

**Department of Homeland Security**  
*United States Citizenship and Immigration Services*  
**Budget Overview**



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
**Congressional Justification**

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**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services**

*Appropriation Organization Structure*

| <b>Organization Name</b>                                  | <b>Level</b>            | <b>Fund Type (* Includes Defense Funding)</b> |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| <b>United States Citizenship and Immigration Services</b> | <b>Component</b>        |   |
| <b>Operations and Support</b>                             | <b>Appropriation</b>    |   |
| Employment Status Verification                            | PPA                     | Discretionary - Appropriation                 |
| <b>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</b>        | <b>Appropriation</b>    | Discretionary - Appropriation                 |
| Verification Modernization (VER)                          | Investment,PPA Level II | Discretionary - Appropriation                 |
| <b>Federal Assistance</b>                                 | <b>Appropriation</b>    |   |
| Citizenship and Integration Grants                        | PPA                     | Discretionary - Appropriation                 |
| <b>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</b>               | <b>Appropriation</b>    |   |
| District Operations                                       | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Service Center Operations                                 | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations              | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Records Operations  | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)             | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Information and Applicant Services                        | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Administration  | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)     | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| <b>H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account</b>               | <b>Appropriation</b>    |   |
| Service Center Operations                                 | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| <b>Fraud Prevention and Detection Account</b>             | <b>Appropriation</b>    |   |
| District Operations                                       | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Service Center Operations                                 | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations              | PPA                     | Mandatory - Fee                               |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Strategic Context**

**Component Overview**

The strategic context presents the performance budget by tying together programs, or PPAs, and performance measures that gauge the delivery of results to our stakeholders. The Common Appropriation Structure (CAS) allows DHS to integrate the programmatic view and a significant portion of the Level 1 PPAs represent what DHS refers to as our mission programs. 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. USCIS’s mission programs are presented below. Performance measures associated with these programs are presented in two measure sets, strategic and management measures. Strategic measures communicate results delivered for our agency goals by these programs and are considered our Government Performance and Results Act Modernization Act of 2010 (GPRAMA) measures. Additional management measures are displayed to provide a more thorough context of expected program performance for the Component related to its budgetary plans. Measure tables that do not display previous year’s results are because the measure did not exist at that time.

**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 Measure**

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of workers determined to be "Employment Authorized" after an initial mismatch  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> 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. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | <=0.80%        | <=0.70%        | <=0.60%        | <=0.50%        | <=0.40%        | <=0.40%        |
| <b>Result:</b>   | 0.16%          | 0.15%          | 0.16%          | 0.21%          | TBD            | TBD            |

**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**

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of fraud referrals from adjudicative directorates that are closed or converted into fraud cases within 60 working days   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure gauges the percent of referrals received from adjudicative officers to the Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) Directorate that are resolved within 60 days. Adjudication Officers may contact FDNS if they suspect fraudulent activity related to the adjudication of immigration benefits. FDNS may decline the referral; determine that no basis exists for continuing the investigation; or determine that a reasonable suspicion of fraud exists, which warrants the opening of a fraud case. Ensuring prompt resolution of fraud concerns helps to safeguard the integrity of the nation's lawful immigration system while fostering timely and accurate adjudication of applications. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 95%            | 95%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of Immigration Services Officers, Asylum Officers, and Refugee Officers who receive advanced fraud detection or interview skills enhancement training   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure reports the overall percent of Immigration Services Officers, Adjudicators, and Asylum and Refugee Officers, including supervisors, who received advanced fraud detection training or training through online courses or instructor-led classes to enhance their interviewing skills. Advanced training and interviewing training is provided to adjudicators who have taken basic fraud detection and interviewing courses to enable them to stay abreast of trends in fraudulent applications. Officers receive advanced training to improve their ability to detect fraudulent applications and/or assess the completeness and truthfulness of responses from applicants when conducting interviews related to applications for immigration benefits. Increasing the officer's ability to detect fraud helps mitigate the risk of applicants receiving fraudulent benefits. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>   | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 95%            | 95%            |
| <b>Result:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of system generated biometric notifications related to multiple identities triaged within 60 working days  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure gauges the timely resolution of notifications sent regarding potential biometric hits from law enforcement databases of individuals that may have used multiple identities to apply for immigration benefits before a final decision to approve or deny is rendered. System generated biometric notifications provide continuous vetting capabilities to alert Fraud analysts to investigate potential uses of multiple identities. Analysts may resolve the notification by determining that there is no basis for continuing the investigation or that a reasonable suspicion of fraud exists which warrants the opening of a fraud case in the Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS). Biometric notifications include derogatory information related to Historical Fingerprint Enrollment records and other biometric type information. Continuous vetting of biometric information helps safeguard the integrity of the nation's lawful immigration system. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 85%            | 85%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

**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*

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of appealed decisions that are dismissed by the Administrative Appeals Office  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure gauges the percent of Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion appeals dismissed by the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) for all immigration forms. The Administrative Appeals Office has jurisdiction to review all immigration cases regarding law and regulation interpretations, except the I-130 and I-129 cases which fall under the jurisdiction of the Board of Immigration Appeals. Decisions not overturned by the AAO validate the accuracy of the adjudicative decisions. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 98%            | 98%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of approved applications for naturalization that were appropriately decided   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> 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. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>   | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>  | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            |
| <b>Result:</b>  | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | TBD            | TBD            |

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of approved applications for permanent residence that were appropriately decided   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> 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. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | 99%            | TBD            | TBD            |

|   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of approved refugee and asylum applications that were appropriately decided   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure assesses the ability of officers to process Form I-589 and Form I-590 refugee and asylum applications in a fully supportable and accurate manner. A panel of subject matter experts are convened to review a sample of approved applications to determine whether the final decision was appropriately supported and legally sufficient. The panel may sustain the decision to grant asylum, recommend denial, or send the file back to the appropriate field office for correction or more information if it is determined that procedures were not correctly followed, or the case is lacking sufficient interview evidence. This measure helps ascertain the accuracy of decisions and to improve the training and processes used in conducting asylum and refugee adjudications. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>   | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 99%            | 99%            |
| <b>Result:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of Immigration, Fraud, and Asylum and Refugee Officers who are trained to perform their duties within six months of entry on duty  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure reports the percent of officers from three critical functions who have completed the training they need to perform their job duties. This measure includes Immigration Services Officers who complete BASIC training or the equivalent, Immigration Officers who complete Fraud Detection Officer Basic Training, and Refuge Asylum Officers and Refugee Officers who complete Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations (RAIO) combined training or the equivalent. Each directorate has separate requirements for certifying their respective officers' eligibility to perform their job duties. At the completion of their required training(s), officers are then considered certified to performance their duties. Ensuring officers are adequately trained and certified before performing their job duties protects the integrity of the immigration system. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 90%            | 90%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of naturalized individuals where derogatory information was identified and resolved prior to taking the oath of allegiance  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> 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 oath 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. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>   | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 100%           | 100%           |
| <b>Result:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of time U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services responds within four calendar days to U.S. Customs and Border Patrol screening requests under the Migrant Protection Protocols  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure gauges the timeliness of processing of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) requests for screening under the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP). The MPP apply when certain foreign individuals entering or seeking admission to the U.S. from Mexico illegally or without proper documentation may be returned to Mexico and wait outside of the U.S. for the duration of their immigration proceedings, where Mexico provides all appropriate humanitarian protections for the duration of their stay. CBP requests assistance from USCIS to assess aliens who claim a fear of return to Mexico at any point during apprehension, processing, or related proceedings. Unaccompanied alien children, aliens in expedited removal proceedings, and individuals from vulnerable populations on a case-by-case basis are not subject to MPP. Determining valid claims on a timely basis helps restore a safe and orderly immigration process while ensuring that vulnerable populations receive the protections they need. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>   | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 95%            | 95%            |
| <b>Result:</b>  | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

*Management Measures*

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Accuracy rate of USCIS's processing of manual verifications for Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements referrals   |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> 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 monthly 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. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | 98.6%          | 98.8%          | 99.0%          | 99.0%          | 99.0%          | 99.0%          |
| <b>Result:</b>   | 99.3%          | 99.6%          | 99.0%          | 99.1%          | TBD            | TBD            |

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of applications for immigration benefits digitally processed via the Electronic Immigration System (ELIS)  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure gauges the degree to which immigration applications, petitions, and other requests are fully digitally processed through the Electronic Immigration System (ELIS). ELIS is a digital platform of services providing program staff all of the digital products and tools needed to complete case processing and adjudicative tasks. ELIS offers end-to-end digital case processing, supporting digital ingestion (data and images) of applications, petitions, and other requests filed through both the e-filing (online) and paper (Lockbox) intake channels. ELIS also enables streamlined digital processing of task-based workflow; systematic data harvesting automated workload distribution; on-demand and automated background checks; case examination and disposition; tablet-based interviewing and exams; and production of benefits. Digital processing through ELIS reduces case processing times, improves adjudication rates, increases data quality, and enhances the customer experience. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 50%            | 50%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of applications submitted which contain all required initial evidence at the time of filing  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure reports the percent of applications submitted with all initial evidence required to accompany the application. Federal rules (8 CFR §103) govern submission and adjudication of applications for immigration benefits: Under these rules, filings must comply with the program’s instructions. When applications do not include all evidence initially required, or initial evidence does not demonstrate eligibility for a benefit, program officials have discretion to 1) deny the application; 2) request submission of initial evidence not filed; 3) request additional evidence; or 4) issue a Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID) the application, requiring submission of specific information within a specific timeframe. Applications that contain all of the required evidence upon submission enables more efficient and effective case processing. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 95%            | 95%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

|  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Measure:</b> Percent of time that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services mission essential systems are available for service to end users  |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Description:</b> This measure reports the percent of time in during which users in core adjudication related positions and analysts have access to critical systems needed for immigration case processing. The program designates an information technology system as a Mission Essential System (MES) based on these systems’ critical role in functions supporting adjudication case processing. The program’s information technology policies specify that MES must have a validated recovery not exceeding four hours. The uninterrupted availability of Mission Essential Systems enables the processing of immigration benefits. |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>  | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
| <b>Target:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | 99%            | 99%            |
| <b>Result:</b>   | ---            | ---            | ---            | ---            | TBD            | TBD            |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Budget Comparison and Adjustments**

**Appropriation and PPA Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>  | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Operations and Support</b>                         | <b>\$109,688</b>           | <b>\$122,395</b>           | <b>\$118,676</b>                      |
| Employment Status Verification                        | \$109,688                  | \$122,395                  | \$118,676                             |
| <b>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</b>    | <b>\$22,838</b>            | -                          | -                                     |
| Verification Modernization (VER)                      | \$22,838                   | -                          | -                                     |
| <b>Federal Assistance</b>                             | <b>\$10,000</b>            | <b>\$10,000</b>            | -                                     |
| Citizenship and Integration Grants                    | \$10,000                   | \$10,000                   | -                                     |
| <b>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</b>           | <b>\$4,524,854</b>         | <b>\$4,655,366</b>         | <b>\$4,861,984</b>                    |
| District Operations                                   | \$1,883,816                | \$1,934,033                | \$2,044,162                           |
| Service Center Operations                             | \$731,654                  | \$746,687                  | \$826,737                             |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | \$337,544                  | \$349,295                  | \$372,392                             |
| Records Operations                                    | \$152,649                  | \$155,150                  | \$157,271                             |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | \$648,007                  | \$658,190                  | \$666,725                             |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | \$119,450                  | \$125,335                  | \$125,452                             |
| Administration  | \$616,622                  | \$651,808                  | \$632,106                             |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | \$35,112                   | \$34,868                   | \$37,139                              |
| <b>H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account</b>           | <b>\$15,000</b>            | <b>\$15,000</b>            | <b>\$20,000</b>                       |
| Service Center Operations                             | \$15,000                   | \$15,000                   | \$20,000                              |
| <b>Fraud Prevention and Detection Account</b>         | <b>\$47,797</b>            | <b>\$48,458</b>            | <b>\$49,889</b>                       |
| District Operations                                   | \$27,333                   | \$27,773                   | \$28,703                              |
| Service Center Operations                             | \$20,156                   | \$20,377                   | \$20,878                              |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | \$308                      | \$308                      | \$308                                 |
| <b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>                              | <b>\$4,730,177</b>         | <b>\$4,851,219</b>         | <b>\$5,050,549</b>                    |

<sup>1</sup>Represents the total operating budget of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for a given fiscal year.

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

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |               |                    | FY 2020<br>Enacted |               |                    | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |               |                    | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |            |                  |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE           | Amount             | Pos.               | FTE           | Amount             | Pos.                          | FTE           | Amount             | Pos.                                | FTE        | Amount           |
| Operations and Support                        | 419                | 398           | \$109,688          | 419                | 398           | \$122,395          | 419                           | 398           | \$118,676          | -                                   | -          | (\$3,719)        |
| Procurement, Construction, and Improvements   | -                  | -             | \$22,838           | -                  | -             | -                  | -                             | -             | -                  | -                                   | -          | -                |
| Federal Assistance                            | -                  | -             | \$10,000           | -                  | -             | \$10,000           | -                             | -             | -                  | -                                   | -          | (\$10,000)       |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account          | 18,866             | 17,924        | \$4,524,854        | 19,794             | 18,806        | \$4,655,366        | 20,451                        | 19,429        | \$4,861,984        | 657                                 | 623        | \$206,618        |
| H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account          | -                  | -             | \$15,000           | -                  | -             | \$15,000           | -                             | -             | \$20,000           | -                                   | -          | \$5,000          |
| Fraud Prevention and Detection Account        | 185                | 176           | \$47,797           | 185                | 176           | \$48,458           | 185                           | 176           | \$49,889           | -                                   | -          | \$1,431          |
| <b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>                      | <b>19,470</b>      | <b>18,498</b> | <b>\$4,730,177</b> | <b>20,398</b>      | <b>19,380</b> | <b>\$4,851,219</b> | <b>21,055</b>                 | <b>20,003</b> | <b>\$5,050,549</b> | <b>657</b>                          | <b>623</b> | <b>\$199,330</b> |
| Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation        | 419                | 398           | \$142,526          | 419                | 398           | \$132,395          | 419                           | 398           | \$118,676          | -                                   | -          | (\$13,719)       |
| Subtotal Mandatory - Fee                      | 19,051             | 18,100        | \$4,587,651        | 19,979             | 18,982        | \$4,718,824        | 20,636                        | 19,605        | \$4,931,873        | 657                                 | 623        | \$213,049        |

<sup>1</sup>Represents the total operating budget of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for a given fiscal year.

### Component Budget Overview

The FY 2021 President's Budget includes \$118.7M in discretionary budget authority for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This funding level represents a reduction of \$13.7M below the FY 2020 Enacted Budget.

The FY 2021 President's Budget estimates \$4.9B in total mandatory budget authority for the Immigration Examinations Fee Account (IEFA), the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account, and the Fraud Prevention and Detection Account (FPDA).

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

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

FY 2021 discretionary funding supports the Verification Modernization (VER MOD) program. The VER MOD program achieved Full Operational Capability at the end of FY 2019, and sustainment funding is requested in the Operations and Support (O&S) appropriation for on-going operations and maintenance. This includes a series of agile software releases to improve the system's scalability and accuracy and to fund ancillary program support functions.

## United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Budget Authority and Obligations

| <b>Budget Authority</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                     | <b>FY 2019</b>     | <b>FY 2020</b>     | <b>FY 2021</b>     |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Enacted/Fee Receipts (Actual/Estimates/Projections)</b>                   | <b>\$4,109,867</b> | <b>\$4,088,845</b> | <b>\$4,079,093</b> |
| Projected Fee Collections – FY 2019 / FY2020 IEFA Fee Rule <sup>1</sup>      |                    |                    | \$486,700          |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                   | \$1,350,069        | \$944,279          | \$425,770          |
| Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year <sup>2</sup>                         | (\$115)            | -                  | -                  |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | \$10,260           | \$12,545           | \$233,431          |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| Supplementals  | -                  | -                  | -                  |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | \$41,194           | \$46,000           | \$45,180           |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$5,507,276</b> | <b>\$5,087,669</b> | <b>\$5,270,174</b> |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates <sup>3</sup> /Projections)                     | \$4,551,782        | \$4,661,899        | \$5,050,549        |
| <b>Budget Authority<sup>4</sup></b>  | <b>\$4,730,177</b> | <b>\$4,851,219</b> | <b>\$5,050,549</b> |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                    |                    |                    |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | 19,470             | 20,398             | 21,055             |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | 18,498             | 19,380             | 20,003             |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                    |                    |                    |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | 19,304             | 20,398             | 21,055             |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | 18,208             | 19,380             | 20,003             |

<sup>1</sup>Anticipated receipts based on the collection of increased fees, which will become effective in FY 2021 based on the FY 2019/FY 2020 Fee Rule. The FY 2021 Projected Fee Collections from the FY 2019/FY 2020 Fee Rule is a segmented portion of the full estimates USCIS anticipates to collect once the Fee Rule is in place for a full fiscal year.

<sup>2</sup>In the table above, the rescission line includes the administrative savings rescissions per the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-6).

<sup>3</sup>Estimated obligations align with USCIS' revised FY 2020 Annual Operating Plan.

<sup>4</sup>Represents the total operating budget of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for a given fiscal year.

