

H-1B ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION PROCESS



February 24, 2022

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Today's presentation will cover





- USCIS Online Account Creation
- Important Reminders
- New Features
- Key Dates and Information to Remember
- Questions and Answers

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Today we will provide an informational overview of the H-1B electronic registration process in the USCIS online account.

- We will review how to create a USCIS Online Account;
- Share important reminders about the H-1B registration process;
- Talk about new features we have made available for the FY2023 Cap Season;
- Review key dates and information for this year's registration period and notification process; and
- Answer your questions.

This is the third year we've had H-1B online registrations. This is the only engagement we're hosting on this topic this year, and we will review topics we covered in previous years fairly quickly. If you are new to this, don't worry. Our slides cover a lot of information about the registration process and we will post this PowerPoint to our Electronic Reading Room shortly after the engagement so you can review topics like account creation and account recovery in more detail.

The benefits of the USCIS online account include:

- Knowing that you filled out all the required parts of the registration;
- Receiving an online confirmation when USCIS receives your registration;
- Having the convenience of checking your registrations for duplicate entries, once submitted;
- Receiving automatic updates about your registration; and
- Paying fees conveniently and securely online.

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Registration Period Timelines

- Feb 22, 12 pm (Eastern): New H-1B registrant accounts can be created
- March 1, 12 pm (Eastern): H-1B registration period opens, registrations can be created/submitted
- March 18, 12 pm (Eastern): H-1B registration period closes, no more registrations can be submitted
- March 31: USCIS intends to issue selection notifications through USCIS online account by this date.
- April 1: Earliest date that FY23 H-1B cap-subject petitions can be submitted

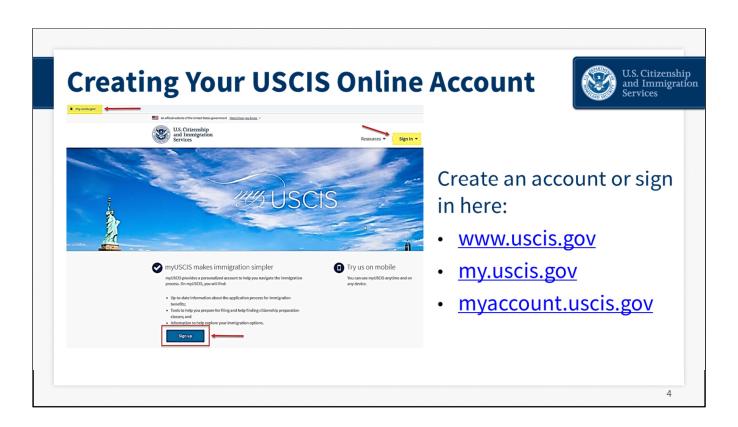


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Once again, the registration period is open from March 1 at noon until March 18 at noon.

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**Image obtained from bing.com images, using the filter "Free to modify, share, and use commercially"



You begin the registration process by signing in to your USCIS online account if you already have one, or creating a new account if you don't have one. This slide shows where you can sign in or create an account.

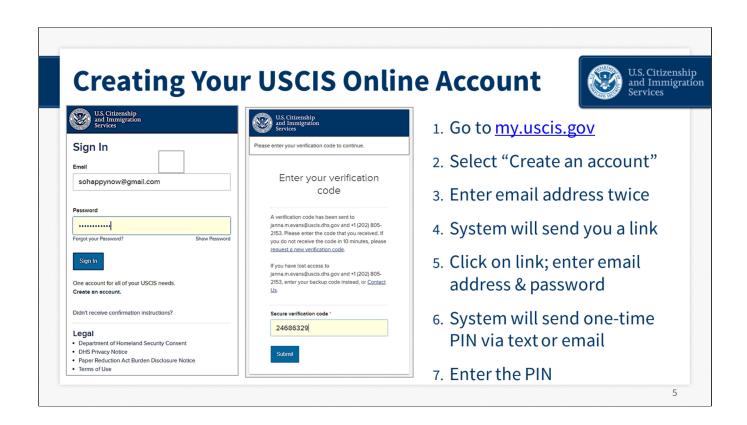
Submitting an H-1B registration requires one of two types of USCIS online accounts: a registrant account or a representative account. The appropriate type depends on the submitter's role:

- Representatives and attorneys use the representative account....and they may use their existing account if they have one.
- Prospective petitioners, U.S. employers and agents, what we refer to as "registrants"— will use a registrant account.
- If you don't already have a registrant account, you can begin creating one on February 22 at noon ET, ahead of the registration period.

