	185	176	\$28,447	\$161.63	-	-	\$1,379	\$7.83

The FTE Rate calculation does not include Object Class 11.8-Special Personal Services Payments or 13.0-Benefits for Former Personnel.

Explanation of Pay Cost Summary

This summarizes the pay summary by Directorate for the Adjudication Operations PPA:

- Adjudication Operations: Contains Directorate and Program Offices (DPOs) responsible for adjudicating applications in regional, district, and field offices for immigration and visa benefit applications both in person and those not requiring interviews. Also included are anti-fraud and public safety components affiliated with processing of benefits.
 - Service Center Operations (SCOPS): 70 positions, 67 FTE, and \$9.7M
Processing of immigration benefit applications while ensuring the security and integrity of the immigration system where an in-person interview is generally not required. USCIS primarily accomplishes this through its five service centers: California Service Center, Nebraska Service Center, Potomac Service Center, Texas Service Center, and the Vermont Service Center.
 - Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS): 115 positions, 109 FTE, and \$18.5M
Leads the Agency's efforts to determine whether individuals or organizations filing for immigration benefits pose a threat to national security, public safety, or the integrity of the Nation's immigration system.

Pay by Object Class*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$18,354	\$19,124	\$20,101	\$977
11.3 Other than Full-time Permanent	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$0
11.5 Other Personnel Compensation	\$724	\$754	\$793	\$39
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$6,896	\$7,186	\$7,549	\$363
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$25,978	\$27,068	\$28,447	\$1,379
Positions and FTE				
Positions – Civilian	185	185	185	-
FTE - Civilian	176	176	176	-

Pay Cost Drivers

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change		
	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate
Immigration Services Officer	166	\$24,502	\$147.60	166	\$25,530	\$153.80	166	\$26,831	\$161.63	-	\$1,301	\$7.83
Other Costs	10	\$1,476	\$147.60	10	\$1,538	\$153.80	10	\$1,616	\$161.60	-	\$78	\$7.80
Total – Pay Cost Drivers	176	\$25,978	\$147.60	176	\$27,068	\$153.80	176	\$28,447	\$161.63	-	\$1,379	\$7.83

Explanation of Pay Cost Drivers

Immigration Services Officer: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Immigration Services Officers. Immigration Services Officers research and analyze applications, petitions, and supporting documentation; interview petitioners and applicants to assess credibility; and deny or grant petitions and applications. The increase in this cost driver is due to the FY 2023 pay raise annualization and FY 2024 civilian pay raise.

Other Costs: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of other support personnel within FPDA. The increase in this cost driver is due to the FY 2023 pay raise annualization and FY 2024 civilian pay raise

Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Permanent Positions by Grade -Appropriation

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
GS-15	6	6	6	-
GS-14	22	22	22	-
GS-13	83	83	83	-
GS-12	55	55	55	-
GS-11	2	2	2	-
GS-9	14	14	14	-
GS-7	3	3	3	-
Total Permanent Positions	185	185	185	-
Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY	166	185	185	-
Unfilled Positions EOY	19	-	-	-
Position Locations				
Headquarters Civilian	10	10	10	-
U.S. Field Civilian	174	174	174	-
Foreign Field Civilian	1	1	1	-
Averages				
Average personnel Costs, ES Positions	-	-	-	-
Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions	\$104,283	\$108,659	\$112,897	\$4,238
Average Grade, GS Positions	12	12	12	-

Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Adjudication Operations	\$26,892	\$26,892	\$27,693	\$801
Total	\$26,892	\$26,892	\$27,693	\$801
Subtotal Mandatory – Fee	\$26,892	\$26,892	\$27,693	\$801