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Collections - Reimbursable Resources**

| Collections<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>  |               | FY 2019 Enacted |     |          | FY 2020 Enacted |     |          | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |          | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change |     |           |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-----|----------|-----------------|-----|----------|----------------------------|-----|----------|---------------------------|-----|-----------|
|   |               | Pos.            | FTE | Amount   | Pos.            | FTE | Amount   | Pos.                       | FTE | Amount   | Pos.                      | FTE | Amount    |
| <b>Department of Defense - Department of Defense</b>                                  | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$3,000  | -               | -   | \$3,000  | -                          | -   | \$3,300  | -                         | -   | \$300     |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | \$3,000  | -               | -   | \$3,000  | -                          | -   | \$3,300  | -                         | -   | \$300     |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | \$3,000  | -               | -   | \$3,000  | -                          | -   | \$3,300  | -                         | -   | \$300     |
| <b>Department of Health and Human Services - Department Wide</b>                      | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$250    | -                          | -   | \$5      | -                         | -   | (\$245)   |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$250    | -                          | -   | \$5      | -                         | -   | (\$245)   |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$250    | -                          | -   | \$5      | -                         | -   | (\$245)   |
| <b>Department of Homeland Security - Department of Homeland Security</b>              | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$1,500  | -                          | -   | \$500    | -                         | -   | (\$1,000) |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$1,500  | -                          | -   | \$500    | -                         | -   | (\$1,000) |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$1,500  | -                          | -   | \$500    | -                         | -   | (\$1,000) |
| <b>Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency</b>          | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$5,000  | -                          | -   | \$5,200  | -                         | -   | \$200     |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$5,000  | -                          | -   | \$5,200  | -                         | -   | \$200     |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | \$5,000  | -                          | -   | \$5,200  | -                         | -   | \$200     |
| <b>Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement</b>     | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$12,046 | -               | -   | \$12,500 | -                          | -   | \$12,500 | -                         | -   | -         |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | \$12,046 | -               | -   | \$12,500 | -                          | -   | \$12,500 | -                         | -   | -         |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | \$12,046 | -               | -   | \$12,500 | -                          | -   | \$12,500 | -                         | -   | -         |
| <b>Independent Agency - Social Security Administration</b>                            | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$7      | -               | -   | -        | -                          | -   | -        | -                         | -   | -         |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | \$7      | -               | -   | -        | -                          | -   | -        | -                         | -   | -         |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | \$7      | -               | -   | -        | -                          | -   | -        | -                         | -   | -         |
| <b>Department of Homeland Security - National Protection and Programs Directorate</b> | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | -        | -                          | -   | \$70     | -                         | -   | \$70      |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | -        | -                          | -   | \$70     | -                         | -   | \$70      |
| District Operations   | Location      | -               | -   | -        | -               | -   | -        | -                          | -   | \$70     | -                         | -   | \$70      |
| <b>Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Customs and Border Protection</b>           | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$5,914  | -               | -   | \$6,000  | -                          | -   | \$6,000  | -                         | -   | -         |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account  | Location      | -               | -   | \$5,914  | -               | -   | \$6,000  | -                          | -   | \$6,000  | -                         | -   | -         |

Department of Homeland Security

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

| Collections<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>          |               | FY 2019 Enacted |     |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |     |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change |     |                |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----|-----------------|----------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------------------------|-----|----------------|
|   |               | Pos.            | FTE | Amount          | Pos.            | FTE | Amount          | Pos.                       | FTE | Amount          | Pos.                      | FTE | Amount         |
| District Operations                                   | Location      | -               | -   | \$5,914         | -               | -   | \$6,000         | -                          | -   | \$6,000         | -                         | -   | -              |
| <b>Department of Justice - Department of Justice</b>  | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$250           | -               | -   | \$250           | -                          | -   | \$5             | -                         | -   | (\$245)        |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account                  | Location      | -               | -   | \$250           | -               | -   | \$250           | -                          | -   | \$5             | -                         | -   | (\$245)        |
| District Operations                                   | Location      | -               | -   | \$250           | -               | -   | \$250           | -                          | -   | \$5             | -                         | -   | (\$245)        |
| <b>Department of State - Department of State</b>      | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | -               | -                          | -   | \$100           | -                         | -   | \$100          |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account                  | Location      | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | -               | -                          | -   | \$100           | -                         | -   | \$100          |
| District Operations                                   | Location      | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | -               | -                          | -   | \$100           | -                         | -   | \$100          |
| <b>SAVE Collections</b>                               | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$11,566        | -               | -   | \$9,000         | -                          | -   | \$9,000         | -                         | -   | -              |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account                  | Location      | -               | -   | \$11,566        | -               | -   | \$9,000         | -                          | -   | \$9,000         | -                         | -   | -              |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | Location      | -               | -   | \$11,566        | -               | -   | \$9,000         | -                          | -   | \$9,000         | -                         | -   | -              |
| <b>Canada/UK Visa</b>                                 | <b>Source</b> | -               | -   | \$8,341         | -               | -   | \$8,500         | -                          | -   | \$8,500         | -                         | -   | -              |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account                  | Location      | -               | -   | \$8,341         | -               | -   | \$8,500         | -                          | -   | \$8,500         | -                         | -   | -              |
| District Operations                                   | Location      | -               | -   | \$8,341         | -               | -   | \$8,500         | -                          | -   | \$8,500         | -                         | -   | -              |
| <b>Total Collections</b>                              |               | -               | -   | <b>\$41,124</b> | -               | -   | <b>\$46,000</b> | -                          | -   | <b>\$45,180</b> | -                         | -   | <b>(\$820)</b> |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Personnel Compensation and Benefits**

**Pay Summary**

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted |               |                    |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |               |                    |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |               |                    |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total |            |                  |               |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
|   | Pos.            | FTE           | Amount             | Rate            | Pos.            | FTE           | Amount             | Rate            | Pos.                       | FTE           | Amount             | Rate            | Pos.                     | FTE        | Amount           | Rate          |
| Operations and Support                        | 419             | 398           | \$48,274           | \$121.29        | 419             | 398           | \$49,295           | \$123.86        | 419                        | 398           | \$52,229           | \$131.23        | -                        | -          | \$2,934          | \$7.37        |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account          | 18,866          | 17,924        | \$2,199,319        | \$122.65        | 19,794          | 18,806        | \$2,284,549        | \$121.42        | 20,451                     | 19,429        | \$2,513,989        | \$129.34        | 657                      | 623        | \$229,440        | \$7.92        |
| Fraud Prevention and Detection Account        | 185             | 176           | \$23,833           | \$135.41        | 185             | 176           | \$24,231           | \$137.68        | 185                        | 176           | \$25,947           | \$147.43        | -                        | -          | \$1,716          | \$9.75        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>19,470</b>   | <b>18,498</b> | <b>\$2,271,426</b> | <b>\$122.74</b> | <b>20,398</b>   | <b>19,380</b> | <b>\$2,358,075</b> | <b>\$121.62</b> | <b>21,055</b>              | <b>20,003</b> | <b>\$2,592,165</b> | <b>\$129.53</b> | <b>657</b>               | <b>623</b> | <b>\$234,090</b> | <b>\$7.91</b> |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                 | 419             | 398           | \$48,274           | \$121.29        | 419             | 398           | \$49,295           | \$123.86        | 419                        | 398           | \$52,229           | \$131.23        | -                        | -          | \$2,934          | \$7.37        |
| Mandatory - Fee                               | 19,051          | 18,100        | \$2,223,152        | \$122.77        | 19,979          | 18,982        | \$2,308,780        | \$121.58        | 20,636                     | 19,605        | \$2,539,936        | \$129.5         | 657                      | 623        | \$231,156        | \$7.92        |

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

**Pay by Object Class**

| Pay Object Classes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted    | FY 2020 Enacted    | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 - FY 2021<br>Change |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 11.1 Full-time Permanent                            | \$1,554,042        | \$1,610,949        | \$1,717,321                   | \$106,372                   |
| 11.3 Other than Full-Time Permanent                 | \$13,928           | \$14,348           | \$15,391                      | \$1,043                     |
| 11.5 Other Personnel Compensation                   | \$129,421          | \$136,837          | \$201,589                     | \$64,752                    |
| 12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits                    | \$573,025          | \$594,903          | \$656,748                     | \$61,845                    |
| 13.0 Benefits for Former Personnel                  | \$1,010            | \$1,038            | \$1,116                       | \$78                        |
| <b>Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits</b>  | <b>\$2,271,426</b> | <b>\$2,358,075</b> | <b>\$2,592,165</b>            | <b>\$234,090</b>            |
| <b>Positions and FTE</b>                            |                    |                    |                               |                             |
| Positions - Civilian                                | 19,470             | 20,398             | 21,055                        | 657                         |
| FTE - Civilian                                      | 18,498             | 19,380             | 20,003                        | 623                         |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's<br/>Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total<br/>Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Operations and Support                               | \$61,414               | \$73,100               | \$66,447                              | (\$6,653)                                   |
| Procurement, Construction, and Improvements          | \$22,838               | -                      | -                                     | -   |
| Federal Assistance                                   | \$10,000               | \$10,000               | -                                     | (\$10,000)                                  |
| Immigration Examinations Fee Account                 | \$2,325,535            | \$2,370,817            | \$2,347,995                           | (\$22,822)                                  |
| H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account                 | \$15,000               | \$15,000               | \$20,000                              | \$5,000                                     |
| Fraud Prevention and Detection Account               | \$23,964               | \$24,227               | \$23,942                              | (\$285)                                     |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$2,458,751</b>     | <b>\$2,493,144</b>     | <b>\$2,458,384</b>                    | <b>(\$34,760)</b>                           |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                        | \$94,252               | \$83,100               | \$66,447                              | (\$16,653)                                  |
| Mandatory - Fee                                      | \$2,364,499            | \$2,410,044            | \$2,391,937                           | (\$18,107)                                  |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY<br/>2021 Change</b> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons                      | \$31,553                   | \$32,124                   | \$32,808                              | \$684                                |
| 22.0 Transportation of Things                                  | \$17,475                   | \$18,184                   | \$18,339                              | \$155                                |
| 23.1 Rental Payments to GSA                                    | \$262,681                  | \$297,687                  | \$278,038                             | (\$19,649)                           |
| 23.2 Rental Payments to Others                                 | \$5,752                    | \$5,817                    | \$6,003                               | \$186                                |
| 23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Misc. Charges              | \$118,376                  | \$118,158                  | \$119,607                             | \$1,449                              |
| 24.0 Printing and Reproduction                                 | \$11,727                   | \$11,682                   | \$11,807                              | \$125                                |
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$999,493                  | \$977,181                  | \$983,836                             | \$6,655                              |
| 25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources                   | \$250,123                  | \$250,500                  | \$254,963                             | \$4,463                              |
| 25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources             | \$375,944                  | \$385,086                  | \$363,299                             | (\$21,787)                           |
| 25.4 Operation and Maintenance of Facilities                   | \$875                      | \$893                      | \$895                                 | \$2                                  |
| 25.7 Operation and Maintenance of Equipment                    | \$153,284                  | \$153,740                  | \$155,044                             | \$1,304                              |
| 26.0 Supplies and Materials                                    | \$40,400                   | \$39,878                   | \$40,463                              | \$585                                |
| 31.0 Equipment   | \$141,797                  | \$142,206                  | \$143,108                             | \$902                                |
| 32.0 Land and Structures                                       | \$36,853                   | \$37,480                   | \$37,633                              | \$153                                |
| 41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions                      | \$10,000                   | \$20,000                   | \$10,000                              | (\$10,000)                           |
| 42.0 Insurance Claims and Indemnities                          | \$2,418                    | \$2,528                    | \$2,541                               | \$13                                 |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$2,458,751</b>         | <b>\$2,493,144</b>         | <b>\$2,458,384</b>                    | <b>(\$34,760)</b>                    |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Supplemental Budget Justification Exhibits**

**Working Capital Fund**

| <b>Appropriation and PPA</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019</b><br><b>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020</b><br><b>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021</b><br><b>President's Budget</b> |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Operations and Support</b>                                 | <b>\$1,211</b>                   | <b>\$3,352</b>                   | -   |
| Employment Status Verification                                | \$1,211                          | \$3,352                          | -   |
| <b>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</b>                   | <b>\$13,621</b>                  | <b>\$11,964</b>                  | -   |
| District Operations   | \$2,492                          | \$2,189                          | -   |
| Service Center Operations                                     | \$3,713                          | \$3,261                          | -   |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations                  | \$3,635                          | \$3,193                          | -   |
| Information and Applicant Services                            | \$1,649                          | \$1,448                          | -   |
| Administration  | \$1,916                          | \$1,683                          | -   |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)         | \$216                            | \$190                            | -   |
| <b>Total Working Capital Fund</b>                             | <b>\$14,832</b>                  | <b>\$15,316</b>                  | -   |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services**  
**Status of Congressionally Requested Studies, Reports and Evaluations**

| <b>Fiscal Year</b> | <b>Due Date</b> | <b>Reference/Citation</b>   | <b>Requirement</b>   | <b>Status</b>            |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| 2019               | 6/14/2019       | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31 | The conferees direct the Department, in consultation with the Department of Labor to review options for addressing the problem of unavailability of H-2B visas for employers that need workers to start work late in a semiannual period of availability and to report to the Committees on these options not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.   | Transmitted – 06/07/2019 |
| 2019               | None given      | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31 | CBP and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services are directed to jointly brief the Committees on current challenges related to the implementation of section 289 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, related to the right of entry of American Indians into the United States from Canada. The briefing shall include legislative options for how to more equitably implement the intent of section 289 while also addressing appropriate security concerns. The Department shall also make this briefing available to the House Judiciary Committee and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, upon request. | Drafted – Under Review   |
| 2019               | 2/14/2020       | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31 | The conferees also direct U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) to conduct a benefit fraud assessment regarding the Special Immigrant Juvenile program and brief the Committees on the results of such assessment not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.   | Drafted – Under Review   |
| 2019               | 6/28/2019       | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31 | Additionally, USCIS is directed to brief the Committees on specific actions, if any, that the agency is taking to reduce the backlog of asylum applications while ensuring that asylum applicants are properly reviewed for eligibility and for security purposes.   | Transmitted – 07/25/2019 |
| 2019               | 3/15/2019       | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31 | The conference agreement provides \$10,000,000 above the request for the Citizenship and Integration Grant program. In addition, USCIS continues to have the authority to accept private donations to support this program. The Conferees direct 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 – 03/18/2019 |

| Fiscal Year | Due Date  | Reference/Citation  | Requirement   | Status  |
|-------------|-----------|---|---|---------|
| 2020        | 1/19/2020 | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020   | <p>Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act and updated semimonthly there-after, the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services shall make available, on a publicly accessible website in a downloadable, searchable, and sortable format, a report containing not less than the previous twelve months of semimonthly data on:</p> <p>The number of aliens determined to have a credible or reasonable fear of persecution or torture. The total number of cases received by USCIS to adjudicate credible or reasonable fear claims. The total number of cases closed.</p> <p>The report must also disaggregate the data with the following subsets:<br/>                     Claims submitted by aliens detained at an ICE family residential center. Claims submitted by aliens organized by each subdivision of legal or administrative authority. The job series of the personnel reviewing the claims.</p>   | Pending |
| 2020        | 3/19/2020 | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158 | <p>The agreement directs USCIS to brief the Committees within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act on the number of application forms processed by month for fiscal years 2016 through 2019 for the following: form I-130 (Petition for Alien Relative); form I-485 (Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status); form I-751 (Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence); form N-400 (Application for Naturalization); and forms for initial and renewed employment authorization. The briefing shall include the following data, where applicable, on the immigration status of the petitioner (U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident); nationality of the applicant; processing time; and field office or service center to which the application was assigned. The briefing will also include reasons for delays in processing applications and petitions, including employment authorizations, and what step USCIS is taking to address the delays.</p> | Pending |
| 2020        | 2/18/2020 | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158 | <p>USCIS is encouraged to continue the use of fee waivers for applicants who demonstrate an inability to pay the naturalization fee, and to consider, in consultation with the Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman (CIS Ombudsman), whether the current naturalization fee is a barrier to naturalization for those earning between 150 percent and 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and who are not currently eligible for a fee waiver, and provide a briefing to the Committees within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act.</p>   | Pending |

Department of Homeland Security

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

| Fiscal Year | Due Date  | Reference/Citation  | Requirement   | Status                   |
|-------------|-----------|---|---|--------------------------|
| 2020        | 2/18/2020 | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158 | Further, USCIS is encouraged to refrain from imposing fees on any individual filing a humanitarian petition, including, but not limited to, individuals requesting asylum; refugee admission; protection under the Violence Against Women Act; Special Immigrant Juvenile status; a Tor U visa; or requests adjustment of status or petitions for another benefit after receiving humanitarian protection. USCIS shall consult with the CIS Ombudsman on the impact of imposing such fees and provide a briefing to the Committees within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act.   | Pending                  |
| 2020        | 4/18/2020 | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158 | Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, DHS, the Department of Labor, the Department of State, and the United States Digital Service are directed to report on options to improve the execution of the H-2A and H-2B visa programs, including: processing efficiencies; combatting human trafficking; protecting worker rights; and reducing employer burden, to include the disadvantages imposed on such employers due to the current semiannual distribution of H-2B visas on October 1 and April 1 of each fiscal year.  | Pending                  |
| 2020        | 1/21/2020 | Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158 | The recommendation includes \$10,000,000 above the request to support the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. In addition, USCIS continues to have the authority to accept private donations to support this program. USCIS is directed 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 – 01/21/2020 |
| 2020        | 4/18/2020 | S-Rept 116-125  | The Committee remains concerned that the current semiannual distribution of H–2B visas on April 1 and October 1 of each year unduly disadvantages employers that need H–2B workers to begin work later in a semiannual period than other employers participating in that period. The Committee directs the Department, in consultation with the Department of Labor, to review options to ameliorate this problem consistent with the H–2B provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356) and to report to the Committee on these options not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this act.   | Pending                  |
| 2020        | 3/19/2020 | S. Rept. 116-125  | The Committee is concerned about the slow pace of refugee admissions experienced since fiscal year 2017. The Committee directs the Department to 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 2016 through 2019: the number of USCIS staff assigned to the Refugee Corps at the Refugee Affairs Division of USCIS; 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. | Pending                  |

| Fiscal Year | Due Date  | Reference/Citation | Requirement  | Status  |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------|--|---------|
| 2020        | 4/18/2020 | S. Rept. 116-125   | The Committee understands that USCIS does not currently track the adjudication of non-military deferred action requests and directs USCIS to begin tracking their adjudication at local USCIS field offices within 90 days of the date of enactment of this act. USCIS shall provide the Committee within 120 days of the date of enactment of this act with quarterly reports and accompanying briefings detailing the number of such requests submitted; the number of those requests approved; the number of those requests denied; the number of Notices to Appear, if any, issued by USCIS in connection with such denied requests; and the average processing times for these adjudications. Those reports will include copies of any Standard Operating Procedures, training materials, or other guidance relating to such deferred action requests, including but not limited to the intake, adjudication, and quality control review of those requests. | Pending |
| 2020        | 3/19/2020 | H. Rept. 116-180   | Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS is directed to brief the Committee on a personnel redistribution plan to better address areas with significant processing delays and an estimate of the resources required to clear the backlog of applications for temporary status, adjustment of status, and naturalization. The plan should include a strategy for reducing wait times for initial adjudication to not more than one year for all petitions processed by the agency. The briefing shall also account for the resources required to address asylum and refugee processing backlogs and improve coordination with the intelligence community to reduce the time required for expanded vetting of certain refugees.   | Pending |
| 2020        | 4/18/2020 | H. Rept. 116-180   | The Committee is concerned about USCIS’s plan to reduce its International Operations Division, particularly given the lack of congressional and stakeholder engagement, and reminds DHS of its responsibilities in carrying out the Refugee Act of 1980. Prior to implementing such plan, USCIS is directed to consult with relevant stakeholders, to include USCIS personnel, and to brief the Committee and other congressional committees of jurisdiction on the rationale for the plan. The briefing shall include a full accounting of anticipated increased costs, projected budget savings, and descriptions of how services will change, and personnel will be impacted.   | Pending |
| 2020        | 3/19/2020 | H. Rept. 116-180   | Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, USCIS is directed to brief the Committee on the feasibility of initiating a campaign to provide lawful permanent residents who arrive at ports of entry with information about the naturalization process and to encourage them to apply for U.S. citizenship. Such information could be provided verbally by DHS employees; through Automated Passport Control self-service kiosks or other self-service systems; or through naturalization messages and materials, including videos and posters at ports of entry.   | Pending |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Authorized/Unauthorized Appropriations**

| <b>Budget Activity</b><br><i>Dollars in Thousands</i>                | <b>Last year of Authorization</b> | <b>Authorized Level</b>    | <b>Appropriation in Last Year of Authorization</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
|  | <b>Fiscal Year</b>                | <b>Amount</b>              | <b>Amount</b>                                      | <b>Amount</b>                     |
| <b>Operations and Support</b>  | N/A                               | \$631,745                  | \$707,395  | \$118,676                         |
| Employment Status Verification                                       | 2002                              | \$631,745                  | \$707,395  | \$118,676                         |
| <b>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</b>                   | N/A                               | \$631,745                  | \$707,395  | \$0                               |
| Employment Status Verification-Verification Modernization Investment | 2002                              | \$631,745                  | \$707,395  | \$0                               |
| <b>Total Direct Authorization/Appropriation</b>                      | N/A                               | \$631,745                  | \$707,395  | \$118,676                         |
| <b>Fee Accounts</b>  | 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        |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Proposed Legislative Language**

**Operations and Support**

For necessary expenses of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services for operations and support of the E-Verify Program, [\$122,395,000] \$118,676,000.

| Language Provision               | Explanation         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| ...[\$122,395,000] \$118,676,000 | Dollar change only. |

**Immigration Examination Fee Account**

*Sec. XXX. Provided further, That of the funds deposited into the ‘‘Immigration Examinations Fee Account’’ established under section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)), not to exceed \$10,000 may be allocated by the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in fiscal year 2021 for official reception and representation expenses.*

| Language Provision  | Explanation  |
|---|--|
| <i>Sec. XXX. Provided further, That of the funds deposited into the ‘‘Immigration Examinations Fee Account’’ established under section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)), not to exceed \$10,000 may be allocated by the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in fiscal year 2021 for official reception and representation expenses.</i> | Provides the Director of USCIS the ability to utilize IEFA resources in a limited capacity, for official reception and representation activities, in accordance with prior fiscal years. |

**Department of Homeland Security**  
*United States Citizenship and Immigration Services*  
*Operations and Support*



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
**Congressional Justification**

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## Operations and Support

### Budget Comparison and Adjustments

#### Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |            |                  | FY 2020<br>Enacted |            |                  | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |            |                  | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |          |                  |
|---|--------------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE        | Amount           | Pos.               | FTE        | Amount           | Pos.                          | FTE        | Amount           | Pos.                                | FTE      | Amount           |
| Employment Status Verification                | 419                | 398        | \$109,688        | 419                | 398        | \$122,395        | 419                           | 398        | \$118,676        | -                                   | -        | (\$3,719)        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>419</b>         | <b>398</b> | <b>\$109,688</b> | <b>419</b>         | <b>398</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>419</b>                    | <b>398</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> | <b>-</b>                            | <b>-</b> | <b>(\$3,719)</b> |
| Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation        | 419                | 398        | \$109,688        | 419                | 398        | \$122,395        | 419                           | 398        | \$118,676        | -                                   | -        | (\$3,719)        |

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.