There is a \$10 fee to register each H-1B beneficiary for the selection process. USCIS does not charge a fee to sign up for or use the online account.

For the purposes of this presentation, I'll sign up as a new user.

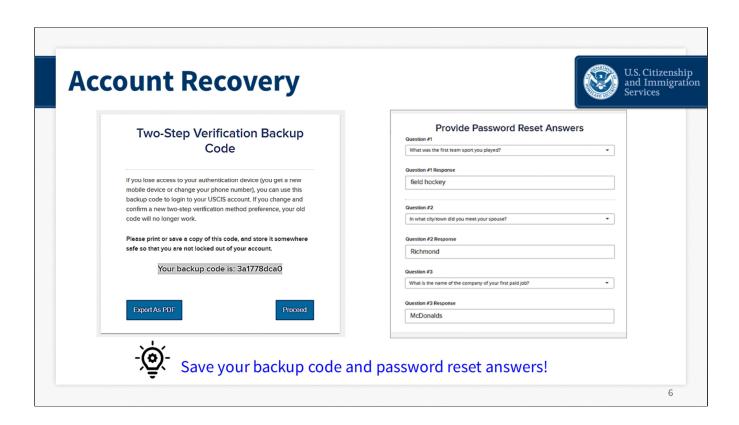
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This slide reviews how to create an account. We're not going to spend much time on this. If you have banked or shopped online, you are probably already familiar with the steps. We also require two-factor authentication every time you go in to your account. Again, this is pretty standard to protect privacy.

One thing to remember: every account must have a unique e-mail address. You cannot share your account with other people.

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When you create your account, you may not really notice these sections, but they are important. When you create your online account, you will be given a backup code. SAVE IT! We suggest you take a picture with your phone or grab a screen shot of it and save it to a folder where you keep all your important account information.

Also, when you first create your account, you will be asked five password reset questions and answers. You should save these too. You will need them if you ever need to reset your password.

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You must choose the correct type of account for H-1B Electronic Registrations. The appropriate type depends on the submitter's role. There are only two applicable options.

DO NOT choose the applicant, petitioner, or requestor account. You cannot use this type of account to submit an H-1B electronic registration.

1. The first type of account that can be used for H-1B electronic registration is the legal representative account, shown here. Attorneys and accredited representatives **who are working on behalf of the prospective petitioning company** will select. "I am a legal representative." In other words, if the prospective petitioning company is the client, the legal representative would choose the representative account.

If you already have a representative account that you used to submit registrations or other immigration benefits before, you do NOT NEED to create a new representative account. You can use the same account.

2. The second type of account that can be used to submit H-1B electronic registrations is a registrant account, shown here on the bottom. The H-1B registrant account is used by employees or designees of the petitioning company.

Registrant means "the prospective petitioning individual, company, entity, or organization

submitting a registration into the selection process, for a beneficiary who is a prospective H-1B nonimmigrant worker."

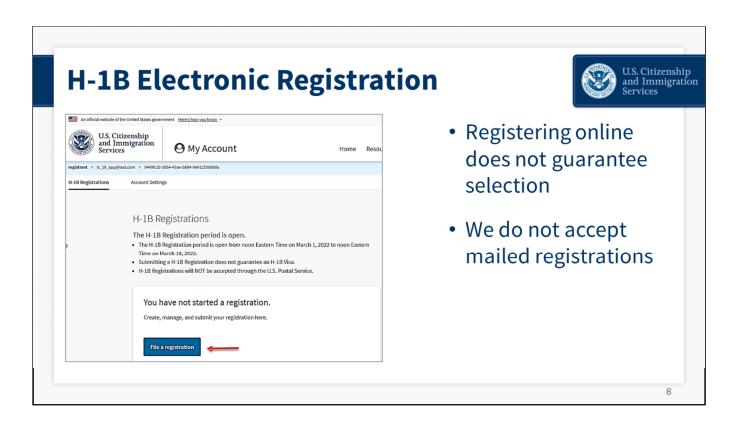
- Prospective petitioners, submitting registrations on their own, will need to create an "H-1B registrant" account, and
- Prospective petitioners who are working with a legal representative, will also need to create an "H-1B registrant" account, to be able to sign the G-28 and review and approve the registrations entered by the attorney or accredited representative. Registrations created by an attorney or accredited representative will remain "in progress" and will not be submitted to USCIS until the Registrant (who is the "prospective petitioner") reviews and approves them in their own online account, and then the Legal Representative pays and submits the registrations.

