Department of Homeland Security

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Budget Overview

Fiscal Year 2021

Congressional Justification
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## Appropriation Organization Structure

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure:</th>
<th>Percent of workers determined to be &quot;Employment Authorized&quot; after an initial mismatch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
<td>&lt;=0.80%</td>
<td>&lt;=0.70%</td>
<td>&lt;=0.60%</td>
<td>&lt;=0.50%</td>
<td>&lt;=0.40%</td>
<td>&lt;=0.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
<td>0.16%</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>0.16%</td>
<td>0.21%</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Fraud Prevention and Detection Account:** The Fraud Prevention and Detection program supports activities related to preventing and detecting immigration benefit fraud. The program leads efforts to identify threats to national security and public safety, deter, detect, and combat immigration benefit fraud, and remove systemic and other vulnerabilities. This is part of the Fraud Prevention and Detection Fee Account.

**Strategic Measures**

| Measure: Percent of fraud referrals from adjudicative directorates that are closed or converted into fraud cases within 60 working days |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Description:** 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; determined 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. |
| **Fiscal Year:** | FY 2016 | FY 2017 | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
| Target: | --- | --- | --- | --- | 95% | 95% |
| Result: | --- | --- | --- | --- | TBD | TBD |

| Measure: Percent of Immigration Services Officers, Asylum Officers, and Refugee Officers who receive advanced fraud detection or interview skills enhancement training |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Description:** 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. |
| **Fiscal Year:** | FY 2016 | FY 2017 | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |
| Target: | --- | --- | --- | --- | 95% | 95% |
| Result: | --- | --- | --- | --- | TBD | TBD |
Measure: Percent of system generated biometric notifications related to multiple identities triaged within 60 working days

Description: 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Strategic Measures**

Measure: Percent of appealed decisions that are dismissed by the Administrative Appeals Office

Description: 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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Measure: Percent of approved applications for naturalization that were appropriately decided

Description: This measure assesses the validity of final decisions by program adjudicators to approve all electronic N-400 Naturalization Forms received through USCIS Electronic Immigration System (ELIS) by reporting the findings of regular quality reviews of these decisions by experienced subject matter experts (SMEs). The program conducts quality reviews by drawing a statistically valid random sample of approved N-400s on a quarterly basis. Insuring that the program provides immigration services accurately and with full documentary support through quality reviews identifies opportunities to improve training and business processes and enhances confidence in the legal immigration system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Measure:** Percent of approved applications for permanent residence that were appropriately decided

**Description:** This measure assesses the validity of final decisions by program adjudicators to approve Form I-485 applications to register for permanent residence or to adjust status by reporting the findings of regular quality reviews of these decisions by experienced subject matter experts (SMEs). The program conducts quality reviews of these cases, drawing a statistically valid random sample of approved I-485s on a quarterly basis. Insuring that the program provides immigration services accurately and with full documentary support through quality reviews identifies opportunities to improve training and business processes and enhances confidence in the legal immigration system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
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<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Measure:** Percent of approved refugee and asylum applications that were appropriately decided

**Description:** 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Measure:** Percent of Immigration, Fraud, and Asylum and Refugee Officers who are trained to perform their duties within six months of entry on duty

**Description:** 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Measure:** Percent of naturalized individuals where derogatory information was identified and resolved prior to taking the oath of allegiance

**Description:** This measure gauges the rate at which derogatory information is identified and resolved before N-400 Form naturalization applicants take the final the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony. Taking the oath at a ceremony completes the process of becoming a U.S. citizen for approved applicants. USCIS employs continual vetting of applicants and a final check for derogatory information close to the oathing ceremony to ensure that ineligible applicants are not naturalized due to criminal activity, national security, or public safety concerns. Continuous vetting ensures the integrity of the immigration system and protects our national security.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
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<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Measure:** 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

**Description:** 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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</table>

**Management Measures**

**Measure:** Accuracy rate of USCIS's processing of manual verifications for Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements referrals

**Description:** This measure tracks the accuracy of manual verifications conducted for the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program. A SAVE verification involves federal, state, tribal, or local government agency which grants licenses or benefits verifying an applicant’s immigration status. If SAVE cannot match an applicant’s data to a database record from U.S. Government systems used to adjudicate immigration benefits in the initial search, customer agencies pursue further verification if requested by the applicant. Status Verifiers (SV) perform these additional queries manually to determine the applicant’s immigration status. SAVE referrals are sampled 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
<td>98.6%</td>
<td>98.8%</td>
<td>99.0%</td>
<td>99.0%</td>
<td>99.0%</td>
<td>99.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
<td>99.3%</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td>99.0%</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Measure:** Percent of applications for immigration benefits digitally processed via the Electronic Immigration System (ELIS)

**Description:** 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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**Measure:** Percent of applications submitted which contain all required initial evidence at the time of filing

**Description:** 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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
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<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
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<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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</table>

**Measure:** Percent of time that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services mission essential systems are available for service to end users