The appropriation supports one Program, Project, and Activity (PPA):

**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 to the Social Security Administration and the Department of Homeland Security.

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

## Operations and Support Budget Authority and Obligations

| Budget Authority<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                            | FY 2019          | FY 2020          | FY 2021          |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Enacted/Request</b>   | <b>\$109,688</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                   | -                | -                | -                |
| Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year                                      | (\$115)          | -                | -                |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | -                | -                | -                |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | -                | -                | -                |
| Supplementals  | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Total Budget Authority</b>  | <b>\$109,573</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$109,573</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$98,411*        | \$122,395        | \$118,676        |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                  |                  |                  |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | 419              | 419              | 419              |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | 398              | 398              | 398              |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                  |                  |                  |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | 274              | 419              | 419              |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | 270              | 398              | 398              |

\*A pre-award protest in FY 2019 prevented \$8.994M from being obligated prior to the change of the fiscal year. The funding will be obligated once the protest is resolved.

\*\*In the table above, the rescission line includes the administrative savings rescissions per the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-6).

## Operations and Support Summary of Budget Changes

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | Positions  | FTE        | Amount           |
|--|------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>                                       | <b>419</b> | <b>398</b> | <b>\$109,688</b> |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>                                       | <b>419</b> | <b>398</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>                                   | <b>419</b> | <b>398</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> |
| 2020 Pay Raise   | -          | -          | \$1,569          |
| 2021 Pay Raise   | -          | -          | \$380            |
| FERS Agency Contribution                                     | -          | -          | \$479            |
| <b>Total, Pricing Increases</b>                              | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>\$2,428</b>   |
| GSA Rent   | -          | -          | (\$1,194)        |
| Verification Modernization Efficiencies                      | -          | -          | (\$4,947)        |
| <b>Total, Pricing Decreases</b>                              | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>(\$6,141)</b> |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>                             | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>(\$3,713)</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Current Services</b>                              | <b>419</b> | <b>398</b> | <b>\$118,682</b> |
| Awards Spending Increase                                     | -          | -          | \$506            |
| <b>Total, Program Increases</b>                              | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>\$506</b>     |
| Reduction to E-Verify Outreach and Education                 | -          | -          | (\$512)          |
| <b>Total, Program Decreases</b>                              | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>(\$512)</b>   |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>                                       | <b>419</b> | <b>398</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                             | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>(\$3,719)</b> |

## Operations and Support Justification of Pricing Changes

| Pricing Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                  | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                  |
|---|----------------------------|-----|------------------|
|   | Positions                  | FTE | Amount           |
| <b>Pricing Change 1 - 2020 Pay Raise</b>                          | -                          | -   | <b>\$1,569</b>   |
| Employment Status Verification                                    | -                          | -   | \$1,569          |
| <b>Pricing Change 2 - 2021 Pay Raise</b>                          | -                          | -   | <b>\$380</b>     |
| Employment Status Verification                                    | -                          | -   | \$380            |
| <b>Pricing Change 3 - FERS Agency Contribution</b>                | -                          | -   | <b>\$479</b>     |
| Employment Status Verification                                    | -                          | -   | \$479            |
| <b>Pricing Change 4 - GSA Rent</b>                                | -                          | -   | <b>(\$1,194)</b> |
| Employment Status Verification                                    | -                          | -   | (\$1,194)        |
| <b>Pricing Change 5 - Verification Modernization Efficiencies</b> | -                          | -   | <b>(\$4,947)</b> |
| Employment Status Verification                                    | -                          | -   | (\$4,947)        |
| <b>Total Pricing Changes</b>                                      | -                          | -   | <b>(\$3,713)</b> |

**Pricing Change 1 – 2020 Pay Raise:** This pricing change reflects the costs to support the 2020 enacted 3.1% pay increase. This includes one quarter of funding for 2020 and three quarters to annualize the funding in 2021.

**Pricing Change 2 – 2021 Pay Raise:** This pricing change reflects the impact of the 2021 1.0% pay increase.

**Pricing Change 3 – FERS Agency Contribution:** Per OMB Circular A-11, Agency Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) contributions increased. The regular FERS agency contribution increased by 1.3% from 16.0% in FY 2020 to 17.3% in FY 2021. The Law Enforcement FERS agency contribution increased by 2.4% from 33.4% to 35.8%. The agency contribution amount for Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) did not change.

**Pricing Change 4 – GSA Rent:** This pricing change reflects a reduction in rent costs due to the USCIS Headquarters consolidation.

**Pricing Change 5 – Verification Modernization Efficiencies:** Program efforts have increased the effectiveness and efficiency of the VIS and associated technology. Continuous updates and enhancements to VIS, through a series of agile software releases, have improved the scalability and accuracy of the system that supports the E-Verify and SAVE programs. The Verification Modification program has streamlined enrollment, case processing, and client account management functions.

## Operations and Support Justification of Program Changes

| Program Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                       | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |         |
|--|----------------------------|-----|---------|
|  | Positions                  | FTE | Amount  |
| <b>Program Change 1 - Awards Spending Increase</b>                     | -                          | -   | \$506   |
| Employment Status Verification   | -                          | -   | \$506   |
| <b>Program Change 2 - Reduction to E-Verify Outreach and Education</b> | -                          | -   | (\$512) |
| Employment Status Verification   | -                          | -   | (\$512) |
| <b>Total Program Changes</b>   | -                          | -   | (\$6)   |

### Program Change 1 – Awards Spending Increase:

#### **Description**

The FY 2021 Request includes an increase of \$0.5M for Awards Spending. The base for this program is \$0.7M.

#### **Justification**

The FY 2021 Request increases awards spending to support strategic workforce development. On July 12, 2019, OMB issued Memorandum 19-24 *Guidance on Awards for Employees and Agency Workforce Funding Plan*. This Memorandum directs agencies to review and update their current awards spending plans in order to: (1) support the strategic use of awards and recognition throughout the year; 2) address workforce challenges and recognize high performing employees; and 3) recognize those employees with talent critical to mission achievement.

#### **Performance**

The FY 2021 Budget supports the agency workforce planning requirements by providing a one percent increase for awards spending. The additional funding will help drive positive behavior by recognizing accomplishments of agency personnel, thereby fostering a culture of recognition.

**Program Change 2 – Reduction to E-Verify Outreach and Education:**

**Description**

The FY 2021 Request includes a reduction of \$0.5M to E-Verify Outreach and Education efforts. The base for this program is \$9.3M.

**Justification**

The FY 2021 Request reduces outreach and education efforts. This reduction will help offset other operational costs without negatively impacting the overall program effectiveness.

**Performance**

This proposed reduction is not expected to affect performance of the E-Verify program. E-Verify will continue outreach and education efforts across all current platforms including web and social media presence.

**Operations and Support  
Personnel Compensation and Benefits**

**Pay Summary**

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted |            |                 |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |            |                 |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |            |                 |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total |          |                |               |
|---|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
|   | Pos.            | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.            | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.                       | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.                     | FTE      | Amount         | Rate          |
| Employment Status Verification                | 419             | 398        | \$48,274        | \$121.29        | 419             | 398        | \$49,295        | \$123.86        | 419                        | 398        | \$52,229        | \$131.23        | -                        | -        | \$2,934        | \$7.37        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>419</b>      | <b>398</b> | <b>\$48,274</b> | <b>\$121.29</b> | <b>419</b>      | <b>398</b> | <b>\$49,295</b> | <b>\$123.86</b> | <b>419</b>                 | <b>398</b> | <b>\$52,229</b> | <b>\$131.23</b> | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b> | <b>\$2,934</b> | <b>\$7.37</b> |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                 | 419             | 398        | \$48,274        | \$121.29        | 419             | 398        | \$49,295        | \$123.86        | 419                        | 398        | \$52,229        | \$131.23        | -                        | -        | \$2,934        | \$7.37        |

**Pay by Object Class**

| Pay Object Classes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted | FY 2020 Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 - FY 2021<br>Change |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 11.1 Full-time Permanent                            | \$36,074        | \$36,213        | \$37,624                      | \$1,411                     |
| 11.5 Other Personnel Compensation                   | \$636           | \$646           | \$1,193                       | \$547                       |
| 12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits                    | \$11,564        | \$12,436        | \$13,412                      | \$976                       |
| <b>Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits</b>  | <b>\$48,274</b> | <b>\$49,295</b> | <b>\$52,229</b>               | <b>\$2,934</b>              |
| <b>Positions and FTE</b>                            |                 |                 |                               |                             |
| Positions - Civilian                                | 419             | 419             | 419                           | -                           |
| FTE - Civilian                                      | 398             | 398             | 398                           | -                           |

**Operations and Support**  
**Permanent Positions by Grade – Appropriation**

| Grades and Salary Range<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted | FY 2020<br>Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 to FY<br>2021 Change |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GS-15  | 33                 | 33                 | 33                            | -                            |
| GS-14  | 114                | 114                | 114                           | -                            |
| GS-13  | 77                 | 77                 | 77                            | -                            |
| GS-12  | 44                 | 44                 | 44                            | -                            |
| GS-11  | 42                 | 42                 | 42                            | -                            |
| GS-10  | 1                  | 1                  | 1                             | -                            |
| GS-9   | 99                 | 99                 | 99                            | -                            |
| GS-8   | 1                  | 1                  | 1                             | -                            |
| GS-7   | 8                  | 8                  | 8                             | -                            |
| <b>Total Permanent Positions</b>                         | <b>419</b>         | <b>419</b>         | <b>419</b>                    | <b>-</b>                     |
| Unfilled Positions EOY                                   | 145                | -                  | -                             | -                            |
| Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY            | 274                | 419                | 419                           | -                            |
| <b>Position Locations</b>                                |                    |                    |                               |                              |
| Headquarters   | 181                | 181                | 181                           | -                            |
| U.S. Field   | 238                | 238                | 238                           | -                            |
| <b>Averages</b>  |                    |                    |                               |                              |
| Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions                    | 100,007            | 103,107            | 104,138                       | 1,031                        |
| Average Grade, GS Positions                              | 12                 | 12                 | 12                            | -                            |

**Operations and Support  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Employment Status Verification                       | \$61,414               | \$73,100               | \$66,447                          | (\$6,653)                               |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$61,414</b>        | <b>\$73,100</b>        | <b>\$66,447</b>                   | <b>(\$6,653)</b>                        |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                        | \$61,414               | \$73,100               | \$66,447                          | (\$6,653)                               |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons                      | \$135                  | \$157                  | \$157                             | -                                |
| 22.0 Transportation of Things                                  | \$6                    | \$7                    | \$7                               | -                                |
| 23.1 Rental Payments to GSA                                    | \$3,411                | \$5,831                | \$4,637                           | (\$1,194)                        |
| 23.2 Rental Payments to Others                                 | \$54                   | \$63                   | \$63                              | -                                |
| 23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Misc. Charges              | \$44                   | \$51                   | \$51                              | -                                |
| 24.0 Printing and Reproduction                                 | \$10                   | \$12                   | \$12                              | -                                |
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$36,979               | \$42,885               | \$37,426                          | (\$5,459)                        |
| 25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources                   | \$722                  | \$837                  | \$837                             | -                                |
| 25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources             | \$10,209               | \$11,840               | \$11,840                          | -                                |
| 25.7 Operation and Maintenance of Equipment                    | \$8,550                | \$9,916                | \$9,916                           | -                                |
| 26.0 Supplies and Materials                                    | \$72                   | \$84                   | \$84                              | -                                |
| 31.0 Equipment   | \$1,222                | \$1,417                | \$1,417                           | -                                |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$61,414</b>        | <b>\$73,100</b>        | <b>\$66,447</b>                   | <b>(\$6,653)</b>                 |

## Employment Status Verification – PPA

### Budget Comparison and Adjustments

#### Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |            |                  | FY 2020<br>Enacted |            |                  | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |            |                  | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |          |                  |
|---|--------------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE        | Amount           | Pos.               | FTE        | Amount           | Pos.                          | FTE        | Amount           | Pos.                                | FTE      | Amount           |
| Employment Status Verification                | 419                | 398        | \$109,688        | 419                | 398        | \$122,395        | 419                           | 398        | \$118,676        | -                                   | -        | (\$3,719)        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>419</b>         | <b>398</b> | <b>\$109,688</b> | <b>419</b>         | <b>398</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>419</b>                    | <b>398</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> | <b>-</b>                            | <b>-</b> | <b>(\$3,719)</b> |
| Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation        | 419                | 398        | \$109,688        | 419                | 398        | \$122,395        | 419                           | 398        | \$118,676        | -                                   | -        | (\$3,719)        |

#### PPA Level I Description

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 against data from the Department of Homeland Security, Social Security Administration, Department of State, and Departments of Motor Vehicles of participating States.

This PPA also funds USCIS' E-Verify Monitoring and Compliance Branch, which protects E-Verify against system misuse through monitoring and compliance activities<sup>1</sup>, 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 fraudulent use of E-Verify under applicable laws, rules, regulations and Agency policies.

As of September 30, 2019, there were over 909,000 employers enrolled in E-Verify; of those enrolled, approximately 252,000 ran more than 40 million queries. The program continues to grow by approximately 1,500 new employers per week.

<sup>1</sup> For additional details on USCIS' E-Verify Monitoring and Compliance activities, please visit: <https://www.e-verify.gov/employers/monitoring-and-compliance>

The FY 2021 request will support the projected level of activity outlined in the table shown below:

| Activity   | FY 2019<br>Actuals <sup>2</sup> | FY 2020<br>Projection         | FY 2021<br>Projection         | Change from<br>FYs 2020-2021         |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>E-Verify</b>  |                                 |                               |                               |                                      |
| E-Verify Cases   | 40,503,372                      | 44,700,000                    | 47,100,000                    | 2,400,000                            |
| E-Verify cases requiring secondary review by USCIS staff <sup>2</sup>  | 248,108                         | 223,000                       | 236,000                       | 13,000                               |
| E-Verify cases requiring additional review by USCIS staff <sup>3</sup> | 90,653                          | 85,000                        | 90,000                        | 5,000                                |
| Records and Information for DMVs for E-Verify Queries                  | 21,968,040                      | 25,300,000                    | 25,500,000                    | 200,000                              |
| Employers (Cumulative)   | 909,000                         | 980,000                       | 1,050,000                     | 70,000                               |
| <b>E-Verify Monitoring &amp; Compliance Staff</b>                      | <b>FY 2019<br/>Actuals</b>      | <b>FY 2020<br/>Projection</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>Projection</b> | <b>Change from<br/>FYs 2020-2021</b> |
| On-Board   | 45                              | 72                            | 72                            | -                                    |
| Vacancies  | 27                              | -                             | -                             | -                                    |
| Payroll Expenditures   | 5,681                           | 9,041                         | 9,276                         | 235                                  |
| <b>Monitoring &amp; Compliance</b>                                     | <b>FY 2019<br/>Actuals</b>      | <b>FY 2020<br/>Projection</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>Projection</b> | <b>Change from<br/>FYs 2020-2021</b> |
| Emails <sup>4</sup>  | 82,687                          | 171,000                       | 185,000                       | 14,000                               |
| Compliance Calls   | 4,764                           | 3,000                         | 3,500                         | 500                                  |
| Desk Reviews   | 49                              | 80                            | 90                            | 10                                   |
| Site Visits  | 1                               | 40                            | 40                            | -                                    |
| Enhanced Compliance Assistance   | 19                              | 70                            | 90                            | 20                                   |
| Webinars   | 4                               | 40                            | 40                            | -                                    |
| <b>Total Employer Actions</b>  | <b>87,524</b>                   | <b>174,230</b>                | <b>188,760</b>                | <b>14,530</b>                        |
| <b>External Actions</b>  | <b>FY 2019<br/>Actuals</b>      | <b>FY 2020<br/>Projection</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>Projection</b> | <b>Change from<br/>FYs 2020-2021</b> |
| Referrals to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Fraud)               | 2                               | 20                            | 30                            | 10                                   |
| Referrals to Department of Justice (Discrimination)                    | 633                             | 550                           | 600                           | 50                                   |
| Law Enforcement Requests (LERs) - IER, ICE, Other Agencies             | 278                             | 250                           | 300                           | 50                                   |
| Referrals from DOJ (IMARR) <sup>5</sup>                                | 3                               | 15                            | 20                            | 5                                    |
| Locked Social Security Numbers (SSNs)                                  | 414                             | 200                           | 300                           | 100                                  |
| <b>Total External Activity</b>   | <b>1,330</b>                    | <b>1,035</b>                  | <b>1,250</b>                  | <b>215</b>                           |

<sup>2</sup> The FY 2019 actual numbers are through September 30, 2019. The FY 2020 and FY 2021 numbers are full-year projections.

<sup>2</sup> Second step cases are resolved manually by USCIS staff checking records without employer or employee involvement.

<sup>3</sup> Cases for additional review require the employer to refer the case and the employee to contact USCIS.

<sup>4</sup> VER MOD case details not being displayed after April 2018.

<sup>5</sup> Immigration and Employee Rights Misuse and Abuse Report Referrals.

## Employment Status Verification – PPA Budget Authority and Obligations

| Budget Authority<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                            | FY 2019          | FY 2020          | FY 2021          |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Enacted/Request</b>   | <b>\$109,688</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                   | -                | -                | -                |
| Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year                                      | (\$115)          | -                | -                |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | -                | -                | -                |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | -                | -                | -                |
| Supplementals  | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Total Budget Authority</b>  | <b>\$109,573</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$109,573</b> | <b>\$122,395</b> | <b>\$118,676</b> |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$98,411*        | \$122,395        | \$118,676        |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                  |                  |                  |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | 419              | 419              | 419              |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | 398              | 398              | 398              |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                  |                  |                  |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | 274              | 419              | 419              |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | 270              | 398              | 398              |

\*A pre-award protest in FY 2019 prevented \$8.994M from being obligated prior to the change of the fiscal year. The funding will be obligated once the protest is resolved.