If you already have a Legal Representative or H-1B Registrant account, you can sign into that account when the H-1B registration period is open, from noon Eastern March 1 to noon Eastern March 18, to submit H-1B registrations. You do not need to create a new account for this process.

Please note: you can use an existing account to submit registrations this year, but you cannot re-use beneficiary information from prior cap season registrations. You will need to submit new information for each beneficiary this FY 2023 cap season, even if they were listed in a previous cap season.

For our purposes today, we will choose the H-1B registrant account. This account is only open and visible during cap season each spring. As previously stated, the enrollment period for this year is March 1 @ noon until March 18 @ noon. Again, if you don't already have an existing account, you can begin creating an account starting this past Tuesday, Feb. 22, ahead of the March 1 registration.

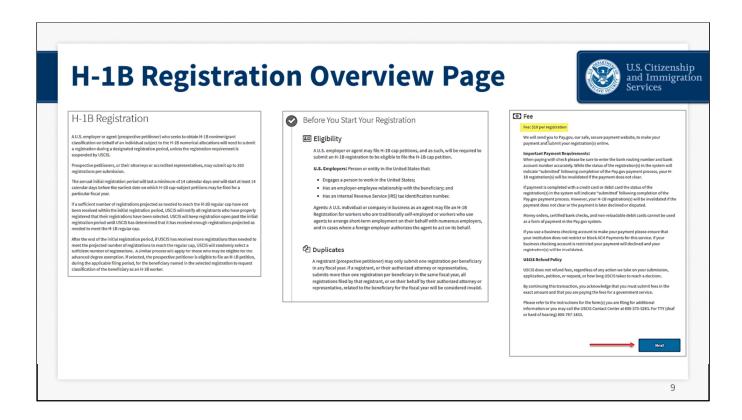
NEXT SLIDE



Here is where you'll begin the process for preparing and submitting a registration.

Some things to note: Submitting an H-1B Registration does not guarantee an H-1B Visa, and H-1B Registrations will NOT be accepted in paper format.

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The information you see here is the H-1B Registration Overview page. Please take the time to read it carefully before continuing. This page includes important information about U.S. employers or agents (a/k/a prospective petitioners) who wish to obtain H-1B nonimmigrant classification on behalf of an individual subject to the H-1B numerical allocations.

It also provides information about eligibility, duplicate entries – which we'll talk about a few slides from now –the \$10 per registration fee, as well as our refund policy.

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USCIS Online Account





Completing Your Registration Online

🖺 We will automatically save your responses

We will automatically save your information when you select "next" to go to a new page or navigate to another section of the registration system. We will save your draft information until the initial registration period closes.

- Your entries are saved automatically
- Sign out when you want to, and you can resume where you left off.
- You must SUBMIT before noon (ET) on March 18, 2022

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One of the great benefits of using the USCIS online account is that the system automatically saves your responses. Your work is saved each time you click "next." Also, you do not have to complete everything in one sitting. You can sign out, and sign back in to resume working. Just remember that you MUST SUBMIT your registrations before noon on March 18, 2022.

Also, a little reminder...there's an idle time built into the form. If you're inactive for 15 minutes, the system will log you out and you'll have to log in again.

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This section asks for information about the registrant (also called the prospective petitioning company or organization? About Beneficiary Review and Submit What is the Doing Business As name of the prospective petitioning company or organization? What is the Doing Business As name of the prospective petitioning company or organization? Doing Business As (DBA) name is the operating name of a company, as opposed to the legal name of the company. The prospective petitioning company or organization does not have a Doing Business As name. ABCD Company, Inc.	Inform	nation About F	Registrant	U.S. Citizensl and Immigra Services
	Employer/agent Authorized signatory About Beneficiary Review and Submit What is the Doin prospective peti Doing Business As (DBA) opposed to the legal nar The prospective pe a Doing Business As	petitioning company or organization? If filing as an individual prospective petitioner, provide the individual's legal name. If g Business As name of the tioning company or organization? name is the operating name of a company, as me of the company. Ititioning company or organization does not have so name.	 about the registrant (also of the prospective petitioner) Legal name "Doing Business As" name Employer Identification N 	called): ne Number

The next four questions ask for the legal name of your company, what is the "doing business as" name, if any, your employer identification number - or SSN or IRS tax number if you're an individual prospective petitioner, and your primary U.S. office address. You will also need to provide an authorized signatory name, title and contact information.