Non Pay by Object Class

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$1,089	\$1,089	\$1,205	\$116
22.0 Transportation of Things	\$720	\$720	\$700	(\$20)
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$334	\$334	\$334	-
23.3 Communications, Utilities, & Miscellaneous	\$1,644	\$1,644	\$1,644	-
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	\$4,294	\$4,294	\$4,294	-
25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources	\$51	\$51	\$51	-
25.3 Other Purchases of goods and services	\$11	\$11	\$11	-
25.4 Operation and Maintenance of Facilities	\$15	\$15	\$15	-
25.7 Operation and Maintenance of Equipment	\$1,132	\$1,132	\$1,688	\$556
26.0 Supplies & Materials	\$202	\$202	\$356	\$154
31.0 Equipment	\$17,400	\$17,400	\$17,395	(\$5)
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	\$26,892	\$26,892	\$27,693	\$801

Non Pay Cost Drivers

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Validation Instrument for Business Enterprises (VIBE)	\$12,216	\$12,216	\$12,216	-
Fraud Detection and National Security Program Support Contract	\$6,839	\$6,839	\$7,640	\$801
Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)	\$1,978	\$1,978	\$1,978	-
Other Costs	\$5,859	\$5,859	\$5,859	-
Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers	\$26,892	\$26,892	\$27,693	\$801

Explanation of Non Pay Cost Driver

Validation Instrument for Business Enterprises (VIBE): Covers operating costs and the IT support contract for the VIBE system. USCIS uses this system to validate the business operations and financial viability of organizations seeking to employ foreign workers, and to identify possible benefit fraud based on FDNS fraud analysis and fraud referrals from USCIS adjudicators and other government agencies. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Fraud Detection and National Security Program Support Contract: This funds a portion of contractual costs to deploy advanced fraud detection devices and techniques and intelligence-driven planning. The increase of this cost driver is due to the increased vendor costs to support this contract.

Rental Payments to the General Services Administration (GSA): Rental Payments to GSA for USCIS facilities space. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Other Costs: Funds the remaining management and support costs for processing immigration benefit applications while ensuring the security and integrity of the immigration system. There are no projected changes to this cost driver.

Department of Homeland Security
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
EB-5 Integrity Fund



Fiscal Year 2024
Congressional Justification

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EB-5 Integrity Fund

Budget Comparison and Adjustments

Comparison of Fee Collections

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
EB-5 Integrity Fund ¹	-	\$8,760	\$8,760	-
Total	-	\$8,760	\$8,760	-
Subtotal Mandatory - Fee	-	\$8,760	\$8,760	-

USCIS administers the EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program, which was created by Congress in 1990 to stimulate the U.S. economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors. First enacted as a pilot in 1992 and regularly reauthorized since then, investors may also qualify for EB-5 classification by investing through regional centers designated by USCIS based on proposals for promoting economic growth.

Fee Authority: Section 102 of the *EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act of 2022*, Division BB of the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022* (P.L. 117-103) amended Section 203(b)(5) of the *Immigration and Nationality Act*, and subsequently established a special fund in the U.S. Treasury, known as the “EB-5 Integrity Fund” (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(5)(J)). The EB-5 Integrity Fund collections include an annual fee of \$20,000 from each Regional Center with more than 20 investors; or an annual fee of \$10,000 from each Regional Center with 20 or fewer total investors in the preceding fiscal year in its new commercial enterprises. A \$1,000 fee is also collected for each petition filed under Section 204(a)(1)(H) – granting immigrant status for EB-5 petitioners; this fee is in addition to the fees established for each petition to recover the cost of adjudication under Section 286(m) – IEFA.

Fee Uses: The EB-5 Integrity Fund supports new activities for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service’ (USCIS); primarily the Field Operations Directorate’s (FOD) Investor Program Office (IPO) and the Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) Directorate. The Integrity Fund allows USCIS to monitor and investigate international program-related events and promotional-related events, and ensure investor compliance with applicable source of funds provisions; detect and investigate fraud and other crimes; determine whether Regional Centers, New Commercial Enterprises (NCEs), Job-Creating Entities (JCEs), investors and their families are complying with immigration laws; and conduct audits and site visits.

¹ Fee Collections: These values reflect estimated (FY 2023) and projected (FY 2024) fee receipts.

Change Mechanism: Per 8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(5)(J)(ii)(III) and Section 106 of the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act of 2022, the Secretary of Homeland Security may increase fees through the regulatory process to ensure full recovery of the costs to provide aforementioned services, achieve efficient processing, and complete timely adjudications.