## Employment Status Verification – PPA Summary of Budget Changes

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | Positions | FTE | Amount           |
|--|-----------|-----|------------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>                                       | 419       | 398 | \$109,688        |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>                                       | 419       | 398 | \$122,395        |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>                                   | 419       | 398 | \$122,395        |
| 2020 Pay Raise   | -         | -   | \$1,569          |
| 2021 Pay Raise   | -         | -   | \$380            |
| FERS Agency Contribution                                     | -         | -   | \$479            |
| <b>Total, Pricing Increases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>\$2,428</b>   |
| GSA Rent   | -         | -   | (\$1,194)        |
| Verification Modernization Efficiencies                      | -         | -   | (\$4,947)        |
| <b>Total, Pricing Decreases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>(\$6,141)</b> |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>(\$3,713)</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Current Services</b>                              | 419       | 398 | \$118,682        |
| Awards Spending Increase                                     | -         | -   | \$506            |
| <b>Total, Program Increases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>\$506</b>     |
| Reduction to E-Verify Outreach and Education                 | -         | -   | (\$512)          |
| <b>Total, Program Decreases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>(\$512)</b>   |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>                                       | 419       | 398 | \$118,676        |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>(\$3,719)</b> |

**Employment Status Verification – PPA  
Personnel Compensation and Benefits**

**Pay Summary**

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted |            |                 |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |            |                 |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |            |                 |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total |          |                |               |
|---|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
|   | Pos.            | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.            | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.                       | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.                     | FTE      | Amount         | Rate          |
| Employment Status Verification                | 419             | 398        | \$48,274        | \$121.29        | 419             | 398        | \$49,295        | \$123.86        | 419                        | 398        | \$52,229        | \$131.23        | -                        | -        | \$2,934        | \$7.37        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>419</b>      | <b>398</b> | <b>\$48,274</b> | <b>\$121.29</b> | <b>419</b>      | <b>398</b> | <b>\$49,295</b> | <b>\$123.86</b> | <b>419</b>                 | <b>398</b> | <b>\$52,229</b> | <b>\$131.23</b> | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b> | <b>\$2,934</b> | <b>\$7.37</b> |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                 | 419             | 398        | \$48,274        | \$121.29        | 419             | 398        | \$49,295        | \$123.86        | 419                        | 398        | \$52,229        | \$131.23        | -                        | -        | \$2,934        | \$7.37        |

**Pay by Object Class**

| Pay Object Classes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted | FY 2020 Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 - FY 2021<br>Change |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 11.1 Full-time Permanent                            | \$36,074        | \$36,213        | \$37,624                      | \$1,411                     |
| 11.5 Other Personnel Compensation                   | \$636           | \$646           | \$1,193                       | \$547                       |
| 12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits                    | \$11,564        | \$12,436        | \$13,412                      | \$976                       |
| <b>Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits</b>  | <b>\$48,274</b> | <b>\$49,295</b> | <b>\$52,229</b>               | <b>\$2,934</b>              |
| <b>Positions and FTE</b>                            |                 |                 |                               |                             |
| Positions - Civilian                                | 419             | 419             | 419                           | -                           |
| FTE - Civilian                                      | 398             | 398             | 398                           | -                           |

**Pay Cost Drivers**

| Pay Cost Drivers<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |                 |                 | FY 2020<br>Enacted |                 |                 | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |                 |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |                |               |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
|   | FTE                | Amount          | Rate            | FTE                | Amount          | Rate            | FTE                           | Amount          | Rate            | FTE                                 | Amount         | Rate          |
| Other Personnel                                   | 398                | \$48,274        | \$121.29        | 398                | \$49,295        | \$123.86        | 398                           | \$52,229        | \$131.23        | -                                   | \$2,934        | \$7.37        |
| <b>Total – Pay Cost Drivers</b>                   | <b>398</b>         | <b>\$48,274</b> | <b>\$121.29</b> | <b>398</b>         | <b>\$49,295</b> | <b>\$123.86</b> | <b>398</b>                    | <b>\$52,229</b> | <b>\$131.23</b> | <b>-</b>                            | <b>\$2,934</b> | <b>\$7.37</b> |

**Explanation of Pay Cost Driver**

**Other Personnel:** Funds for the personnel that support the operations, mission support, associated management, and administration of E-Verify. Changes to this cost driver in the President's Budget reflect an increase to the Agency's FERS Contribution, 2020 pay raise, 2021 pay raise, and awards spending.

**Employment Status Verification – PPA  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Employment Status Verification                       | \$61,414               | \$73,100               | \$66,447                          | (\$6,653)                               |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$61,414</b>        | <b>\$73,100</b>        | <b>\$66,447</b>                   | <b>(\$6,653)</b>                        |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                        | \$61,414               | \$73,100               | \$66,447                          | (\$6,653)                               |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons                      | \$135                  | \$157                  | \$157                             | -                                |
| 22.0 Transportation of Things                                  | \$6                    | \$7                    | \$7                               | -                                |
| 23.1 Rental Payments to GSA                                    | \$3,411                | \$5,831                | \$4,637                           | (\$1,194)                        |
| 23.2 Rental Payments to Others                                 | \$54                   | \$63                   | \$63                              | -                                |
| 23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Misc. Charges              | \$44                   | \$51                   | \$51                              | -                                |
| 24.0 Printing and Reproduction                                 | \$10                   | \$12                   | \$12                              | -                                |
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$36,979               | \$42,885               | \$37,426                          | (\$5,459)                        |
| 25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources                   | \$722                  | \$837                  | \$837                             | -                                |
| 25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources             | \$10,209               | \$11,840               | \$11,840                          | -                                |
| 25.7 Operation and Maintenance of Equipment                    | \$8,550                | \$9,916                | \$9,916                           | -                                |
| 26.0 Supplies and Materials                                    | \$72                   | \$84                   | \$84                              | -                                |
| 31.0 Equipment   | \$1,222                | \$1,417                | \$1,417                           | -                                |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$61,414</b>        | <b>\$73,100</b>        | <b>\$66,447</b>                   | <b>(\$6,653)</b>                 |

### Non Pay Cost Drivers

| Non Pay Cost Drivers<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>   | FY 2019<br>Enacted | FY 2020<br>Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Verification Information System (VIS) Development and Operations (Formerly VIS O&M) - sustainment of system | \$12,232           | \$27,873           | \$29,819                      | \$1,946                             |
| E-Verify Marketing  | \$9,330            | \$9,330            | \$8,818                       | (\$512)                             |
| Social Security Administration Reimbursements and Technology Enhancements                                   | \$7,547            | \$7,547            | \$8,000                       | \$453                               |
| Verification Modernization  | \$11,885           | \$7,930            | \$7,606                       | (\$324)                             |
| Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)  | \$3,411            | \$5,831            | \$4,637                       | (\$1,194)                           |
| Other Costs   | \$17,009           | \$14,589           | \$7,567                       | (\$7,022)                           |
| <b>Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers</b>   | <b>\$61,414</b>    | <b>\$73,100</b>    | <b>\$66,447</b>               | <b>(\$6,653)</b>                    |

#### 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 to fully maintain VIS, such as managing software configuration; conducting corrective, adaptive, or relevance maintenance; and maintaining VIS operational readiness, system administration activities, technical service support, database administration, and ad-hoc reporting. The increased spending in FY 2021 will support additional operational development functions to make agile system improvements to include patches, updates, and other agile releases that incorporate small operational changes to the system.

**E-Verify Marketing:** Includes costs associated with marketing the E-Verify program for a nationwide public education and outreach campaign. Costs are being reduced in FY 2021, which will not affect the performance of the E-Verify program.

**Social Security Administration Reimbursements and Technology Enhancements:** Reimbursement to the Social Security Administration (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. An increase in costs is expected in FY 2021 to support continued technology enhancements.

**Verification Modernization:** The program efforts have increased the effectiveness and efficiency of VIS. Continuous operations and maintenance to VIS through a series of agile software releases will improve the systems scalability and accuracy to support the E-Verify and the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) programs, including support for telephony, Customer Relationship Management (CRM), records, and my E-Verify. The decrease in costs is due to increased efficiency.

**Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA):** The FY 2021 amount is reduced from FY 2020. This pricing change reflects a reduction in rent costs due to the USCIS Headquarters consolidation.

**Other Costs:** Funds the remaining costs for the general operating expenses, technical contract support, and associated management and administration of E-Verify. The decrease in Other Costs is a result of funding realignments to the E-Verify self-check and customer relationship management tools (within Verification Information System (VIS) Development and Operations (Formerly VIS O&M) - sustainment of system) and technology enhancements for SSA's EV-STAR system, and the identified Verification Modernization efficiencies.

**Department of Homeland Security**  
*United States Citizenship and Immigration Services*  
*Procurement, Construction, and Improvements*



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
**Congressional Justification**

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**Procurement, Construction, and Improvements**  
**Budget Comparison and Adjustments**  


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**Comparison of Budget Authority and Request**

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted | FY 2020 Enacted | FY 2021 President's<br>Budget | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total<br>Changes |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Verification Modernization (VER MOD)          | \$22,838        | -               | -                             | -                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$22,838</b> | -               | -                             | -                                   |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                 | \$22,838        | -               | -                             | -                                   |

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Procurement, Construction, and Improvements (PC&I) appropriation funds the planning and acquisition costs for the E-Verify program's Verification Modernization (VERMOD) investment:

**VER MOD:** E-Verify is one part of USCIS's verification program. The other is the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program, which is resourced from mandatory fee funding within USCIS's Immigration Examinations Fee Account. The requirements for both programs are included in the Verification Modernization investment. Due to the similarities between the E-Verify and SAVE programs, both use the Verification Information System (VIS) and related ancillary IT systems and services. The shared VIS costs are distributed between the two programs.

The PC&I funding supports the planning and acquisition requirements included in the VER MOD investment business case that are attributable to E-Verify. With VER MOD's achievement of Full Operating Capability (FOC), no further investment funds have been required after Fiscal Year (FY) 2019. Funds carried over from FY 2019 into FY 2020 will be used to support final transitional steps to the operations and maintenance phase of the program. Funding for operations and maintenance requirements that are attributable to E-Verify is included in USCIS's Operations and Support (O&S) appropriation.

**Procurement, Construction, and Improvements  
Budget Authority and Obligations**

| <b>Budget Authority</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                     | <b>FY 2019</b>  | <b>FY 2020</b>  | <b>FY 2021</b> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Enacted/Request</b>   | <b>\$22,838</b> | -               | -              |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                   | \$20,586        | \$11,212        | -              |
| Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year                                      | -               | -               | -              |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | -               | -               | -              |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | -               | -               | -              |
| Supplementals  | -               | -               | -              |
| <b>Total Budget Authority</b>  | <b>\$43,424</b> | <b>\$11,212</b> | -              |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | -               | -               | -              |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$43,424</b> | <b>\$11,212</b> | -              |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$32,212        | \$11,212        | -              |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                 |                 |                |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | -               | -               | -              |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | -               | -               | -              |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                 |                 |                |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | -               | -               | -              |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | -               | -               | -              |

**Procurement, Construction, and Improvements  
Summary of Budget Changes**

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | Positions | FTE | Amount   |
|--|-----------|-----|----------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>                                       | -         | -   | \$22,838 |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>                                       | -         | -   | -        |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>                                   | -         | -   | -        |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>                                       | -         | -   | -        |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                             | -         | -   | -        |

**Procurement, Construction, and Improvements**

**Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY<br/>2021 Change</b> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$22,838                   | -                          | -                                     | -                                    |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$22,838</b>            | <b>-</b>                   | <b>-</b>                              | <b>-</b>                             |

**Procurement, Construction, and Improvements  
Capital Investments Exhibits**

**Capital Investments**

| <b>Investment</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>Unique Item Identifier</b> | <b>Acquisition Level</b> | <b>Procurement/ Construction</b> | <b>IT/Non-IT</b> | <b>MAOL</b> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Verification Modernization (VER MOD)               | 024-000003029                 | 2                        | Procurement                      | IT               | Yes         | \$22,838               | -                      | -                                 |

**Verification Modernization (VER MOD) – Investment****Capital Investments Exhibits****Procurement/Acquisition Programs****Verification Modernization (VER MOD)****Procurement, Construction, and Improvements Funding**

| <b>Investment</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>Unique Item Identifier</b> | <b>Acquisition Level</b> | <b>Procurement/ Construction</b> | <b>IT/Non-IT</b> | <b>MAOL</b> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Verification Modernization (VER MOD)               | 024-000003029                 | 2                        | Procurement                      | IT               | Yes         | \$22,838               | -                      | -                                 |

**Investment Description**

The VER MOD investment supports efforts to modernize the VIS and associated applications, which strengthens and improves the E-Verify and SAVE programs. The E-Verify program allows participating employers to verify the employment eligibility of their newly hired employees. As of September 30, 2019, there were over 909,000 employers enrolled in E-Verify; of those enrolled, approximately 252,000 ran more than 40 million queries. The program continues to grow by approximately 1,500 new employers per week.

The modernization effort streamlines and automates business processes, strengthens the technical infrastructure of VIS, and increases the capacity of E-Verify while reducing the risk of identity fraud, data inaccuracies, and system misuse. The VER MOD program efforts have increased the effectiveness and efficiency of VIS. Continuous updates and enhancements to VIS through a series of agile software releases have improved the systems scalability and accuracy.

**Justification**

The FY 2021 President's Budget does not include PC&I funding. The program achieved FOC in September 2019, and the VER investment has transitioned to the sustainment phase. Operations and maintenance (O&M) support is funded through the O&S appropriation.

**FY 2019 Key Milestone Events**

- Launched an E-Verify Redesign pilot to complement the existing E-Verify process, which allows employees to create an electronic account in order to conduct their own employment verification and return a response to enrolled employers. The E-Verify Redesign eliminates the need for work-authorized employees to go through the E-Verify process multiple times with different employers, and will offer identity validation features for enrollment, which will help prevent fraud in E-Verify.
- Achieved FOC for the VER MOD investment by meeting all Key Performance Parameters (KPP) for the program.

- Deployed a new version of E-Verify Web Services Interface Control Agreement (ICA) to enhance user experience for the web service community.
- Improved capabilities for Monitoring and Compliance (M&C) that address behavior and compliance issues through automated monitoring and notification services.
- Completed post-FOC capability enhancements for the VER MOD system and operational components.
- Continued to focus on furthering automation, improving performance and system maintainability, and optimizing the user experience.

**FY 2020 Planned Key Milestone Events**

- N/A

**FY 2021 Planned Key Milestone Events**

- N/A

**Overall Investment Funding**

| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                      | <b>Prior Years</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> | <b>FY 2021</b> |
|--|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Operations and Support</b>                      | \$212,800          | \$109,688      | \$122,395      | \$118,676      |
| <b>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</b> | \$37,800           | \$22,838       | -              | -              |
| <b>Research and Development</b>                    | -                  | -              | -              | -              |
| <b>Legacy Appropriations</b>                       | \$882,536          |                |                |                |
| <b>Total Project Funding</b>                       | \$1,133,136        | \$132,526      | \$122,395      | \$118,676      |
| <b>Obligations</b>                                 | \$1,117,537        | \$110,037      |                |                |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                                | \$1,117,537        | \$78,695       |                |                |

**Contract Information (Current/Execution Year, Budget Year)**

| Contract Number                               | Contractor             | Type        | Award Date (mo/yr) | Start Date (mo/yr) | End Date (mo/yr) | EVM in Contract | Total Value (Dollars in thousands) |
|---|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) CISIRWA2539-A3   | NTIS                   | Fixed Price | 09/2018            | 09/2018            | 10/2019          | No              | \$5,747                            |
| Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA)70SBUR19K00000008 | DHS S&T                | Fixed Price | 11/2019            | 11/2019            | 04/2020          | No              | \$1,658                            |
| HSSCCG17J00089                                | Accenture              | Fixed Price | 08/2017            | 10/2019            | 01/2020          | No              | \$31,407                           |
| 70SBUR19F00000029                             | Slalom Consulting, LLC | Fixed Price | 11/2018            | 11/2018            | 06/2020          | No              | \$31,337                           |

**Significant Changes to Investment since Prior Year Enacted**

The program achieved FOC during FY 2019.

**Investment Schedule**

| Description   | Design Work |           | Project Work |            |
|---|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
|   | Initiated   | Completed | Initiated    | Completed  |
| <b>FY 2019</b>  |             |           |              |            |
| Achieve Full Operating Capability (FOC) for the VER MOD program by meeting all Key Performance Parameters (KPP) for the program, which include system accuracy, response time, processing capacity, operational availability, and concurrent users. |             |           | FY 2019 Q1   | FY 2019 Q4 |
| Deliver E-Verify and SAVE algorithm improvements to reduce cases requiring human intervention.  |             |           | FY 2019 Q1   | FY 2019 Q4 |
| Continue refactoring and simplifying the system architecture to reduce system maintenance costs.  |             |           | FY 2019 Q1   | FY 2019 Q4 |
| Completion of post- FOC capability enhancements for VER MOD system and operational components, continuing to focus on furthering automation, improving performance and system maintainability, and optimizing the user experience.                  |             |           | FY 2019 Q1   | FY 2019 Q4 |
| <b>FY 2020</b>  |             |           |              |            |
| N/A   |             |           |              |            |
| <b>FY 2021</b>  |             |           |              |            |
| N/A   |             |           |              |            |

**Department of Homeland Security**  
*United States Citizenship and Immigration Services*  
*Federal Assistance*



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
**Congressional Justification**

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## Federal Assistance

### Budget Comparison and Adjustments

#### Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |     |                 | FY 2020<br>Enacted |     |                 | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |     |        | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |     |                   |
|---|--------------------|-----|-----------------|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----|--------|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE | Amount          | Pos.               | FTE | Amount          | Pos.                          | FTE | Amount | Pos.                                | FTE | Amount            |
| Citizenship and Integration Grants            | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                             | -   | -      | -                                   | -   | (\$10,000)        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | -                  | -   | <b>\$10,000</b> | -                  | -   | <b>\$10,000</b> | -                             | -   | -      | -                                   | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation        | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                             | -   | -      | -                                   | -   | (\$10,000)        |

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

This appropriation supports one Program, Project, and Activity (PPA):

**Citizenship and Integration Grants<sup>1</sup>:** The Citizenship and Integration Grant Program is USCIS' effort to seek and expand the availability of high-quality services throughout the Nation as part of a multifaceted effort to provide citizenship preparation resources, support, and information to immigrants and immigrant-serving organizations.

<sup>1</sup> 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

| Budget Authority<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                            | FY 2019         | FY 2020         | FY 2021 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
| <b>Enacted/Request</b>   | <b>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,000</b> | -       |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                   | -               | -               | -       |
| Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year                                      | -               | -               | -       |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | -               | -               | -       |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | -               | -               | -       |
| Supplementals  | -               | -               | -       |
| <b>Total Budget Authority</b>  | <b>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,000</b> | -       |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | -               | -               | -       |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,000</b> | -       |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$9,947         | \$10,000        | -       |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                 |                 |         |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | -               | -               | -       |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | -               | -               | -       |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                 |                 |         |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | -               | -               | -       |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | -               | -               | -       |

## Federal Assistance Summary of Budget Changes

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | Positions | FTE | Amount            |
|--|-----------|-----|-------------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>                                       | -         | -   | <b>\$10,000</b>   |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>                                       | -         | -   | <b>\$10,000</b>   |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>                                   | -         | -   | <b>\$10,000</b>   |
| Non-Recurring Congressionally Directed Funding               | -         | -   | (\$10,000)        |
| <b>Total, Pricing Decreases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>                                       | -         | -   | -                 |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |

## Federal Assistance Justification of Pricing Changes

| Pricing Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                         | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                   |
|--|----------------------------|-----|-------------------|
|  | Positions                  | FTE | Amount            |
| <b>Pricing Change 1 - Non-Recurring Congressionally Directed Funding</b> | -                          | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| Citizenship and Integration Grants                                       | -                          | -   | (\$10,000)        |
| <b>Total Pricing Changes</b>   | -                          | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |

**Pricing Change 1 – Non-Recurring Congressionally Directed Funding:** This pricing change reflects the non-recur of Congressionally appropriated funds to execute the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. USCIS proposes to continue funding the program through the Immigration Examinations Fee account in FY 2021. This would be a return to the funding mechanism utilized for FY 2015 through FY 2018.