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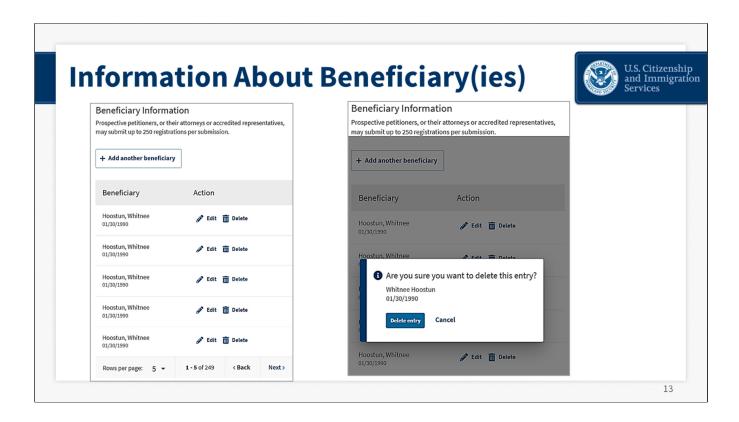
In form of the Albert Design	U.S. Citizens
Information About Ben	eticiary(les) and Immigration Services
Beneficiary Information	Beneficiary Information
Prospective petitioners, or their attorneys or accredited representatives, may submit up to 250 registrations per submission.	Prospective petitioners, or their attorneys or accredited representatives, may submit up to 250 registrations per submission.
+ Add beneficiary	What is the beneficiary's legal name?
	Given name (first name)
	Beneficiary does not have a first name.
	John
	Middle name
Back Next	Beneficiary does not have a middle name.
	Family name (last name) Beneficiary does not have a last name.
	beneficially does not have a last fiame.
	Smith
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Next, you will come to the section where you'll add your beneficiaries.

For each beneficiary, you will need to provide their full name, gender, date of birth, country of birth and citizenship, and passport number if they have one.

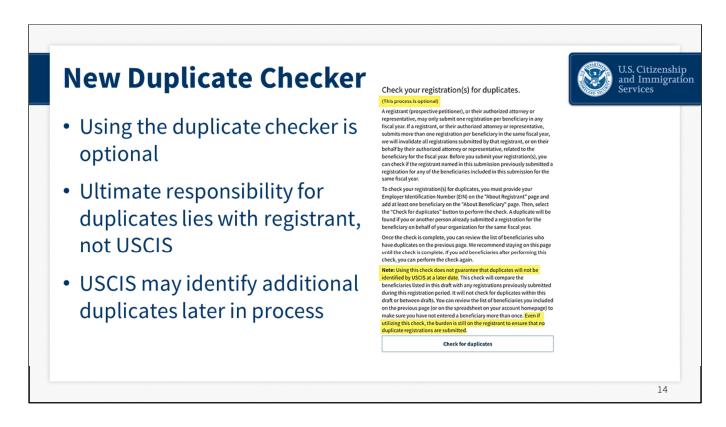
You can add up to 250 registrations at one time. If you have more than 250 registrations, you'll need to submit this batch, make your payment, and start another one.

NEXT SLIDE



As you continue to add your prospective beneficiaries, you have the option of expanding your view of draft entries. You can also edit or delete an entry. If you want to delete an entry, you simply choose "delete" and the system will show you a pop-up alert asking you to confirm. Once again, you can add up to 250 registrations per submission. When you reach 250, you'll make your payment and then you must create a new submission to add more registrations.

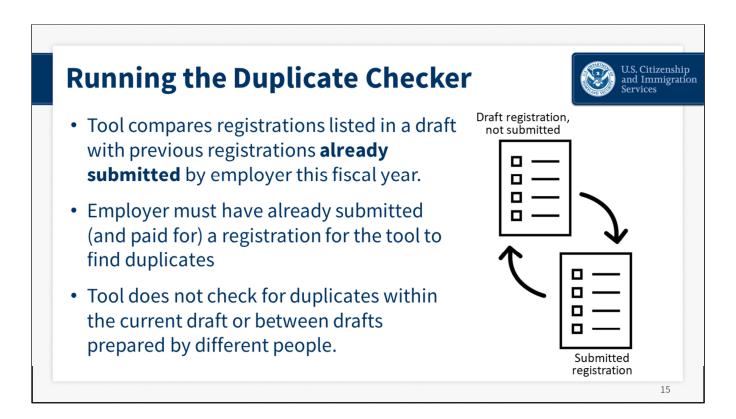
NEXT SLIDE



New for FY 2023, we've added a duplicate checker functionality. This is another tool you can use to see if you submitted more than one registration for the same person. This tool compares the beneficiaries listed in a draft with any registrations previously submitted by or on behalf of your company during **this registration period**. It will not check for duplicates within that draft or between drafts.