**Description:** 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
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<th>FY 2021</th>
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<tr>
<td>Target:</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Result:</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
## Budget Comparison and Adjustments
### Appropriation and PPA Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization (Dollars in Thousands)</th>
<th>FY 2019 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 President's Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations and Support</td>
<td>$109,688</td>
<td>$122,395</td>
<td>$118,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Status Verification</td>
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<td>$20,000</td>
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<td><strong>$4,851,219</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,050,549</strong></td>
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</table>

1Represents 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>FY 2019 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 President's Budget</th>
<th>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total Changes</th>
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<td>Pos.</td>
<td>FTE</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Pos.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</td>
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<td>$22,838</td>
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<td>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</td>
<td>18,866</td>
<td>17,924</td>
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<td>Fraud Prevention and Detection Account</td>
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<td>$47,797</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total 1</td>
<td>19,470</td>
<td>18,498</td>
<td>$4,730,177</td>
<td>20,398</td>
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</table>

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 |

1Represents 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

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<tr>
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<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
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<td>Collections – Reimbursable</td>
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<td>Includes Collections -</td>
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<td>Reimbursable Resources</td>
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¹Anticipated 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.

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

³Estimated obligations align with USCIS' revised FY 2020 Annual Operating Plan.

⁴Represents the total operating budget of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for a given fiscal year.
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<thead>
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<th>Collections</th>
<th>FY 2019 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 President's Budget</th>
<th>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Change</th>
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<td>District Operations Location</td>
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<td>Amount</td>
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# Pay Summary

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<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 President's Budget</th>
<th>FY 2020 to FY 2021 Total</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>FTE</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Rate</td>
</tr>
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<td>398</td>
<td>$48,274</td>
<td>$121.29</td>
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<td>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</td>
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<td>17,924</td>
<td>$2,199,319</td>
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<td>Fraud Prevention and Detection Account</td>
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<td>176</td>
<td>$23,833</td>
<td>$135.41</td>
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*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

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<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 President's Budget</th>
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**Positions and FTE**

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<td>657</td>
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## Non Pay Summary

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<td>-</td>
<td>($10,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</td>
<td>$2,325,535</td>
<td>$2,370,817</td>
<td>$2,347,995</td>
<td>($22,822)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud Prevention and Detection Account</td>
<td>$23,964</td>
<td>$24,227</td>
<td>$23,942</td>
<td>($285)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,458,751</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,493,144</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,458,384</strong></td>
<td><strong>($34,760)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discretionary - Appropriation</td>
<td>$94,252</td>
<td>$83,100</td>
<td>$66,447</td>
<td>($16,653)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory - Fee</td>
<td>$2,364,499</td>
<td>$2,410,044</td>
<td>$2,391,937</td>
<td>($18,107)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Non Pay by Object Class

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriation and PPA (Dollars in Thousands)</th>
<th>FY 2019 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2020 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2021 President's Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations and Support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Status Verification</td>
<td>$1,211</td>
<td>$3,352</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration Examinations Fee Account</td>
<td>$13,621</td>
<td>$11,964</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Operations</td>
<td>$2,492</td>
<td>$2,189</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Center Operations</td>
<td>$3,713</td>
<td>$3,261</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asylum, Refugee and International Operations</td>
<td>$3,635</td>
<td>$3,193</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Applicant Services</td>
<td>$1,649</td>
<td>$1,448</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$1,916</td>
<td>$1,683</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)</td>
<td>$216</td>
<td>$190</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Working Capital Fund</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,832</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,316</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Reference/Citation</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>6/14/2019</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>None given</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2/14/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>6/28/2019</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3/15/2019</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Joint Resolution 31</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Reference/Citation</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1/19/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020</td>
<td>Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act and updated semimonthly thereafter, 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: 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. The report must also disaggregate the data with the following subsets: 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3/19/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158</td>
<td>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 1-130 (Petition for Alien Relative); form 1-485 (Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status); form 1-751 (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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2/18/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Reference/Citation</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2/18/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158</td>
<td>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 T or 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4/18/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1/21/2020</td>
<td>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 – Explanatory Statement Regarding House Resolution 1158</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4/18/2020</td>
<td>S-Rept 116-125</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3/19/2020</td>
<td>S. Rept. 116-125</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Reference/Citation</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4/18/2020</td>
<td>S. Rept. 116-125</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3/19/2020</td>
<td>H. Rept. 116-180</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4/18/2020</td>
<td>H. Rept. 116-180</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3/19/2020</td>
<td>H. Rept. 116-180</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Activity</td>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
<td>Authorized Level</td>
<td>Appropriation in Last Year of Authorization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operations and Support</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$631,745</td>
<td>$707,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Status Verification</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$631,745</td>
<td>$707,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Procurement, Construction, and Improvements</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$631,745</td>
<td>$707,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Status Verification-Verification-</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$631,745</td>
<td>$707,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernization Investment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Direct Authorization/Appropriation</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$631,745</td>
<td>$707,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee Accounts</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration Examinations Fee</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H-1B Non-immigrant Petitioner</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud Prevention and Detection</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
<td>Such sums as are available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Provision</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>...[$122,395,000] $118,676,000</td>
<td>Dollar change only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Provision</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>