**Federal Assistance  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Citizenship and Integration Grants                   | \$10,000               | \$10,000               | -                                 | (\$10,000)                              |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$10,000</b>        | <b>\$10,000</b>        | -                                 | <b>(\$10,000)</b>                       |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                        | \$10,000               | \$10,000               | -                                 | (\$10,000)                              |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions                      | \$10,000               | \$10,000               | -                                 | (\$10,000)                       |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$10,000</b>        | <b>\$10,000</b>        | -                                 | <b>(\$10,000)</b>                |

## *Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA*

### Budget Comparison and Adjustments

#### Comparison of Budget Authority and Request

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |     |                 | FY 2020<br>Enacted |     |                 | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |     |        | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |     |                   |
|---|--------------------|-----|-----------------|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----|--------|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE | Amount          | Pos.               | FTE | Amount          | Pos.                          | FTE | Amount | Pos.                                | FTE | Amount            |
| Citizenship and Integration Grants            | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                             | -   | -      | -                                   | -   | (\$10,000)        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | -                  | -   | <b>\$10,000</b> | -                  | -   | <b>\$10,000</b> | -                             | -   | -      | -                                   | -   | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| Subtotal Discretionary - Appropriation        | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                  | -   | \$10,000        | -                             | -   | -      | -                                   | -   | (\$10,000)        |

#### **PPA Level I Description**

**Citizenship and Integration Grant Program:** This PPA funded the USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant Program in FY 2019 and funds the grant program again in FY 2020. The funds, which were not requested in the FY 2019 or FY 2020 President's Budget, were provided to USCIS through the respective DHS Appropriations Acts. In FY 2019, USCIS awarded nearly \$10.0M in grants to 41 organizations that help prepare lawful permanent residents (LPRs) for naturalization<sup>2</sup>. The grants also aim to promote prospective citizens' assimilation into American civic life by funding educational programs designed to increase their knowledge of English, U.S. history, and civics.

<sup>2</sup> For a list of past grant recipients, please visit: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/organizations/grant-program>

**Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA**  
**Budget Authority and Obligations**

| <b>Budget Authority</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                     | <b>FY 2019</b>  | <b>FY 2020</b>  | <b>FY 2021</b> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Enacted/Request</b>   | <b>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,000</b> | -              |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                   | -               | -               | -              |
| Rescissions to Current Year/Budget Year                                      | -               | -               | -              |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | -               | -               | -              |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | -               | -               | -              |
| Supplementals  | -               | -               | -              |
| <b>Total Budget Authority</b>  | <b>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,000</b> | -              |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | -               | -               | -              |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$10,000</b> | <b>\$10,000</b> | -              |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$9,947         | \$10,000        | -              |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                 |                 |                |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | -               | -               | -              |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | -               | -               | -              |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                 |                 |                |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | -               | -               | -              |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | -               | -               | -              |

**Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA**  
**Summary of Budget Changes**

| <b>Budget Formulation Activity</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>Positions</b> | <b>FTE</b> | <b>Amount</b>     |
|---|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>  | -                | -          | <b>\$10,000</b>   |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>  | -                | -          | <b>\$10,000</b>   |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>  | -                | -          | <b>\$10,000</b>   |
| Non-Recurring Congressionally Directed Funding                      | -                | -          | (\$10,000)        |
| <b>Total, Pricing Decreases</b>                                     | -                | -          | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>                                    | -                | -          | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>  | -                | -          | -                 |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                                    | -                | -          | <b>(\$10,000)</b> |

**Citizenship and Integration Grants – PPA  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's<br/>Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total<br/>Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Citizenship and Integration Grants                   | \$10,000               | \$10,000               | -                                     | (\$10,000)                                  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$10,000</b>        | <b>\$10,000</b>        | -                                     | <b>(\$10,000)</b>                           |
| Discretionary - Appropriation                        | \$10,000               | \$10,000               | -                                     | (\$10,000)                                  |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY<br/>2021 Change</b> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions                      | \$10,000                   | \$10,000                   | -                                     | (\$10,000)                           |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$10,000</b>            | <b>\$10,000</b>            | -                                     | <b>(\$10,000)</b>                    |

### Non Pay Cost Drivers

| Non Pay Cost Drivers<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted | FY 2020<br>Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Citizenship and Integration Grant Program             | \$10,000           | \$10,000           | -                             | (\$10,000)                          |
| <b>Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers</b>                   | <b>\$10,000</b>    | <b>\$10,000</b>    | <b>-</b>                      | <b>(\$10,000)</b>                   |

#### Explanation of Non Pay Cost Driver

**Citizenship and Integration Grant Program:** The grants aim to promote prospective citizens' assimilation into American civic life by funding educational programs designed to increase their knowledge of English, U.S. history, and civics and help prepare LPRs for naturalization. The decrease in the President's Budget accounts for a non-recur of congressionally appropriated funds.

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



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
**Congressional Justification**

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## Immigration Examinations Fee Account

### Budget Comparison and Adjustments

#### Comparison of Budget Authority

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>         | FY 2019<br>Enacted |               |                    | FY 2020<br>Enacted |               |                    | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |               |                    | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |            |                  |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE           | Amount             | Pos.               | FTE           | Amount             | Pos.                          | FTE           | Amount             | Pos.                                | FTE        | Amount           |
| District Operations                                   | 9,032              | 8,580         | \$1,883,816        | 9,445              | 8,972         | \$1,934,033        | 9,771                         | 9,282         | \$2,044,162        | 326                                 | 310        | \$110,129        |
| Service Center Operations                             | 3,806              | 3,616         | \$731,654          | 4,054              | 3,852         | \$746,687          | 4,194                         | 3,985         | \$826,737          | 140                                 | 133        | \$80,050         |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | 1,917              | 1,822         | \$337,544          | 1,936              | 1,840         | \$349,295          | 2,073                         | 1,970         | \$372,392          | 137                                 | 130        | \$23,097         |
| Records Operations                                    | 459                | 436           | \$152,649          | 471                | 447           | \$155,150          | 506                           | 480           | \$157,271          | 35                                  | 33         | \$2,121          |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | 1,293              | 1,229         | \$648,007          | 1,402              | 1,333         | \$658,190          | 1,403                         | 1,334         | \$666,725          | 1                                   | 1          | \$8,535          |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | 376                | 357           | \$119,450          | 425                | 404           | \$125,335          | 429                           | 407           | \$125,452          | 4                                   | 3          | \$117            |
| Administration  | 1,760              | 1,672         | \$616,622          | 1,839              | 1,747         | \$651,808          | 1,850                         | 1,757         | \$632,106          | 11                                  | 10         | (\$19,702)       |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | 223                | 212           | \$35,112           | 222                | 211           | \$34,868           | 225                           | 214           | \$37,139           | 3                                   | 3          | \$2,271          |
| <b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>                              | <b>18,866</b>      | <b>17,924</b> | <b>\$4,524,854</b> | <b>19,794</b>      | <b>18,806</b> | <b>\$4,655,366</b> | <b>20,451</b>                 | <b>19,429</b> | <b>\$4,861,984</b> | <b>657</b>                          | <b>623</b> | <b>\$206,618</b> |
| Subtotal Mandatory - Fee                              | 18,866             | 17,924        | \$4,524,854        | 19,794             | 18,806        | \$4,655,366        | 20,451                        | 19,429        | \$4,861,984        | 657                                 | 623        | \$206,618        |

<sup>1</sup>Represents the total operating budget of Immigration Examination Fee Account for a given fiscal year.

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)).

**Fee Uses:** Fees collected with the submission of immigration benefit applications and petitions are deposited into IEFA and are used to fund the cost of processing immigration benefit applications and petitions, as well as to cover the cost of processing similar benefit requests for applicants without charge.

The IEFA supports the following activities:

- District Operations: Supports the 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.
- Service Center Operations: Supports the 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.
- Asylum, Refugee and International Operations: Supports the adjudication of asylum and refugee status applications for individuals seeking protection from persecution and facilitates the process for close relatives of approved refugees and asylees to immigrate to the United States. Additionally, this activity supports overseas adjudication of a variety of immigration benefit requests at USCIS' international offices.
- Records Operations: Supports the storage, administration, and access to USCIS records, as well as processing Freedom of Information Act requests.
- Premium Processing (Including Transformation): Supports the provision of premium processing services requested by business petitioners, as well as infrastructure improvements in the adjudication and customer-service processes.
- Information and Applicant Services: Supports USCIS' activities that engage with stakeholders and provide information services to applicants and petitioners, including through the USCIS Contact Center.
- Administration: Supports the management and administrative functions of USCIS, including the financial, human resource, training, and facility management functions, as well as the policy, legal, and executive leadership of the agency.
- Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements: Supports the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program. The SAVE program provides a fast, secure and efficient verification service for Federal, state and local benefit-granting agencies to verify a benefit applicant's immigration status or naturalized/derived citizenship.

**Change Mechanism:** Notice and Public Comment Rulemaking for non-premium funds; direct final rule for premium funds.

Non-premium – USCIS conducts a biennial fee review, considering its existing operations, workload volume forecasts, and proposed policy initiatives to determine if existing fees will recover the full cost of its operations including the cost of services provided at no charge. If USCIS determines that its fees will not recover full cost, USCIS proposes to adjust its fees via a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register. USCIS receives public comments via the federal register, incorporates feedback as appropriate, and publishes a final rule in the federal register to adjust its fees.

**Premium** – USCIS is authorized to adjust its premium processing fee by the rate of inflation. USCIS calculates the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) since it last adjusted the premium processing fee and applies that percent increase to its existing premium processing fee. Then, USCIS issues a direct final rule in the Federal Register to reflect this change and notify the public.

The FY 2019/2020 IEFA fee review forecasts that USCIS will experience an average annual shortfall of -\$1.3B during the biennial period. USCIS proposes to adjust the IEFA fee schedule upwards by a weighted average increase of 21 percent to ensure full cost recovery through the public notice and comment rulemaking process. USCIS issued the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on November 14, 2019 and anticipates the final rule to go into effect November 2020.

**Previous Changes:** Previous Rulemaking for non-premium funds was December 2016; and for Premium funds it was October 2018.<sup>1</sup>

**Recovery Rate:** The IEFA is intended to be full cost recovery. The chart below is provided to identify the recovery rate over the past five years (excludes premium funding).

### Historical Collections

*(\$ in Millions)<sup>2</sup>*

|                            | FY 2015      | FY 2016      | FY 2017       | FY 2018      | FY 2019      | TOTAL        |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Amount of Fee Collected    | \$2,744      | \$2,972      | \$3,483       | \$3,331      | \$3,318      | \$15,848     |
| Total of Eligible Expenses | \$3,002      | \$3,092      | \$3,301       | \$3,428      | \$3,794      | \$16,617     |
| <b>Cost Recovery %</b>     | <b>91.4%</b> | <b>96.1%</b> | <b>105.5%</b> | <b>97.2%</b> | <b>87.5%</b> | <b>95.4%</b> |

<sup>1</sup> For additional information on the fee changes please visit <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/24/2016-25328/us-citizenship-and-immigration-services-fee-schedule> for non-premium and <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/08/31/2018-19108/adjustment-to-premium-processing-fee> for premium.

<sup>2</sup> Data provided by DHS for FY15-FY17. USCIS prepared the FY18-FY19 data.

## Immigration Examinations Fee Account Budget Authority and Obligations

| Budget Authority<br>(Dollars in Thousands)                                   | FY 2019            | FY 2020            | FY 2021            |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fee Receipts (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                  | \$3,895,612        | \$3,885,000        | \$3,888,300        |
| Projected Fee Collections – FY 2019 / FY2020 IEFA Fee Rule <sup>1</sup>      | -                  | -                  | \$486,700          |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries <sup>2</sup> (Actual/Actual/Projections)         | \$1,265,465        | \$855,968          | \$340,447          |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | \$10,036           | \$12,313           | \$229,215          |
| Reprogrammings/Transfers   | (\$4,000)          | (\$4,000)          | -                  |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | \$41,194           | \$46,000           | \$45,180           |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$5,208,307</b> | <b>\$4,795,281</b> | <b>\$4,989,842</b> |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates <sup>3</sup> /Projections)                     | \$4,352,339        | \$4,454,834        | \$4,861,984        |
| <b>Budget Authority<sup>4</sup></b>  | <b>\$4,524,854</b> | <b>\$4,655,366</b> | <b>\$4,861,984</b> |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                    |                    |                    |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | 18,866             | 19,794             | 20,451             |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | 17,924             | 18,806             | 19,429             |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                    |                    |                    |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | 18,855             | 19,794             | 20,451             |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | 17,771             | 18,806             | 19,429             |

<sup>1</sup>Anticipated receipts based on the collection of increased fees, which will become effective in FY 2021 based on the FY 2019/FY 2020 Fee Rule. The FY 2021 Projected Fee Collections from the FY 2019/FY 2020 Fee Rule is a segmented portion of the full estimates USCIS anticipates to collect once the Fee Rule is in place for a full fiscal year.

<sup>2</sup>Projected carryover is calculated by taking the difference of Total Budget Resources and Estimated Obligations of the prior year.

<sup>3</sup>Estimated obligations align with USCIS' revised FY 2020 Annual Operating Plan.

<sup>4</sup>Represents the total operating budget of Immigration Examination Fee Account for a given fiscal year.

## Immigration Examinations Fee Account Collections – Reimbursable Resources

| Collections<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>   | FY 2019 Enacted |     |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |     |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----|-----------------|----------------------------|-----|-----------------|
|  | Pos.            | FTE | Amount          | Pos.            | FTE | Amount          | Pos.                       | FTE | Amount          |
| Department of Defense - Department of Defense <span style="float: right;">Source</span>                                  | -               | -   | \$3,000         | -               | -   | \$3,000         | -                          | -   | \$3,300         |
| Department of Health and Human Services - Department Wide <span style="float: right;">Source</span>                      | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | \$250           | -                          | -   | \$5             |
| Department of Homeland Security - Department of Homeland Security <span style="float: right;">Source</span>              | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | \$1,500         | -                          | -   | \$500           |
| Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency <span style="float: right;">Source</span>          | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | \$5,000         | -                          | -   | \$5,200         |
| Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement <span style="float: right;">Source</span>     | -               | -   | \$12,046        | -               | -   | \$12,500        | -                          | -   | \$12,500        |
| Independent Agency - Social Security Administration <span style="float: right;">Source</span>                            | -               | -   | \$7             | -               | -   | -               | -                          | -   | -               |
| Department of Homeland Security - National Protection and Programs Directorate <span style="float: right;">Source</span> | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | -               | -                          | -   | \$70            |
| Department of Homeland Security - U.S. Customs and Border Protection <span style="float: right;">Source</span>           | -               | -   | \$5,914         | -               | -   | \$6,000         | -                          | -   | \$6,000         |
| Department of Justice - Department of Justice <span style="float: right;">Source</span>                                  | -               | -   | \$250           | -               | -   | \$250           | -                          | -   | \$5             |
| Department of State - Department of State <span style="float: right;">Source</span>                                      | -               | -   | -               | -               | -   | -               | -                          | -   | \$100           |
| SAVE Collections <span style="float: right;">Source</span>   | -               | -   | \$11,566        | -               | -   | \$9,000         | -                          | -   | \$9,000         |
| Canada/UK Visa <span style="float: right;">Source</span>   | -               | -   | \$8,341         | -               | -   | \$8,500         | -                          | -   | \$8,500         |
| <b>Total Collections</b>   | -               | -   | <b>\$41,124</b> | -               | -   | <b>\$46,000</b> | -                          | -   | <b>\$45,180</b> |

## Immigration Examinations Fee Account Summary of Budget Changes

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                 | Positions     | FTE           | Amount             |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>   | <b>18,866</b> | <b>17,924</b> | <b>\$4,524,854</b> |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>   | <b>19,794</b> | <b>18,806</b> | <b>\$4,655,366</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>   | <b>19,794</b> | <b>18,806</b> | <b>\$4,655,366</b> |
| 2020 Pay Raise   | -             | -             | \$144,524          |
| 2021 Pay Raise   | -             | -             | \$18,591           |
| FERS Agency Contribution   | -             | -             | \$20,748           |
| <b>Total, Pricing Increases</b>  | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>      | <b>\$183,863</b>   |
| GSA Rent   | -             | -             | (\$18,170)         |
| Non Recurring Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers Facility Construction | -             | -             | (\$25,000)         |
| <b>Total, Pricing Decreases</b>  | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>      | <b>(\$43,170)</b>  |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>   | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>      | <b>\$140,693</b>   |
| <b>FY 2021 Current Services</b>  | <b>19,794</b> | <b>18,806</b> | <b>\$4,796,059</b> |
| Awards Spending Increase   | -             | -             | \$16,607           |
| Backlog Plan and Workforce Alignment   | 657           | 623           | \$49,318           |
| <b>Total, Program Increases</b>  | <b>657</b>    | <b>623</b>    | <b>\$65,925</b>    |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>   | <b>20,451</b> | <b>19,429</b> | <b>\$4,861,984</b> |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>   | <b>657</b>    | <b>623</b>    | <b>\$206,618</b>   |

**Immigration Examinations Fee Account  
Justification of Pricing Changes**

| Pricing Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>      | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                   |
|---|----------------------------|-----|-------------------|
|   | Positions                  | FTE | Amount            |
| <b>Pricing Change 1 - 2020 Pay Raise</b>              | -                          | -   | <b>\$144,524</b>  |
| District Operations                                   | -                          | -   | \$50,144          |
| Service Center Operations                             | -                          | -   | \$57,130          |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | -                          | -   | \$9,559           |
| Records Operations                                    | -                          | -   | \$2,170           |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | -                          | -   | \$6,475           |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | -                          | -   | \$2,012           |
| Administration  | -                          | -   | \$15,783          |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | -                          | -   | \$1,251           |
| <b>Pricing Change 2 - 2021 Pay Raise</b>              | -                          | -   | <b>\$18,591</b>   |
| District Operations                                   | -                          | -   | \$8,859           |
| Service Center Operations                             | -                          | -   | \$3,800           |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | -                          | -   | \$1,685           |
| Records Operations                                    | -                          | -   | \$376             |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | -                          | -   | \$1,141           |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | -                          | -   | \$352             |
| Administration  | -                          | -   | \$2,191           |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | -                          | -   | \$187             |
| <b>Pricing Change 3 - FERS Agency Contribution</b>    | -                          | -   | <b>\$20,748</b>   |
| District Operations                                   | -                          | -   | \$10,293          |
| Service Center Operations                             | -                          | -   | \$3,963           |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | -                          | -   | \$1,918           |
| Records Operations                                    | -                          | -   | \$427             |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | -                          | -   | \$886             |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | -                          | -   | \$423             |
| Administration  | -                          | -   | \$2,620           |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | -                          | -   | \$218             |
| <b>Pricing Change 4 - GSA Rent</b>                    | -                          | -   | <b>(\$18,170)</b> |
| District Operations                                   | -                          | -   | \$6,254           |
| Service Center Operations                             | -                          | -   | \$304             |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services**

**Immigration Examinations Fee Account**

| Pricing Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>   | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                   |
|--|----------------------------|-----|-------------------|
|  | Positions                  | FTE | Amount            |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations   | -                          | -   | (\$2,764)         |
| Records Operations   | -                          | -   | (\$1,188)         |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)  | -                          | -   | (\$986)           |
| Information and Applicant Services   | -                          | -   | (\$2,985)         |
| Administration   | -                          | -   | (\$17,253)        |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)  | -                          | -   | \$448             |
| <b>Pricing Change 5 - Non Recurring Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers Facility Construction</b> | -                          | -   | <b>(\$25,000)</b> |
| Administration   | -                          | -   | (\$25,000)        |
| <b>Total Pricing Changes</b>   | -                          | -   | <b>\$140,693</b>  |

**Pricing Change 1 – 2020 Pay Raise:** This pricing change reflects the costs to support the 2020 enacted 3.1% pay increase. This includes one quarter of funding for Calendar Year 2020 and three quarters to annualize the funding in Calendar Year 2021.