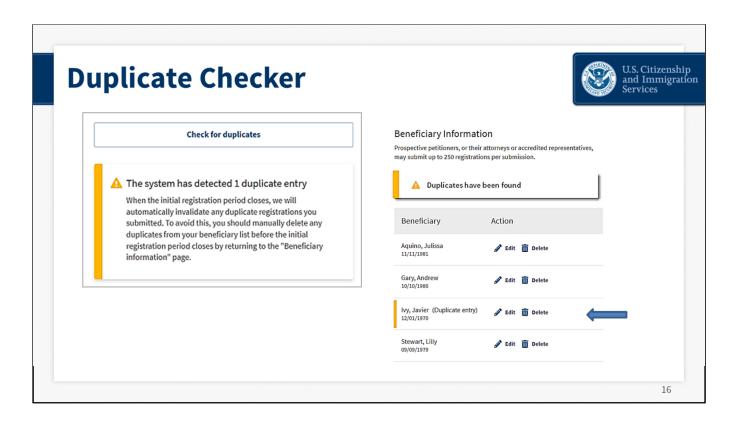
Keep in mind that this duplicate checker is another resource we have made available to you. Ultimate responsibility for duplicate registrations lies with the registrant, not USCIS. To that end, we strongly recommend you download a .csv file to search for duplicate entries, in addition to using the duplicate checker. Lastly, if more than one person is preparing registrations for your company, such as an attorney or human resources professional, they should coordinate closely to eliminate duplicates before submitting their registrations.

NEXT SLIDE



When you have entered all your prospective beneficiaries and are ready to run the duplicate checker, please read the information carefully. The system only checks your current draft registrations against *submitted* registrations for duplicate entries. The system will not check against other registrations in *draft* status. Submitted registrations are those that have already been submitted to the H-1B registration process and paid for.

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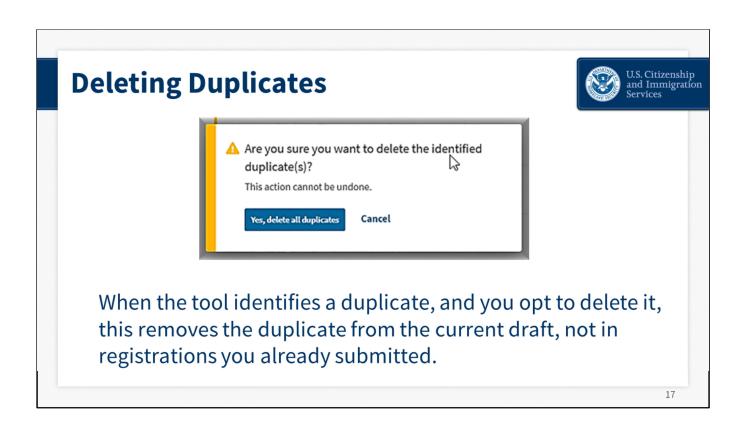


When you use the duplicate checker, you may see a yellow alert like the one here on the left.

The image on the right shows which entry is a duplicate by marking it with a yellow alert.

You must manually delete any duplicate entries before the registration period ends on March 18 at noon. If duplicate entries are not removed, all entries for that prospective beneficiary, submitted by that prospective petitioner, will be invalidated.

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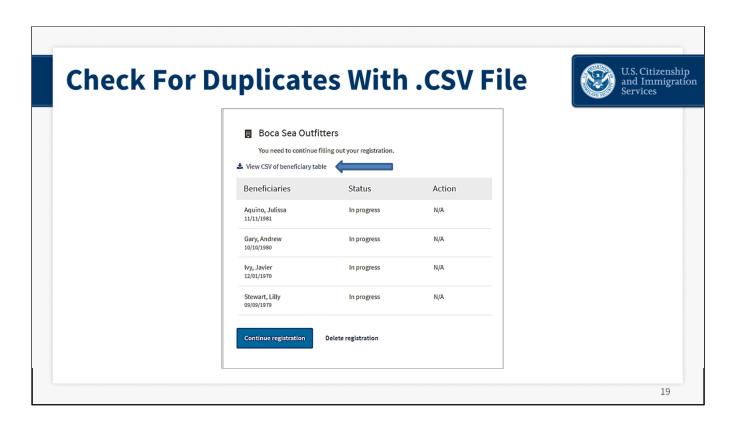
Once you select an entry to be deleted, the system will ask you to confirm that you want to delete all identified duplicates in this draft. Note that this will only delete the duplicate entries in the current draft, it will not delete any registrations that have already been submitted.