Previous Changes: N/A

Recovery Rate: The fee was designed for full cost recovery for EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act.

EB-5 Integrity Fund
Budget Authority and Obligations
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Collections (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	-	\$8,760	\$8,760
Carryover - Start of Year	-	-	\$8,261
Recoveries	-	-	-
Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year	-	-	-
Net Sequestered Resources	-	(\$499)	
Reprogramming/Transfers	-	-	-
Supplementals	-	-	-
Total Budget Authority	-	\$8,261	\$17,021
Collections - Reimbursable Resources	-	-	-
Collections - Other Sources	-	-	-
Total Budget Resources	-	\$8,261	\$17,021
Obligations (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	\$8,760
Personnel: Positions and FTE	-	-	
Enacted/Request Positions	-	-	40
Enacted/Request FTE	-	-	35
Onboard and Actual FTE	-	-	
Onboard (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	40
FTE (Actuals/Estimates/Projections)	-	-	35

EB-5 Integrity Fund
Summary of Budget Changes
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non-Pay Amount	Amount
FY 2022 Enacted	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2023 President's Budget	-	-		-	-
FY 2024 Base Budget	-	-	-	-	-
Total Technical Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Pricing Changes	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjustments-to-Base	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2024 Current Services	-	-	-	-	-
EB-5 Integrity Fund-Realignment	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760
Total Program Changes	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760
FY 2024 Request	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760
FY 2023 TO FY 2024 Change	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760

EB-5 Integrity Fund Justification of Program Changes

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2024 President's Budget				
	Positions	FTE	Pay Amount	Non Pay Amount	Amount
Program Change 1 – EB-5 Integrity Fund-Realignment	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760
Adjudication Operations	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760
Total Program Changes	40	35	\$5,593	\$3,167	\$8,760

Program Change 1 – EB-5 Integrity Fund-Realignment:

<i>(\$ in thousands)</i>	Pos	FTE	Amount
Base: Current Services & Transfers	-	-	-
Program Change	40	35	\$8,760

Description

The FY 2024 Budget includes an increase to realign the pay and non pay cost related to the compliance and enforcement aspects of the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act.

Justification

The positions will support USCIS's mission by enabling the IPOs to conduct investigations and detect and investigate fraud or other crimes. This staffing is necessary to comply with the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act and to meet statutory enforcement requirements.

Performance

Properly staffing this program will allow USCIS to monitor and investigate program-related events and promotional-related events; ensure investor compliance with applicable source of funds provisions; detect and investigate fraud and other crimes; determine whether regional centers, New Commercial Enterprises (NCEs), Job-Creating Entities (JCEs), investors and their families are complying with immigration laws; and conduct audits and site visits. These mission critical positions will reduce the number of violators by imposing authorized sanctions, restore confidence in foreign investments and will attract further foreign direct investment into the U.S.

EB-5 Integrity Fund Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Pay Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's budget						FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total			
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Rate
Adjudication Operations	-	-	-	-					40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80	40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80	40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80
Mandatory – Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80	40	35	\$5,593	\$159.80

Explanation of Pay Cost Summary

This summarizes the pay summary by Directorate for the Adjudication Operations PPA:

- Adjudication Operations: Contains Directorate and Program Offices (DPOs) responsible for regulatory and programmatic compliance, as well as fraud and national security concerns.
 - Field Operations Directorate's (FOD) Investor Program Office (IPO): 21 positions, 18 FTE, and \$2.8M
Administers the EB-5 Program, and adjudicates applications and petitions while striving to ensure that program participants, including immigrant investors and principals operating U.S. regional centers, comply with program requirements.
 - Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS): 19 positions, 17 FTE, and \$2.7M
Leads the fraud and national security aspects of the mission, and charged with preventing, detecting, and responding to allegations of fraud in the program.