**Pricing Change 2 – 2021 Pay Raise:** This pricing change reflects the impact of the 2021 1.0% pay increase.

**Pricing Change 3 – FERS Agency Contribution:** Per OMB Circular A-11, Agency Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) contributions increased. The regular FERS agency contribution increased by 1.3% from 16% in FY 2020 to 17.3% in FY 2021. The Law Enforcement FERS agency contribution increased by 2.4% from 33.4% to 35.8%. The agency contribution amount for CSRS did not change.

**Pricing Change 4 – GSA Rent:** This pricing change reflects a reduction in rent costs due to the USCIS Headquarters consolidation during calendar year 2020.

**Pricing Change 5 – Non Recurring Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) Facility Construction:** This pricing change non-recurrs the one-time increase in the FY 2020 DHS Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-93) to fund the construction of a USCIS Academy Training Center on the FLETC campus in Charleston, South Carolina. However, USCIS cannot move forward with the project at this time, as the necessary administrative provision was not included in P.L. 116-93. In accordance with 41 U.S.C. 6303, this administrative provision would have provided USCIS with the express authority to transfer funds to FLETC for the purpose of constructing a training facility.

## Immigration Examinations Fee Account Justification of Program Changes

| Program Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>               | FY 2021 President's Budget |            |                 |
|--|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|
|  | Positions                  | FTE        | Amount          |
| <b>Program Change 1 - Awards Spending Increase</b>             | -                          | -          | <b>\$16,607</b> |
| District Operations  | -                          | -          | \$7,914         |
| Service Center Operations                                      | -                          | -          | \$3,394         |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations                   | -                          | -          | \$1,505         |
| Records Operations   | -                          | -          | \$336           |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)                  | -                          | -          | \$1,019         |
| Information and Applicant Services                             | -                          | -          | \$315           |
| Administration   | -                          | -          | \$1,957         |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)          | -                          | -          | \$167           |
| <b>Program Change 2 - Backlog Plan and Workforce Alignment</b> | <b>657</b>                 | <b>623</b> | <b>\$49,318</b> |
| District Operations  | 326                        | 310        | \$26,665        |
| Service Center Operations                                      | 140                        | 133        | \$11,459        |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations                   | 137                        | 130        | \$11,194        |
| Records Operations   | 35                         | 33         | -               |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)                  | 1                          | 1          | -               |
| Information and Applicant Services                             | 4                          | 3          | -               |
| Administration   | 11                         | 10         | -               |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)          | 3                          | 3          | -               |
| <b>Total Program Changes</b>                                   | <b>657</b>                 | <b>623</b> | <b>\$65,925</b> |

### **Program Change 1 - Awards Spending Increase:**

#### **Description**

The FY 2021 Request includes an increase of \$16.6M for Awards Spending. The base for this program is \$25.4M.

#### **Justification**

The FY 2021 Request increases awards spending to support strategic workforce development. On July 12, 2019, OMB issued Memorandum 19-24 *Guidance on Awards for Employees and Agency Workforce Funding Plan*. This Memorandum directs agencies to review and update their current

awards spending plans in order to: (1) support the strategic use of awards and recognition throughout the year; 2) address workforce challenges and recognize high performing employees; and 3) recognize those employees with talent critical to mission achievement.

**Performance**

The FY 2021 Budget supports the agency workforce planning requirements by providing a one percent increase for awards spending. The additional funding will help drive positive behavior by recognizing accomplishments of agency personnel, thereby fostering a culture of recognition.

**Program Change 2 - Backlog Plan and Workforce Alignment:****Description**

The FY 2021 Request includes an increase of \$49.3M, 657 positions, and 623 FTE for Backlog Plan and Workforce Alignment. The base for this is 15,435 Positions, 14,637 FTE, and \$3.03B.

**Justification**

Among other process and procedural changes, a central component to reduce the pending case backlog is the onboarding of new adjudications staff to support increased workloads. These positions will be used to help reduce the 2.5 million case backlog, which includes, but is not limited to: Applications for Employee Authorization (I-765), Applications for Naturalization (N-400), and Applications to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status (I-485).

District Operations will increase by 326 personnel which accounts for 70 percent of the 466 personnel increase in FY 2021 for domestic operations. Service Center Operations will increase by 140 personnel which accounts for the remaining 30 percent of the 466 personnel increase in FY 2021 for domestic operations. Asylum Operations will increase by 137 personnel.

The workforce alignment consists of 54 personnel and 50 FTE of the total of this program change. This alignment is to reconcile PPA adjustments to the workforce made during fiscal year 2019. There are no new costs associated with this workforce alignment.

**Performance**

USCIS is pursuing a backlog reduction hiring strategy that aims to achieve a domestic backlog reduction of 76 percent by the end of FY 2024. The modeling used assumes an aggressive hiring initiative over the next three years. Additionally, the elimination of the backlog for Form I-589, Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal, is being prioritized in the backlog reduction plan. Under current assumptions and a multi-year hiring initiative in the Asylum Division, USCIS is aiming to eliminate the I-589 backlog within six years. This program change is the first step in this multi-year effort.

**Immigration Examinations Fee Account  
Personnel Compensation and Benefits**

**Pay Summary**

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>         | FY 2019 Enacted |               |                    |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |               |                    |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |               |                    |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total |            |                  |               |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
|   | Pos.            | FTE           | Amount             | Rate            | Pos.            | FTE           | Amount             | Rate            | Pos.                       | FTE           | Amount             | Rate            | Pos.                     | FTE        | Amount           | Rate          |
| District Operations                                   | 9,032           | 8,580         | \$1,068,638        | \$124.55        | 9,445           | 8,972         | \$1,105,079        | \$123.17        | 9,771                      | 9,282         | \$1,197,954        | \$129.06        | 326                      | 310        | \$92,875         | \$5.89        |
| Service Center Operations                             | 3,806           | 3,616         | \$420,250          | \$116.22        | 4,054           | 3,852         | \$438,776          | \$113.91        | 4,194                      | 3,985         | \$513,798          | \$128.93        | 140                      | 133        | \$75,022         | \$15.02       |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | 1,917           | 1,822         | \$202,309          | \$110.77        | 1,936           | 1,840         | \$206,655          | \$112.04        | 2,073                      | 1,970         | \$227,892          | \$115.4         | 137                      | 130        | \$21,237         | \$3.36        |
| Records Operations                                    | 459             | 436           | \$46,013           | \$105.53        | 471             | 447           | \$47,502           | \$106.27        | 506                        | 480           | \$50,811           | \$105.86        | 35                       | 33         | \$3,309          | (\$0.41)      |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | 1,293           | 1,229         | \$132,301          | \$107.65        | 1,402           | 1,333         | \$144,799          | \$108.63        | 1,403                      | 1,334         | \$154,320          | \$115.68        | 1                        | 1          | \$9,521          | \$7.05        |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | 376             | 357           | \$41,433           | \$116.06        | 425             | 404           | \$44,513           | \$110.18        | 429                        | 407           | \$47,615           | \$116.99        | 4                        | 3          | \$3,102          | \$6.81        |
| Administration  | 1,760           | 1,672         | \$265,247          | \$158.33        | 1,839           | 1,747         | \$273,716          | \$156.37        | 1,850                      | 1,757         | \$296,267          | \$168.3         | 11                       | 10         | \$22,551         | \$11.93       |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | 223             | 212           | \$23,128           | \$109.09        | 222             | 211           | \$23,509           | \$111.42        | 225                        | 214           | \$25,332           | \$118.37        | 3                        | 3          | \$1,823          | \$6.95        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>18,866</b>   | <b>17,924</b> | <b>\$2,199,319</b> | <b>\$122.65</b> | <b>19,794</b>   | <b>18,806</b> | <b>\$2,284,549</b> | <b>\$121.42</b> | <b>20,451</b>              | <b>19,429</b> | <b>\$2,513,989</b> | <b>\$129.34</b> | <b>657</b>               | <b>623</b> | <b>\$229,440</b> | <b>\$7.92</b> |
| Mandatory - Fee                                       | 18,866          | 17,924        | \$2,199,319        | \$122.65        | 19,794          | 18,806        | \$2,284,549        | \$121.42        | 20,451                     | 19,429        | \$2,513,989        | \$129.34        | 657                      | 623        | \$229,440        | \$7.92        |

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

**Immigration Examinations Fee Account**  
**Permanent Positions by Grade Appropriation**

| Grades and Salary Range<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted | FY 2020<br>Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 to FY<br>2021 Change |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Total, SES   | 74                 | 78                 | 78                            | -                            |
| GS-15  | 1,025              | 1,028              | 1,028                         | -                            |
| GS-14  | 2,250              | 2,350              | 2,381                         | 31                           |
| GS-13  | 3,543              | 3,840              | 3,878                         | 38                           |
| GS-12  | 4,999              | 5,076              | 5,223                         | 147                          |
| GS-11  | 1,327              | 1,537              | 1,686                         | 149                          |
| GS-10  | 19                 | 13                 | 13                            | -                            |
| GS-9   | 2,847              | 2,856              | 3,003                         | 147                          |
| GS-8   | 31                 | 38                 | 38                            | -                            |
| GS-7   | 1,766              | 1,868              | 2,013                         | 145                          |
| GS-6   | 374                | 355                | 355                           | -                            |
| GS-5   | 602                | 669                | 669                           | -                            |
| GS-4   | 8                  | 68                 | 68                            | -                            |
| GS-3   | 1                  | 16                 | 16                            | -                            |
| GS-2   | -                  | 2                  | 2                             | -                            |
| <b>Total Permanent Positions</b>                         | <b>18,866</b>      | <b>19,794</b>      | <b>20,451</b>                 | <b>657</b>                   |
| Unfilled Positions EOY                                   | 11                 | -                  | -                             | -                            |
| Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY            | 18,855             | 19,794             | 20,451                        | 657                          |
| <b>Position Locations</b>                                |                    |                    |                               |                              |
| Headquarters   | 2,746              | 2,888              | 2,899                         | 11                           |
| U.S. Field   | 16,042             | 16,824             | 17,470                        | 646                          |
| Foreign Field  | 78                 | 82                 | 82                            | -                            |
| <b>Averages</b>  |                    |                    |                               |                              |
| Average Personnel Costs, ES Positions                    | 176,574            | 182,048            | 183,868                       | 1,820                        |
| Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions                    | 87,195             | 89,898             | 90,797                        | 899                          |
| Average Grade, GS Positions                              | 11                 | 11                 | 11                            | -                            |

## Pay Cost Drivers

| Pay Cost Drivers<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |                    |                 | FY 2020<br>Enacted |                    |                 | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |                    |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |                  |               |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
|   | FTE                | Amount             | Rate            | FTE                | Amount             | Rate            | FTE                           | Amount             | Rate            | FTE                                 | Amount           | Rate          |
| Immigration Services Officer                      | 8,648              | \$1,067,461        | \$123.43        | 9,095              | \$1,100,105        | \$120.96        | 9,537                         | \$1,224,969        | \$128.44        | 442                                 | \$124,864        | \$7.48        |
| Asylum Officer                                    | 1,232              | \$152,087          | \$123.45        | 1,296              | \$156,738          | \$120.94        | 1,426                         | \$178,283          | \$125.02        | 130                                 | \$21,545         | \$4.08        |
| Adjudication Officer                              | 336                | \$41,536           | \$123.62        | 354                | \$42,806           | \$120.92        | 354                           | \$46,697           | \$131.91        | -                                   | \$3,891          | \$10.99       |
| Refugee Officer                                   | 223                | \$27,585           | \$123.70        | 235                | \$28,428           | \$120.97        | 235                           | \$31,012           | \$131.96        | -                                   | \$2,584          | \$10.99       |
| Immigration Officer                               | 190                | \$23,463           | \$123.49        | 200                | \$24,181           | \$120.91        | 200                           | \$26,379           | \$131.89        | -                                   | \$2,198          | \$10.98       |
| Hearings and Appeals                              | 63                 | \$7,821            | \$123.14        | 67                 | \$8,060            | \$120.30        | 67                            | \$8,794            | \$131.26        | -                                   | \$734            | \$10.96       |
| Other   | 7,232              | \$879,366          | \$121.59        | 7,559              | \$924,231          | \$122.27        | 7,610                         | \$997,855          | \$131.12        | 51                                  | \$73,624         | \$8.85        |
| <b>Total – Pay Cost Drivers</b>                   | <b>17,924</b>      | <b>\$2,199,319</b> | <b>\$122.71</b> | <b>18,806</b>      | <b>\$2,284,549</b> | <b>\$121.48</b> | <b>19,429</b>                 | <b>\$2,513,989</b> | <b>\$129.39</b> | <b>623</b>                          | <b>\$229,440</b> | <b>\$7.91</b> |

### Explanation of Pay Cost Drivers

Changes to all pay cost drivers in FY 2021 reflect the annualization of the FY 2019 pay increase, growth of USCIS personnel costs required to support adjudicative activities, as well as an increase to the Agency's FERS contribution. Additionally, the costs associated with the increased awards spending, annualization of the FY 2020 pay increase, as well as the FY 2021 pay raise further drive this increase.

**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 authorization of 442 Immigration Services Officers in FY 2021 reduced the overall rate change due to the new hires being lowered graded positions than existing onboard staff.

**Asylum Officer:** This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Asylum Officers. Asylum Officers conduct interviews and adjudicate asylum applications that are not made in Immigration Court. The authorization of 130 Asylum Officers in FY 2021 reduced the overall rate change due to the new hires being lower graded positions than existing onboard staff.

**Adjudication Officer:** This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Adjudication Officers. Adjudication Officers review applications for immigration and immigration benefits and make decisions regarding these requests based on their extensive knowledge of immigration laws and practices.

**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 analyzing appropriate information, law and country conditions.

**Immigration Officer:** This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Immigration Officers. Immigration Officers research and analyze applications, petitions and supporting documentation; interview petitioners and applicants to assess credibility; and deny or grant petitions and applications.

The “Immigration Officer” is a legacy term, which has given way to the “Immigration Services Officer”. Until the remainder of “Immigration Officers” fully retire, quit, or otherwise leave their position, USCIS will continue to report these positions separately.

**Hearings and Appeals:** This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Hearings and Appeals staff. Hearings and Appeals staff support a wide range of legal services involving in administrative, criminal and civil prosecutions in support of mandamus and other immigration-related litigation actions.

**Other:** This cost driver funds the 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.

## Immigration Examinations Fee Account

## Non Pay Budget Exhibits

## Non Pay Summary

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>  | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's<br/>Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total<br/>Changes</b> |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| District Operations                                   | \$815,178              | \$828,954              | \$846,208                             | \$17,254                                    |
| Service Center Operations                             | \$311,404              | \$307,911              | \$312,939                             | \$5,028                                     |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations          | \$135,235              | \$142,640              | \$144,500                             | \$1,860                                     |
| Records Operations                                    | \$106,636              | \$107,648              | \$106,460                             | (\$1,188)                                   |
| Premium Processing (Including Transformation)         | \$515,706              | \$513,391              | \$512,405                             | (\$986)                                     |
| Information and Applicant Services                    | \$78,017               | \$80,822               | \$77,837                              | (\$2,985)                                   |
| Administration  | \$351,375              | \$378,092              | \$335,839                             | (\$42,253)                                  |
| Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) | \$11,984               | \$11,359               | \$11,807                              | \$448                                       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$2,325,535</b>     | <b>\$2,370,817</b>     | <b>\$2,347,995</b>                    | <b>(\$22,822)</b>                           |
| Mandatory - Fee                                       | \$2,325,535            | \$2,370,817            | \$2,347,995                           | (\$22,822)                                  |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY<br/>2021 Change</b> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons                      | \$31,161                   | \$31,710                   | \$32,394                              | \$684                                |
| 22.0 Transportation of Things                                  | \$17,433                   | \$18,141                   | \$18,296                              | \$155                                |
| 23.1 Rental Payments to GSA                                    | \$255,513                  | \$287,836                  | \$269,666                             | (\$18,170)                           |
| 23.2 Rental Payments to Others                                 | \$5,661                    | \$5,717                    | \$5,903                               | \$186                                |
| 23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Misc. Charges              | \$118,326                  | \$118,101                  | \$119,550                             | \$1,449                              |
| 24.0 Printing and Reproduction                                 | \$11,716                   | \$11,669                   | \$11,794                              | \$125                                |
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$909,447                  | \$904,067                  | \$911,181                             | \$7,114                              |
| 25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources                   | \$246,092                  | \$246,354                  | \$250,817                             | \$4,463                              |
| 25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources             | \$365,130                  | \$372,641                  | \$350,854                             | (\$21,787)                           |
| 25.4 Operation and Maintenance of Facilities                   | \$875                      | \$893                      | \$895                                 | \$2                                  |
| 25.7 Operation and Maintenance of Equipment                    | \$144,734                  | \$143,824                  | \$145,128                             | \$1,304                              |
| 26.0 Supplies and Materials                                    | \$39,614                   | \$39,080                   | \$39,665                              | \$585                                |
| 31.0 Equipment   | \$140,562                  | \$140,776                  | \$141,678                             | \$902                                |
| 32.0 Land and Structures                                       | \$36,853                   | \$37,480                   | \$37,633                              | \$153                                |
| 41.0 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions                      | -                          | \$10,000                   | \$10,000                              | -                                    |
| 42.0 Insurance Claims and Indemnities                          | \$2,418                    | \$2,528                    | \$2,541                               | \$13                                 |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$2,325,535</b>         | <b>\$2,370,817</b>         | <b>\$2,347,995</b>                    | <b>(\$22,822)</b>                    |

**Non Pay Cost Drivers**

| <b>Non Pay Cost Drivers</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                       | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021<br/>Total Changes</b> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)                           | \$ 255,513                 | \$287,836                  | \$269,666                             | (\$18,170)                                  |
| Information Technology Platforms   | \$ 190,414                 | \$170,614                  | \$172,301                             | \$1,687                                     |
| USCIS Contract Support for Adjudication Services                                   | \$ 128,158                 | \$117,793                  | \$118,958                             | \$1,165                                     |
| USCIS Electronic Immigration System (ELIS) Development and Support                 | \$ 105,708                 | \$104,053                  | \$105,082                             | \$1,029                                     |
| FBI Reimbursement for Fingerprint and Name Checks                                  | \$ 94,884                  | \$79,532                   | \$80,318                              | \$786                                       |
| Service Center Operations Support Services (SCOSS) Contract                        | \$ 80,226                  | \$73,354                   | \$74,079                              | \$725                                       |
| USCIS Lease Acquisition Program  | \$ 41,081                  | \$73,232                   | \$73,956                              | \$724                                       |
| USCIS Field Overheads (e.g. Utilities, Local Guard Services, etc.)                 | \$ 65,293                  | \$67,670                   | \$68,339                              | \$669                                       |
| Flexible Agile Development Services (FADS)   | \$ 53,415                  | \$57,766                   | \$58,337                              | \$571                                       |
| Treasury Lockbox Reimbursement   | \$ 50,166                  | \$46,522                   | \$46,982                              | \$460                                       |
| USCIS Contact Center Contracts   | \$ 43,815                  | \$43,815                   | \$44,248                              | \$433                                       |
| Office of Personnel Management Background Investigation Reimbursement              | \$ 40,654                  | \$40,704                   | \$41,106                              | \$402                                       |
| USCIS Secure Mail Initiative   | \$ 25,634                  | \$23,712                   | \$23,946                              | \$234                                       |
| National Benefits Center (NBC) Records Contract                                    | \$ 22,352                  | \$20,573                   | \$20,776                              | \$203                                       |
| Department of State Reimbursement for Services Performed Overseas on USCIS' Behalf | \$ 25,724                  | \$20,000                   | \$20,198                              | \$198                                       |
| Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC)                                   | -                          | \$25,000                   | -                                     | (\$25,000)                                  |
| Other  | \$1,102,498                | \$1,118,641                | \$1,129,701                           | \$11,060                                    |
| <b>Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers</b>  | <b>\$2,325,535</b>         | <b>\$2,370,817</b>         | <b>\$2,347,995</b>                    | <b>(\$22,822)</b>                           |

**Explanation of Non Pay Cost Drivers**

**Rental Payments to the General Services Administration (GSA):** This pricing change reflects a reduction in rent costs due to the USCIS Headquarters consolidation in FY 2020.