NEXT SLIDE

	.S. Citizenship nd Immigration ervices
Check for duplicates	
➢ No duplicates were found.	
 If no duplicates are found, you will see this green alert 	
 We encourage you to review all registrations carefully, every time, before and after you submit 	
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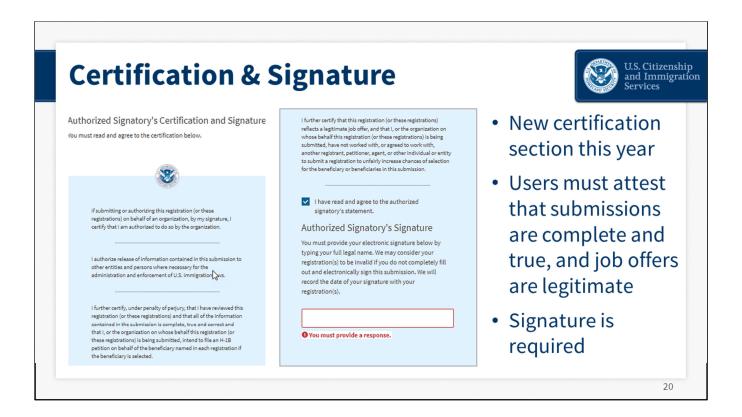
If there are no duplicates identified, you will see a green alert message like the one on the left and you would simply click "next." At this point, you are instructed to check your registrations before you submit.

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As in previous years, you can review your registrations in the .csv file. You can download your draft into a .csv file and review everything from that document. As an Excel document, you can sort your data a variety of ways to ensure all details are correct and that you don't have duplicates.

The .csv file will contain data for the current fiscal year and includes the registrant's submitted registrations and draft registrations.



H-1B Attestation

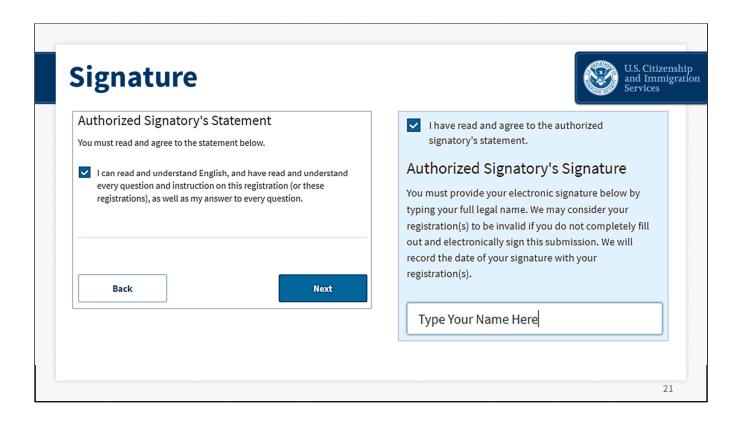
When you submit your registration(s), you must attest, under penalty of perjury, that all of the information contained in the submission is complete, true, and correct. For FY 2023, the attestation that is required before submission will indicate, "I further certify that this registration (or these registrations) reflects a legitimate job offer and that I, or the organization on whose behalf this registration (or these registrations) is being submitted, have not worked with, or agreed to work with, another registrant, petitioner, agent, or other individual or entity to submit a registration to unfairly increase chances of selection for the beneficiary or beneficiaries in this submission."

If USCIS finds that this attestation was not true and correct – for example, that a company worked with another entity to submit multiple registrations for the same beneficiary in order to unfairly increase chances of selection for that beneficiary, USCIS will find that registration to not be properly submitted. USCIS also may refer the matter to appropriate federal law enforcement agencies for investigation and further action as appropriate.

Since the registration was not properly submitted, the prospective petitioner would not be eligible to file a petition based on that registration, in accordance with the regulatory language at 8 CFR 214.2(h)(8)(iii)(A)(1).