Pay by Object Class
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
11.1 Full-time Permanent	-	-	\$4,115	\$4,115
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	-	-	\$1,478	\$1,478
Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits	-	-	\$5,593	\$5,593
Positions and FTE				
Positions – Civilian	-	-	40	40
FTE - Civilian	-	-	35	35

Pay Cost Drivers

	FY 2022 Enacted			FY 2023 Enacted			FY 2024 President's Budget			FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change		
	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate	FTE	Amount	Rate
Financial Crime Auditors	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	\$2,150	\$165.38	13	\$2,150	\$165.38
Immigration Officers and Intelligence Research Specialists							17	\$2,748	\$161.65	17	\$2,748	\$161.65
Other Cost							5	\$695	\$139.00	5	\$695	\$139.00
Total – Pay Cost Drivers	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	\$5,593	\$159.80	35	\$5,593	\$159.80

Explanation of Pay Cost Drivers

Financial Crime Auditor: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS financial crime auditors. Financial crime auditors monitor and investigate program-related events and promotional-related events and ensure investor compliance with applicable source of funds provisions.

Immigration Officers and Intelligence Research Specialists: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Immigration Officers (IO) and Intelligence Research Specialists (IRS). IO's and IRS' detect and investigate fraud and other crimes; determine whether regional centers, New Commercial Enterprises (NCEs), Job-Creating Entities (JCEs), investors and their families are complying with immigration laws; and conduct audits and site visits.

Other Costs: This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of other support personnel within IPO and FDNS who support the administration of regional center audits, and provide technical assistance and direct support to IPO management and staff in matters relating to travel.

EB-5 Integrity Fund
Permanent Positions by Grade -Appropriation
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
GS-15	-	-	-	-
GS-14	-	-	4	-
GS-13	-	-	22	-
GS-12	-	-	14	-
GS-11	-	-	-	-
GS-9	-	-	-	-
GS-7	-	-	-	-
Total Permanent Positions	-	-	40	-
Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY	-	-	-	-
Unfilled Positions EOY	-	-	-	-
Position Locations				
Headquarters Civilian	-	-	40	-
U.S. Field Civilian	-	-	-	-
Foreign Field Civilian	-	-	-	-
Averages				
Average personnel Costs, ES Positions	-	-	-	-
Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions	-	-	\$117,571	-
Average Grade, GS Positions	-	-	13	-

EB-5 Integrity Fund Non Pay Budget Exhibits

Non Pay Summary *(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
Adjudication Operations	-	-	\$3,167	\$3,167
Total	-	-	\$3,167	\$3,167
Subtotal Mandatory – Fee	-	-	\$3,167	\$3,167

Non Pay by Object Class *(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Change
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	-	-	\$240	\$240
25.1 Advisory & Assistance Services	-	-	\$2,462	\$2,462
26.0 Supplies & Materials	-	-	\$14	\$14
31.0 Equipment	-	-	\$451	\$451
Total - Non Pay Budget Object Class	-	-	\$3,167	\$3,167

Non Pay Cost Drivers

	FY 2022 Enacted	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY 2023 to FY 2024 Total Changes
Advisory Support Contract	-	-	\$2,462	\$2,462
Other Cost	-	-	\$705	\$705
Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers	-	-	\$3,167	\$3,167

Explanation of Non Pay Cost Driver

Advisory Support Contract: Covers contractual cost for information technology development of a compliance referral system. IPO compliance referrals are not currently in any case management system. This system would allow for USCIS to begin to systematically collect and track these referrals leading to an enhanced ability to monitor and assess non-compliance trends in the program. Additionally this would help IPO more readily identify areas for improvement as the program continues to evolve and change. This information was identified in the latest U.S. Government Accountability Office audit for IPO.²

Other Costs: Funds the remaining management and support, equipment, and supplies costs in order to monitor and ensure compliance with the requirements under section of the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act of 2022.

² GAO-23-105389SU, *Immigrant Investor Program: Opportunities Exist to Improve Fraud and National Security Risk Monitoring*, Published: Dec 06, 2022. Members of Congress or congressional staff who wish to obtain this report should call or e-mail the Congressional Relations Office (202) 512-4400 or congre@gao.gov. All others who wish to obtain one or more of these products should follow the instructions found on [Requesting Restricted Products](#).