**Information Technology Platforms:** This cost driver includes three IT platforms that support USCIS adjudications. The first is the USCIS enterprise technology infrastructure engineering services to sustain and strengthen the hardware platforms upon which USCIS software applications reside. Second is the Naturalization Benefits System portfolio, which supports USCIS naturalization IT systems. Third, is the USCIS Applicant Service portfolio, which provides development and support to the applicant service platforms throughout USCIS.

**USCIS Contract Support for Adjudication Services:** This cost driver includes contracts that provide facilities and labor for operating USCIS Application Support Centers where applicants and petitioners must appear (when required by USCIS) for biometrics collection. This cost driver also includes contract support for clerical and records management in USCIS' domestic field offices and the National Benefits Center. These contracts costs are driven by application/petition receipt volumes identified annually through the Volume Projection Committee.

**USCIS Electronic Immigration System (ELIS) Development and Support:** This cost driver includes development and support for the USCIS ELIS system including Independent Verification and Validation, Applied Integration and Support, Information Technology Platform Engineering and Operations, and Asset and License Management. Additionally, this cost driver also includes contract costs for contact center support, service center data entry support, and the National Benefits Center records operations contract.

**FBI Reimbursement for Fingerprint and Name Checks:** These reimbursements are for the FBI to run fingerprint and name checks for USCIS as part of the background check process for those seeking to obtain immigration benefits in the United States.

**Service Center Operations Support Services (SCOSS) Contract:** Provides administrative and technical functions in support of records management at USCIS' five Service Centers. This includes file operations, as well as data entry, fee collection, and mail operations for the applications and petitions received directly by the Service Centers rather than those received at a lockbox.

**USCIS Lease Acquisition Program:** This item includes facilities renovation/upgrade projects that improve applicant service and adjudication processes.

**USCIS Field Overheads (e.g., Utilities, Local Guard Services, etc.):** This item includes expenses at USCIS field facilities to fund local guard services, utilities, housekeeping/cleaning, and other mandatory operational costs. This cost item is impacted by where USCIS locates its field offices. Many costs are included in the GSA rent charges for federally owned buildings as opposed to leased locations.

**Flexible Agile Development Services (FADS):** This item consists of several contracts for agile software development of ELIS.

**Treasury Lockbox Reimbursement:** USCIS maintains a reimbursable agreement with the Department of the Treasury for services provided by its fiscal agent JPMorgan Chase 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.

**USCIS Contact Center Contracts:** This item funds nationwide Tier 1 contact center contracts to operate the bilingual (English/Spanish) USCIS Contact Center.

**Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Background Investigation Reimbursement:** This item consists of reimbursements to OPM for employee background investigations. Costs are impacted by OPM reimbursement rates, the number of new hires, as well as the number of onboard

employees and the cyclic nature of 5-year reinvestigations due to past hiring surges.

**USCIS Secure Mail Initiative:** Funds priority mail postage for delivery of secure identification documents, which require delivery to be tracked and signed.

**National Benefits Center (NBC) Records Contract:** This contract provides active records management, file operations, quality control/business process improvement, and reporting services at the NBC. Contract levels fluctuate based on application/petition volume receipts.

**Department of State Reimbursement (DOS) for Services Performed Overseas on USCIS' Behalf:** This interagency agreement is 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.

**Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC):** In FY 2020, USCIS planned to provide \$25.0 million to the FLETC to construct a new USCIS Academy Training Center building at the FLETC campus in Charleston, South Carolina. USCIS expects no recurring cost in FY 2021.

**Other Costs:** Funds the remaining management and support costs for the day-to-day operations across USCIS.

### **Operational Activities**

The USCIS website<sup>3</sup> provides information on the activities supported through IEFA. In general, applicants can check case status, check processing times, find USCIS office locations, and file certain form online. The general 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 operation activities is available online, below is additional detailed 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.

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<sup>3</sup> For additional information, please visit: <http://www.uscis.gov>.

Fraud Detection Referrals Processed<sup>4</sup>:

| FY 2019 Actuals | Projected FY 2020 | Projected FY 2021 |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 190,428         | 217,761           | 249,335           |

Of the 190,428 referrals FDNS received in FY 2019 through September 30, 2019:

- 8,793 national security concerns
- 16,187 public safety cases
- 69,200 fraud leads and 22,273 fraud cases
- 59,277 requests for assistance
- 1,955 requests for overseas verification
- 2,751 were for Administrative Site Visit and Verification Program (ASVVP)
- 9,992 were for the Targeted Site Visit and Verification Program (TSVVP)

Biometrics:

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

The following table depicts FY 2019 actual workload volumes through September 30, 2019 and projected FY 2020 and FY 2021 workload volumes for the USCIS Biometrics program, which entails applicant/petitioner processing at the Application Support Centers (ASCs) nationwide, as well as fingerprint checks and name checks with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 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 purposes, as well as for performing the FBI checks for security purposes. USCIS reimburses the FBI for the costs of these security checks. The biometrics workload is a derivative of immigration benefit application and petition receipts.

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<sup>4</sup> 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. Case type and subtype data is as of November 28, 2019 for FY19 data Q1-Q4. FDNS-DS is an active system. Cases may be created, deleted, converted, or merged at any time. Source: Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS).

| Activity                        | FY 2019 Actuals <sup>5</sup> | FY 2020 Projected | FY 2021 Projected |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Individuals Processed at an ASC | 3,557,525                    | 3,617,132         | 3,502,088         |
| FBI Fingerprint Checks          | 3,713,581                    | 3,912,106         | 3,823,983         |
| FBI Name Checks                 | 1,929,059                    | 2,096,565         | 2,030,803         |

Citizenship and Integration Grant Program:

The table depicts actual FY 2019 Citizenship and Integration Grant Program output and outcome data along with projected FY 2020 and FY 2021 program outputs and outcomes.

| Accomplishments   | FY 2019 Actuals <sup>6</sup> | FY 2020 Projected | FY 2021 Projected |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Grants awarded  | 41                           | 40                | 40                |
| Monitoring visits conducted                                       | 17                           | 19                | 19                |
| Total permanent residents served                                  | 27,651                       | 27,500            | 27,500            |
| Total students enrolled in citizenship classes                    | 11,231                       | 11,000            | 11,000            |
| Total clients provided with naturalization eligibility screenings | 17,617                       | 17,000            | 17,000            |
| Total N-400 applications for naturalization submitted to USCIS    | 11,757                       | 11,500            | 11,500            |
| <u>Total permanent residents that became naturalized citizens</u> | <u>6,639</u>                 | <u>6,500</u>      | <u>6,500</u>      |

<sup>5</sup> Data as of September 30, 2019.

<sup>6</sup> Data as of September 30, 2019.

Transformation Initiative

The Transformation investment program is an enterprise-wide modernization initiative to transition the Agency from largely paper-based business processes to a digital operational environment facilitating electronic processing and adjudication of immigration benefits. The program achieved and is focusing on completing the following business objectives:

Transformation Business Objectives (FY 2019 through FY 2021)

|   |
|---|
| <b>Business Accomplishments (FY 2019)</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed delivery of the Citizenship Line of Business (LOB) by enhancing Electronic Immigration System (ELIS) to allow digital processing of N-600K (Application for Citizenship and Issuance of Certificate Under Section 322).</li> <li>• Added features to ELIS to support future digital processing of FB-AOS forms within the Immigrant LoB.</li> <li>• Enhanced ELIS to support ingestion of I-130, Petition for Alien Relative via the e-filing intake channel (myUSCIS).</li> <li>• Added features to ELIS to support future digital processing of Family Based Adjustment of Status (FB-AOS) forms within the Immigrant LoB.</li> <li>• Enhanced ELIS to support ingestion of N-600K applications via the e-filing intake channel (myUSCIS<sup>7</sup>).</li> <li>• Enhanced ELIS to support ingestion of I-485 (Application to Register Permanent Residence/Adjustment of Status) applications via the e-filing intake channel (myUSCIS).</li> <li>• Added features to strengthen the ELIS security posture.</li> <li>• Enhanced systems integration logging and error handling, and improve enterprise data quality standards.</li> <li>• Sustained cloud and platform infrastructure.</li> <li>• Sustained existing product lines within the Citizenship, Immigrant, and Humanitarian LoB.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Business Objectives (FY 2020)</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct Operational Test &amp; Evaluation (OT&amp;E) in support of Acquisition Decision Event (ADE)-3 and Full Operational Capability (FOC).</li> <li>• Enhance ELIS to support digital processing of Family-based Adjustment of Status (FB-AOS).</li> <li>• Continue to add features to strengthen the ELIS security posture.</li> </ul>  |

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<sup>7</sup> Not an acronym.

- Continue to enhance systems integration logging and error handling, and improve enterprise data quality standards.
- Continue to sustain cloud and platform infrastructure.
- Continue to sustain existing product lines within the Citizenship, Immigrant, and Humanitarian LoB.
- Complete OT&E.
- Prepare for ADE-3 and FOC.
- Achieve ELIS FOC (transition to Operations & Maintenance phase).

**Business Objectives (FY 2021)**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

- ELIS will be in Full Operational Capability (FOC) and will be in Operations & Maintenance Phase sustaining the existing Line of Businesses in ELIS – Citizenship, Humanitarian, and Immigrant.

Administration

Support for a variety of USCIS headquarters offices, including: 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 2019 Actuals <sup>1</sup> | FY 2020 Projected | FY 2021 Projected |
|---|---|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Office of Human Capital and Training      | Personnel Actions   | 23,506                       | 25,625            | 25,921            |
| Office of Human Capital and Training      | Employees Completing BASIC Immigration Adjudicator Training | 1,211                        | 1,378             | 1,632             |
| Office of Security and Integrity          | Adjudicative Determinations <sup>2</sup>                    | 12,507                       | 13,757            | 14,445            |
| Office of Security and Integrity          | Entry on Duty (EOD) Determinations <sup>3</sup>             | 9,614                        | 12017             | 12,618            |
| Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion | Formal Complaint Filings                                    | 114                          | 130               | 140 <sup>4</sup>  |
| Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion | Disability Accommodation Requests                           | 1200                         | 1200              | 1200              |

**United States Citizenship and Immigration Services**

**Immigration Examinations Fee Account**

| <b>Responsible Office</b>                 | <b>Workload Measure</b>    | <b>FY 2019 Actuals<sup>1</sup></b> | <b>FY 2020 Projected</b> | <b>FY 2021 Projected</b> |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion | Informal Complaint Filings | 223                                | 230                      | 240                      |
| Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion | Anti-Harassment Contracts  | 217                                | 230                      | 240 <sup>5</sup>         |

<sup>1</sup>The FY 2019 Actual numbers are through September 30, 2019; the FY 2020 and FY 2021 numbers are full year projections.

<sup>2</sup>Includes suitability, fitness, and security, reinvestigation, and Secure Compartmented Information (SCI) eligibility case types not including contract-to-contract transfers or internal employee selections.

<sup>3</sup>Includes contractor new hire, federal new hires, and transfers from other Federal agencies.

<sup>4</sup>Formal complaint filings have slightly increased, and the FY 2020 and FY 2021 projections have been adjusted to reflect that trend and anticipated increases in caseloads and lower informal case resolution rates, which will result in more formal filings.

<sup>5</sup>Anti-harassment contacts significantly increased in FY 2019 and it is expected these increases will continue given increased DHS efforts in this area as well as recent societal and cultural efforts around anti-harassment public education campaigns, which will likely increase cases moving forward into FY 2020 and FY 2021.

**USCIS Contact Center**

The USCIS Contact Center provides a pathway for applicants to get consistent, accurate information, and answers to immigration case questions. Tier 1 calls are managed by contractors, and the more complicated calls are routed to Tiers 2 and 3 and are handled by experienced USCIS Federal staff. The following table depicts actual and projected Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 call volumes:

| <b>Call Volume</b>  |                                    |                          |                          |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Call Centers</b> | <b>FY 2019 Actuals<sup>8</sup></b> | <b>FY 2020 Projected</b> | <b>FY 2021 Projected</b> |
| Tier 1              | 5,673,217                          | 6,518,368                | 6,844,286                |
| Tier 2              | 671,202                            | 1,173,306                | 1,231,971                |
| Tier 3              | 67,120                             | 117,330                  | 123,197                  |

**Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)**

The following table depicts the actual SAVE workload for FY 2019 through September 30, 2019 along with projections for FY 2020 and FY 2021. Staffing is mainly driven by SAVE second and third step queries, which are those that cannot be processed solely through the automated process and

<sup>8</sup> Data as of September 30, 2019

require human intervention by a Legal Instrument Examiner to research the case and provide a response to the customer agency. The SAVE program has modernized its system to be paperless (no longer accepts paper SAVE requests), increased automation, and decreased the reliance on manual verification.

**Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)**

**Actual and projected Workload for FY 2019 - FY 2021**

| <b>Activity</b>                                   | <b>FY 2019 Actuals<sup>9</sup></b> | <b>FY 2020 Projected</b> | <b>FY 2021 Projected</b> |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| SAVE Automated Queries                            | 18,316,560                         | 17,400,000 <sup>10</sup> | 16,300,000               |
| SAVE Status Verification Officer 2nd Step Queries | 1,142,168                          | 1,100,000                | 1,000,000                |
| SAVE Status Verification Officer 3rd Step Queries | 389,031                            | 405,000                  | 379,000                  |
| SAVE Customer Agencies as of June 30              | 1,183                              | 1,282                    | 1,325                    |

**Immigration and Customs Enforcement IEFA Fee Funding**

As was the case in the FY 2020 President’s Budget, the FY 2021 Budget request includes \$112.3M of collections within the IEFA for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) law enforcement fraud investigations. ICE will use the funds for programs and activities to prevent and detect immigration benefit fraud, as well as investigatory work necessary to support the adjudication of applications. Additional detail can be found in ICE’s FY 2021 IEFA request.

<sup>9</sup> The FY 2019 Actual numbers are through June 30, 2019; the FY 2020 and FY 2021 numbers are full year projections.

<sup>10</sup> The projected decline in SAVE Automated Queries in FY 2019 and FY 2020 is a continuation of a trend since FY 2015. These queries are primarily driven by a variety of factors including Affordable Care Act (ACA) case volume, changes due to Social Security Administration behaviors, and a couple of economic variables (i.e., many of the benefits that trigger SAVE queries are ones that are more heavily used during times of economic recession). The rate of this decline has slowed in recent years, so the projected volume for all categories of queries is now higher in all future years compared to previous projections.

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



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
**Congressional Justification**

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**H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account****Budget Comparison and Adjustments****Comparison of Budget Authority**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's<br/>Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total<br/>Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Service Center Operations                            | \$15,000               | \$15,000               | \$20,000                              | \$5,000                                     |
| <b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>                             | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$20,000</b>                       | <b>\$5,000</b>                              |
| Mandatory - Fee                                      | \$15,000               | \$15,000               | \$20,000                              | \$5,000                                     |

<sup>1</sup>Represents the total operating budget of the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account for a given fiscal year.

**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% of the collections generated by these fees to fund USCIS's immigration benefit adjudication efforts, while the remaining 95% 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:** Statutory, estimated recovery rate in FY 2019 of 130.6%. The fee was not designed for full cost recovery for H-1B petition processing.

### Historical Collections

*(\$ in Thousands)*

|                         | <b>FY 2015</b> | <b>FY 2016</b> | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>TOTAL</b>   |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Amount of Fee Collected | \$17,595       | \$17,349       | \$17,634       | \$19,499       | \$19,590       | \$91,667       |
| Total Eligible Expenses | \$18,000       | \$15,000       | \$13,980       | \$15,000       | \$15,000       | \$76,980       |
| <b>Cost Recovery %</b>  | <b>97.75%</b>  | <b>115.66%</b> | <b>126.14%</b> | <b>129.99%</b> | <b>130.60%</b> | <b>119.08%</b> |

## H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account Budget Authority and Obligations

| <b>Budget Authority</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                     | <b>FY 2019</b>  | <b>FY 2020</b>  | <b>FY 2021</b>  |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fee Receipts (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                  | \$19,590        | \$19,450        | \$19,450        |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries (Actual/Actual/Projections <sup>1</sup> )        | \$24,566        | \$29,228        | \$33,745        |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | \$72            | \$67            | \$1,148         |
| Collections – Reimbursable Resources   | -               | -               | -               |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$44,228</b> | <b>\$48,745</b> | <b>\$54,342</b> |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$15,000        | \$15,000        | \$20,000        |
| <b>Budget Authority<sup>2</sup></b>  | <b>\$15,000</b> | <b>\$15,000</b> | <b>\$20,000</b> |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                 |                 |                 |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | -               | -               | -               |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | -               | -               | -               |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                 |                 |                 |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | -               | -               | -               |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | -               | -               | -               |

<sup>1</sup>Carryover is calculated by taking the difference of Total Budget Resources and Estimated Obligations of the prior fiscal year.

<sup>2</sup>Represents the total operating budget of the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account for a given fiscal year.

## H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account Summary of Budget Changes

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | Positions | FTE | Amount          |
|--|-----------|-----|-----------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>                                       | -         | -   | <b>\$15,000</b> |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>                                       | -         | -   | <b>\$15,000</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>                                   | -         | -   | <b>\$15,000</b> |
| Service Center Operations Support                            | -         | -   | \$5,000         |
| <b>Total, Pricing Increases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>\$5,000</b>  |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>\$5,000</b>  |
| <b>FY 2021 Current Services</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>\$20,000</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>                                       | -         | -   | <b>\$20,000</b> |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>\$5,000</b>  |

## H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account Justification of Pricing Changes

| Pricing Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>            | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                |
|---|----------------------------|-----|----------------|
|   | Positions                  | FTE | Amount         |
| <b>Pricing Change 1 - Service Center Operations Support</b> | -                          | -   | <b>\$5,000</b> |
| Service Center Operations                                   | -                          | -   | \$5,000        |
| <b>Total Pricing Changes</b>                                | -                          | -   | <b>\$5,000</b> |

**Pricing Change 1 - Service Center Operations Support:** This pricing change reflects rising costs for service center operations contracts that support processing H-1B petitions. USCIS is requesting increased authority in FY 2021 to address this change.

**H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Service Center Operations                            | \$15,000               | \$15,000               | \$20,000                          | \$5,000                                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$20,000</b>                   | <b>\$5,000</b>                          |
| Mandatory - Fee                                      | \$15,000               | \$15,000               | \$20,000                          | \$5,000                                 |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 23.1 Rental Payments to GSA                                    | \$2,000                | \$2,000                | \$2,000                           | -                                |
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$13,000               | \$13,000               | \$18,000                          | \$5,000                          |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$20,000</b>                   | <b>\$5,000</b>                   |

**Non Pay Cost Drivers**

| <b>Non Pay Cost Drivers</b><br><i>Dollars in Thousands</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's<br/>Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021<br/>Total Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|---|---|
| Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA)   | \$2,000                | \$2,000                | \$2,000                                   | -   |
| Service Center Operations Support Services Contract        | \$13,000               | \$13,000               | \$18,000                                  | \$5,000                                     |
| <b>Total – Non Pay Cost Drivers</b>                        | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$15,000</b>        | <b>\$20,000</b>                           | <b>\$5,000</b>                              |

**Explanation of Non Pay Cost Drivers**

**Rental Payments to General Services Administration (GSA):** The FY 2021 amount is based on projections developed by USCIS' Facilities Division, using information provided by the GSA. There are no projected changes from the FY 2020 Budget to the FY 2021 President's Budget for this Account.

**Service Center Operations Support Services Contract:** Funds contractual costs in areas such as: correspondence management, fee receipting, data entry, and file operations support for three of the five USCIS service centers processing H-1B petitions: California Service Center, Nebraska Service Center, and Vermont Service Center. This cost driver has been increased in FY 2021 to better reflect rising support costs based on actual receipts.