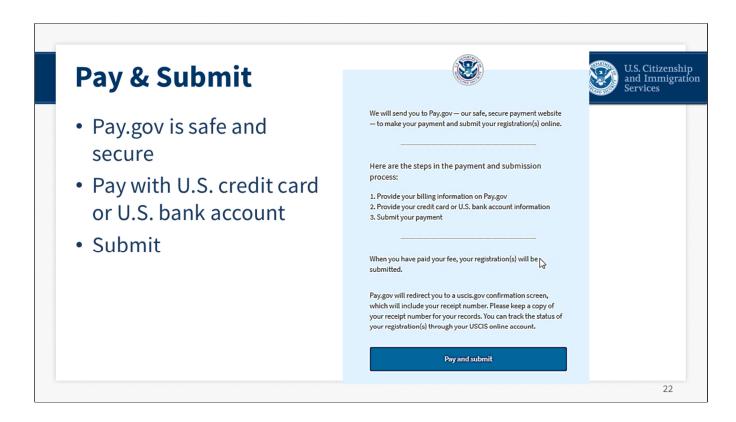
The attestation was updated to enhance the integrity of the H-1B electronic registration system and combat possible fraud and abuse.

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The system will show you a summary of the information you included about your company and all your prospective beneficiaries. You can choose to view a draft snapshot in .pdf format to save to your electronic files and/or you can print it for your records. Then you will sign your form using the Authorized Signatory Statement you see here. In order to sign, you simply need to type your name in the box provided.

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During the payment step of the H-1B registration process, you will be routed to a different website called **pay.gov**, where you will pay the H-1B registration fee.

The required fee for each registration is \$10. Each registration is for a single beneficiary, however, up to 250 registrations may be submitted in the same batch submission.

Pay.gov is a government website separate from the USCIS website.

- In order to pay for the fee for your registrations, through the Pay.gov site, you must use a U.S. bank account or credit card.
- If your payment is rejected due to insufficient funds or you enter the bank account or the credit or debit card number incorrectly, the system will return you to the payment page to correct the error, or to provide an account with sufficient funds.
- If your payment fails, your registration(s) will be invalid and your status will change from "submitted" to "invalidated failed payment." You will also receive a failed payment notice.
- If pay.gov experiences issues and is not able to accept your payment, you will see an error message. If this happens, you will need to log back into your USCIS online account and go through these steps to pay at a different time. The online account system will save your registration(s) until you are able to process the payment.
- Please remember: to be considered for the initial registration period and associated

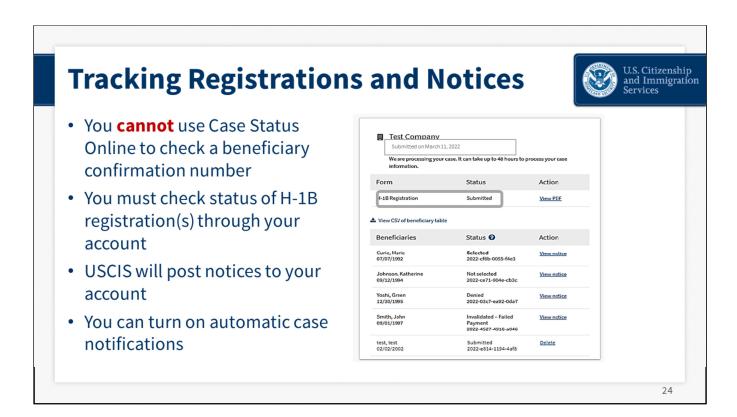
selection process, payments and the H-1B registration(s) must be properly submitted before the end of the initial registration period on noon March 18.

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Successful Submission You have successfully submitted your H-1B registration(s). You have successfully submitted your H-1B registration(s). We will notify you when the selection process has ended. You can track the status of your registration(s) through your USCIS account. Each beneficiary has been assigned a confirmation number. This number is only associated with the submitted registration and cannot be used to track case status using Case Status Online. Go to account home

After making payment and submitting your registration successfully, you will see this message. At this point, you can go back to your account to retrieve your records or review your information.

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Here's an example of what you will see inside your account. This screen lists all your prospective beneficiaries, the current status of each, and action, including notices that will appear once we've issued them.