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



**Fiscal Year 2021**  
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## Fraud Prevention and Detection Account

### Budget Comparison and Adjustments

#### Comparison of Budget Authority

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |            |                 | FY 2020<br>Enacted |            |                 | FY 2021<br>President's Budget |            |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |          |                |
|---|--------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
|   | Pos.               | FTE        | Amount          | Pos.               | FTE        | Amount          | Pos.                          | FTE        | Amount          | Pos.                                | FTE      | Amount         |
| District Operations                           | 115                | 109        | \$27,333        | 115                | 109        | \$27,773        | 115                           | 109        | \$28,703        | -                                   | -        | \$930          |
| Service Center Operations                     | 70                 | 67         | \$20,156        | 70                 | 67         | \$20,377        | 70                            | 67         | \$20,878        | -                                   | -        | \$501          |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations  | -                  | -          | \$308           | -                  | -          | \$308           | -                             | -          | \$308           | -                                   | -        | -              |
| <b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>                      | <b>185</b>         | <b>176</b> | <b>\$47,797</b> | <b>185</b>         | <b>176</b> | <b>\$48,458</b> | <b>185</b>                    | <b>176</b> | <b>\$49,889</b> | <b>-</b>                            | <b>-</b> | <b>\$1,431</b> |
| Subtotal Mandatory - Fee                      | 185                | 176        | \$47,797        | 185                | 176        | \$48,458        | 185                           | 176        | \$49,889        | -                                   | -        | \$1,431        |

<sup>1</sup>Represents the total operating budget of the Fraud Prevention and Detection Account for a given fiscal year.

**Fee Authority:** The Fraud Prevention and Detection Account (FPDA) is authorized via Section 286(v) of the *Immigration and Nationality Act* (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:** U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) receives one-third of the collections generated by the fees to fund a portion of USCIS' fraud detection and prevention efforts. FPDA directly supports 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.

The FPDA funds a portion of the operational costs for the Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate (FDNS) and the 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. Resources from the FPDA are not sufficient to fund all of USCIS' fraud detection and national security programs; funds from the Immigration Examinations Fee Account (IEFA) also support these programs.

The FPDA funds 115 FDNS positions and 70 SCOPS positions. Salaries and benefits funded through the FPDA 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. The remaining salary and benefit costs supporting this activity are funded through the IEFA account.

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

**Fraud Detection Referrals Processed<sup>1</sup>**

| FY 2019 Actuals | Projected FY 2020 | Projected FY 2021 |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 190,428         | 217,761           | 249,335           |

Source: Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS).

Of the 190,428 referrals FDNS received in FY 2019 through September 30, 2019:

- 8,793 national security concerns
- 16,187 public safety cases
- 69,200 fraud leads and 22,273 fraud cases
- 59,277 requests for assistance
- 1,955 requests for overseas verification
- 2,751 were for Administrative Site Visit and Verification Program (ASVVP)
- 9,992 were for the Targeted Site Visit and Verification Program (TSVVP)

**Change Mechanism:** Statutory. Requires action through 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:** Statutory, recovery rate in FY 2019 of 118.8%. This fee is not designed to be full cost recovery.

**Historical Collections**

*(\$ in Thousands)*

|                         | FY 2015       | FY 2016        | FY 2017        | FY 2018       | FY 2019        | TOTAL         |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Amount of Fee Collected | \$47,557      | \$47,632       | \$46,233       | \$51,285      | \$52,139       | \$244,846     |
| Total Eligible Expenses | \$64,226      | \$45,143       | \$45,263       | \$62,099      | \$43,873       | \$260,604     |
| <b>Cost Recovery %</b>  | <b>74.05%</b> | <b>105.51%</b> | <b>102.14%</b> | <b>82.59%</b> | <b>118.84%</b> | <b>93.95%</b> |

<sup>1</sup> 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. Case type and subtype data is as of November 28, 2019 for FY 2019 data Q1-Q4. FDNS-DS is an active system. Cases may be created, deleted, converted, or merged at any time. Source: Fraud Detection and National Security Data System (FDNS-DS).

## Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Budget Authority and Obligations

| Budget Authority<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                            | FY 2019         | FY 2020          | FY 2021          |
|--|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Fee Receipts (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                  | \$52,139        | \$52,000         | \$52,667         |
| Carryover and/or Recoveries <sup>1</sup> (Actual/Estimates/Projections)      | \$39,453        | \$47,871         | \$51,578         |
| Net Sequestered Resources  | \$152           | \$165            | \$3,068          |
| <b>Total Budget Resources</b>  | <b>\$91,744</b> | <b>\$100,036</b> | <b>\$107,313</b> |
| Obligations (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                   | \$43,873        | \$48,458         | \$49,889         |
| <b>Budget Authority<sup>2</sup></b>  | <b>\$47,797</b> | <b>\$48,458</b>  | <b>\$49,889</b>  |
| <b>Personnel: Positions and FTE</b>  |                 |                  |                  |
| Enacted/Request Positions  | 185             | 185              | 185              |
| Enacted/Request FTE  | 176             | 176              | 176              |
| <b>Onboard and Actual FTE; Includes Collections - Reimbursable Resources</b> |                 |                  |                  |
| Onboard (Actual/Estimates/Projections)                                       | 175             | 185              | 185              |
| FTE (Actual/Estimates/Projections)   | 167             | 176              | 176              |

<sup>1</sup>Carryover is calculated by taking the difference of Total Budget Resources and Estimated Obligations of the prior fiscal year.

<sup>2</sup>Represents the total operating budget of the Fraud Prevention and Detection Account for a given fiscal year.

**Fraud Prevention and Detection Account  
Summary of Budget Changes**

| Budget Formulation Activity<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | Positions | FTE | Amount         |
|--|-----------|-----|----------------|
| <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b>                                       | 185       | 176 | \$47,797       |
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b>                                       | 185       | 176 | \$48,458       |
| <b>FY 2021 Base Budget</b>                                   | 185       | 176 | \$48,458       |
| 2020 Pay Raise   | -         | -   | \$1,121        |
| 2021 Pay Raise   | -         | -   | \$192          |
| FERS Agency Contribution                                     | -         | -   | \$224          |
| <b>Total, Pricing Increases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>\$1,537</b> |
| GSA Rent   | -         | -   | (\$285)        |
| <b>Total, Pricing Decreases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>(\$285)</b> |
| <b>Total Adjustments-to-Base</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>\$1,252</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Current Services</b>                              | 185       | 176 | \$49,710       |
| Awards Spending Increase                                     | -         | -   | \$179          |
| <b>Total, Program Increases</b>                              | -         | -   | <b>\$179</b>   |
| <b>FY 2021 Request</b>                                       | 185       | 176 | \$49,889       |
| <b>FY 2020 To FY 2021 Change</b>                             | -         | -   | <b>\$1,431</b> |

## Fraud Prevention and Detection Account Justification of Pricing Changes

| Pricing Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>   | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |                |
|--|----------------------------|-----|----------------|
|  | Positions                  | FTE | Amount         |
| <b>Pricing Change 1 - 2020 Pay Raise</b>           | -                          | -   | <b>\$1,121</b> |
| District Operations                                | -                          | -   | \$750          |
| Service Center Operations                          | -                          | -   | \$371          |
| <b>Pricing Change 2 - 2021 Pay Raise</b>           | -                          | -   | <b>\$192</b>   |
| District Operations                                | -                          | -   | \$128          |
| Service Center Operations                          | -                          | -   | \$64           |
| <b>Pricing Change 3 - FERS Agency Contribution</b> | -                          | -   | <b>\$224</b>   |
| District Operations                                | -                          | -   | \$147          |
| Service Center Operations                          | -                          | -   | \$77           |
| <b>Pricing Change 4 - GSA Rent</b>                 | -                          | -   | <b>(\$285)</b> |
| District Operations                                | -                          | -   | (\$214)        |
| Service Center Operations                          | -                          | -   | (\$71)         |
| <b>Total Pricing Changes</b>                       | -                          | -   | <b>\$1,252</b> |

**Pricing Change 1 – 2020 Pay Raise:** This pricing change reflects the costs to support the 2020 enacted 3.1% pay increase. This includes one quarter for Calendar Year 2020 and three quarters to annualize the funding in Calendar Year 2021.

**Pricing Change 2 – 2021 Pay Raise:** This pricing change reflects the impact of the 2021 1.0% pay increase.

**Pricing Change 3 – FERS Agency Contribution:** Per OMB Circular A-11, agency FERS contributions increased. The regular FERS agency contribution increased by 1.3% from 16.0% in FY 2020 to 17.3% in FY 2021. Accordingly, the budget includes an increase of \$224,000 for the FERS agency contribution increase. The Law Enforcement FERS agency contribution increased by 2.4% from 33.4% to 35.8%. The agency contribution amount for CSRS did not change.

**Pricing Change 4 – GSA Rent:** This pricing change reflects a reduction in rent costs due to USCIS Headquarters consolidation.

## Operations and Support Justification of Program Changes

| Program Changes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>   | FY 2021 President's Budget |     |        |
|--|----------------------------|-----|--------|
|  | Positions                  | FTE | Amount |
| <b>Program Change 1 - Awards Spending Increase</b> | -                          | -   | \$179  |
| District Operations                                | -                          | -   | \$119  |
| Service Center Operations                          | -                          | -   | \$60   |
| <b>Total Program Changes</b>                       | -                          | -   | \$179  |

### **Program Change 1 - Awards Spending Increase:**

#### **Description**

The FY 2021 Request includes an increase of \$179 thousand for Awards Spending. The base for this program is \$1.1M.

#### **Justification**

The FY 2021 Request increases awards spending to support strategic workforce development. On July 12, 2019, OMB issued Memorandum 19-24 *Guidance on Awards for Employees and Agency Workforce Funding Plan*. This Memorandum directs agencies to review and update their current awards spending plans in order to: (1) support the strategic use of awards and recognition throughout the year; 2) address workforce challenges and recognize high performing employees; and 3) recognize those employees with talent critical to mission achievement.

#### **Performance**

The FY 2021 Budget supports the agency workforce planning requirements by providing a one percent increase for awards spending. The additional funding will help drive positive behavior by recognizing accomplishments of agency personnel, thereby fostering a culture of recognition.

**Fraud Prevention and Detection Account  
Personnel Compensation and Benefits**

**Pay Summary**

| Organization<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted |            |                 |                 | FY 2020 Enacted |            |                 |                 | FY 2021 President's Budget |            |                 |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total |          |                |               |
|---|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|---------------|
|   | Pos.            | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.            | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.                       | FTE        | Amount          | Rate            | Pos.                     | FTE      | Amount         | Rate          |
| District Operations                           | 115             | 109        | \$15,863        | \$145.53        | 115             | 109        | \$16,129        | \$147.97        | 115                        | 109        | \$17,273        | \$158.47        | -                        | -        | \$1,144        | \$10.5        |
| Service Center Operations                     | 70              | 67         | \$7,970         | \$118.96        | 70              | 67         | \$8,102         | \$120.93        | 70                         | 67         | \$8,674         | \$129.46        | -                        | -        | \$572          | \$8.53        |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>185</b>      | <b>176</b> | <b>\$23,833</b> | <b>\$135.41</b> | <b>185</b>      | <b>176</b> | <b>\$24,231</b> | <b>\$137.68</b> | <b>185</b>                 | <b>176</b> | <b>\$25,947</b> | <b>\$147.43</b> | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b> | <b>\$1,716</b> | <b>\$9.75</b> |
| Mandatory - Fee                               | 185             | 176        | \$23,833        | \$135.41        | 185             | 176        | \$24,231        | \$137.68        | 185                        | 176        | \$25,947        | \$147.43        | -                        | -        | \$1,716        | \$9.75        |

**Pay by Object Class**

| Pay Object Classes<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019 Enacted | FY 2020 Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 - FY 2021<br>Change |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 11.1 Full-time Permanent                            | \$16,684        | \$16,963        | \$17,870                      | \$907                       |
| 11.3 Other than Full-Time Permanent                 | \$55            | \$56            | \$59                          | \$3                         |
| 11.5 Other Personnel Compensation                   | \$983           | \$999           | \$1,239                       | \$240                       |
| 12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits                    | \$6,111         | \$6,213         | \$6,779                       | \$566                       |
| <b>Total - Personnel Compensation and Benefits</b>  | <b>\$23,833</b> | <b>\$24,231</b> | <b>\$25,947</b>               | <b>\$1,716</b>              |
| <b>Positions and FTE</b>                            |                 |                 |                               |                             |
| Positions - Civilian                                | 185             | 185             | 185                           | -                           |
| FTE - Civilian                                      | 176             | 176             | 176                           | -                           |

**Pay Cost Drivers**

| Pay Cost Drivers<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted |                 |                 | FY 2020<br>Enacted |                 |                 | FY 2021<br>President’s Budget |                 |                 | FY 2020 to FY 2021<br>Total Changes |                |               |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
|   | FTE                | Amount          | Rate            | FTE                | Amount          | Rate            | FTE                           | Amount          | Rate            | FTE                                 | Amount         | Rate          |
| Immigration Services Officer                      | 119                | \$16,115        | \$135.42        | 119                | \$16,383        | \$137.67        | 119                           | \$17,544        | \$147.43        | -                                   | \$1,161        | \$9.76        |
| Immigration Officer                               | 38                 | \$5,146         | \$135.42        | 38                 | \$5,232         | \$137.68        | 38                            | \$5,602         | \$147.42        | -                                   | \$370          | \$9.74        |
| Other   | 19                 | \$2,572         | \$135.37        | 19                 | \$2,616         | \$137.68        | 19                            | \$2,801         | \$147.42        | -                                   | \$185          | \$9.74        |
| <b>Total –Pay Cost Drivers</b>                    | <b>176</b>         | <b>\$23,833</b> | <b>\$135.41</b> | <b>176</b>         | <b>\$24,231</b> | <b>\$137.68</b> | <b>176</b>                    | <b>\$25,947</b> | <b>\$147.43</b> | <b>-</b>                            | <b>\$1,716</b> | <b>\$9.75</b> |

**Explanation of Pay Cost Drivers**

Changes to all pay cost drivers in FY 2021 reflect the annualization of the 2019 pay increase, growth of USCIS personnel costs required to support adjudicative activities, as well as an increase to the Agency’s FERS contribution. Additionally, the costs associated with the increased awards spending, annualization of the 2020 pay raise, as well as the 2021 pay raise further drive this increase.

**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.

**Immigration Officer:** This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of USCIS Immigration Officers. Immigration Officers research and analyze applications, petitions and supporting documentation; interview petitioners and applicants to assess credibility; and deny or grant petitions and applications.

The “Immigration Officer” is a legacy term, which has given way to the “Immigration Services Officer”. Until the remainder of “Immigration Officers” fully retire, quit, or otherwise leave their position, USCIS will continue to report these positions separately.

**Other:** This cost driver funds the salaries and benefits of other support personnel within FPDA.

**Fraud Prevention and Detection Account**  
**Permanent Positions by Grade -Appropriation**

| Grades and Salary Range<br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | FY 2019<br>Enacted | FY 2020<br>Enacted | FY 2021<br>President's Budget | FY 2020 to FY<br>2021 Change |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GS-15  | 6                  | 6                  | 6                             | -                            |
| GS-14  | 25                 | 25                 | 25                            | -                            |
| GS-13  | 77                 | 77                 | 77                            | -                            |
| GS-12  | 61                 | 61                 | 61                            | -                            |
| GS-11  | 2                  | 2                  | 2                             | -                            |
| GS-9   | 9                  | 9                  | 9                             | -                            |
| GS-7   | 4                  | 4                  | 4                             | -                            |
| GS-5   | 1                  | 1                  | 1                             | -                            |
| <b>Total Permanent Positions</b>                         | <b>185</b>         | <b>185</b>         | <b>185</b>                    | <b>-</b>                     |
| Unfilled Positions EOY                                   | 10                 | -                  | -                             | -                            |
| Total Perm. Employment (Filled Positions) EOY            | 175                | 185                | 185                           | -                            |
| <b>Position Locations</b>                                |                    |                    |                               |                              |
| Headquarters   | 10                 | 10                 | 10                            | -                            |
| U.S. Field   | 173                | 173                | 173                           | -                            |
| Foreign Field  | 2                  | 2                  | 2                             | -                            |
| <b>Averages</b>  |                    |                    |                               |                              |
| Average Personnel Costs, GS Positions                    | 101,768            | 102,236            | 105,252                       | 3,016                        |
| Average Grade, GS Positions                              | 12                 | 12                 | 12                            | -                            |

**Fraud Prevention and Detection Account  
Non Pay Budget Exhibits**

**Non Pay Summary**

| <b>Organization</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total Changes</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| District Operations                                  | \$11,470               | \$11,644               | \$11,430                          | (\$214)                                 |
| Service Center Operations                            | \$12,186               | \$12,275               | \$12,204                          | (\$71)                                  |
| Asylum, Refugee and International Operations         | \$308                  | \$308                  | \$308                             | -                                       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$23,964</b>        | <b>\$24,227</b>        | <b>\$23,942</b>                   | <b>(\$285)</b>                          |
| Mandatory - Fee                                      | \$23,964               | \$24,227               | \$23,942                          | (\$285)                                 |

**Non Pay by Object Class**

| <b>Non-Pay Object Classes</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> | <b>FY 2019 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020 Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021 President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons                      | \$257                  | \$257                  | \$257                             | -                                |
| 22.0 Transportation of Things                                  | \$36                   | \$36                   | \$36                              | -                                |
| 23.1 Rental Payments to GSA                                    | \$1,757                | \$2,020                | \$1,735                           | (\$285)                          |
| 23.2 Rental Payments to Others                                 | \$37                   | \$37                   | \$37                              | -                                |
| 23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Misc. Charges              | \$6                    | \$6                    | \$6                               | -                                |
| 24.0 Printing and Reproduction                                 | \$1                    | \$1                    | \$1                               | -                                |
| 25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services                          | \$17,229               | \$17,229               | \$17,229                          | -                                |
| 25.2 Other Services from Non-Federal Sources                   | \$3,309                | \$3,309                | \$3,309                           | -                                |
| 25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources             | \$605                  | \$605                  | \$605                             | -                                |
| 26.0 Supplies and Materials                                    | \$714                  | \$714                  | \$714                             | -                                |
| 31.0 Equipment   | \$13                   | \$13                   | \$13                              | -                                |
| <b>Total - Non Pay Object Classes</b>                          | <b>\$23,964</b>        | <b>\$24,227</b>        | <b>\$23,942</b>                   | <b>(\$285)</b>                   |

**Non Pay Cost Drivers**

| <b>Non Pay Cost Drivers</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>   | <b>FY 2019<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2020<br/>Enacted</b> | <b>FY 2021<br/>President's Budget</b> | <b>FY 2020 to FY 2021<br/>Total Changes</b> |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Validation Instrument for Business Enterprises (VIBE)          | \$9,236                    | \$10,770                   | \$10,770                              | -   |
| Fraud Detection and National Security Program Support Contract | \$3,832                    | \$7,144                    | \$7,144                               | -   |
| Other Costs  | \$10,896                   | \$6,313                    | \$6,028                               | (\$285)                                     |
| <b>Total Non Pay Cost Drivers</b>                              | <b>\$23,964</b>            | <b>\$24,227</b>            | <b>\$23,942</b>                       | <b>(\$285)</b>                              |

**Explanation of Non Pay Cost Drivers**

**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.

**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.

**Other Costs:** Funds the remaining management and support costs for processing immigration benefit applications while ensuring the security and integrity of the immigration system, such as supplies, travel costs, equipment, IT support, and rent. Other costs decreased slightly in FY 2021 due to GSA rent reductions corresponding to the USCIS HQ consolidation.