- You will receive an online confirmation once we receive your registration. Each beneficiary
 will be assigned a confirmation number. This is the unique identifier assigned to each
 registration for each beneficiary in a submission. This number is only associated with the
 H-1B registration and cannot be used to track case status using Case Status Online.
- You can visit the dashboard of your online account homepage, to check the status of registrations.
- You will be able to view the registration you submitted for each prospective beneficiary, the status of your submitted registrations and the action taken. We will also post notices when there is activity on your H-1B registrations which you can see in your account. This will include a hyperlink to see each notice regarding the action we've taken on each beneficiary. You can save the notice electronically and/or print each notice.
- In your account profile, you can sign up to receive automatic notification via email or text message, so you will know when we've added a notice to your account.

Once again: you will be able to log into your USCIS account to see the status updates. "Submitted" registrations will remain in the system, and available for possible selection, until USCIS has determined that it has received sufficient petitions to meet the H-1B regular cap and advanced degree exemption. So, the "**Not Selected**" notification will not show for any registration until later.

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Duplicates After Submission



If you find duplicates after submission...

And initial registration period is still open (before noon on March 18)

 You can go into your account and delete extra submissions until there is only one registration per beneficiary. We do not refund the \$10 fee you paid.

And initial registration period has closed (after noon on March 18)

 There is no way to correct this error. We will remove all registrations for that particular beneficiary submitted by that prospective petitioner.
 We do not refund the \$10 fee you paid.

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If you discover you or your representative submitted more than one registration for the same person and the initial registration period is still open (before noon Eastern on March 18, 2022), you can go into your account and delete the extra submission(s) until there is only one registration for the beneficiary. We do not refund the \$10 fee if you delete a duplicate registration after submission.

If you discover that you or your representative submitted more than one registration for the same person and the initial registration period has closed (after noon Eastern on March 18, 2022), there is no way to correct this error. We will remove all registrations submitted for the beneficiary by, or on behalf of, that prospective petitioner from the selection process. We do not refund the \$10 fee for a removed registration.

Remember, if you submit more than one registration per beneficiary in the same fiscal year, all registrations submitted by your company or entity **for this particular beneficiary** will be considered invalid and removed from the selection process.

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Registration Period Timelines

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- March 1, 12 pm (Eastern): H-1B registration period opens, registrations can be created/submitted
- March 18, 12 pm (Eastern): H-1B registration period closes, no more registrations can be submitted
- March 31: USCIS intends to issue selection notifications through USCIS online account by this date.
- April 1: Earliest date that FY23 H-1B cap-subject petitions can be submitted



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Once again, the registration period is open from March 1 at noon until March 18 at noon.

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Helpful Links and Resources



- Account sign up/login page: <u>my.uscis.gov</u> or <u>www.uscis.gov</u>
- Help with account creation: <u>uscis.gov/file-online</u>
- Technical support, including:
 - Password resets
 - Account lockouts
 - Update your verification code delivery method <u>my.uscis.gov/account/needhelp</u>
- H-1B Electronic Registration Process Webpage: <u>uscis.gov/h-1b</u>

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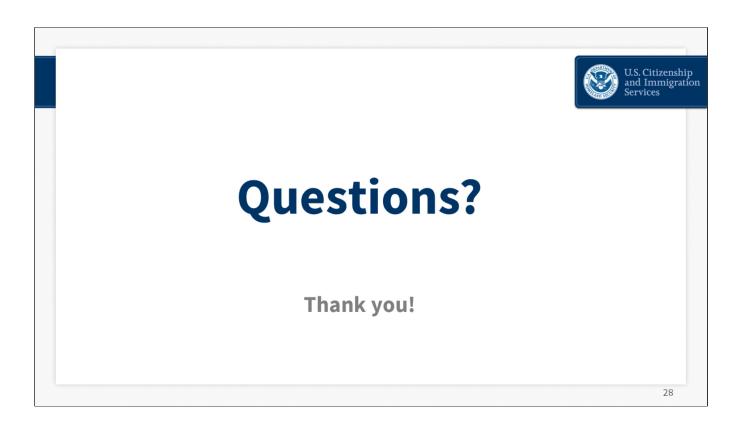
Here are some helpful resources and links.

You can log into your myUSCIS account at any time to view status updates.

For technical support and password resets visit the USCIS online account help page.

For more information on the H-1B electronic registration process and implementation, you can visit the H-1B webpage on uscis.gov.

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We are very excited about our online services. We're striving to improve these tools and resources every day and your feedback is an invaluable part of that process. We encourage you to please send feedback to us at public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov.

END

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