



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

# Press Release

June 21, 2006

## **USCIS ISSUES FINAL RULE REGARDING AFFIDAVITS OF SUPPORT**

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) published today in the Federal Register (71 FR 35732) a final rule regarding Affidavits of Support (Form I-864). Affidavits of Support are submitted by sponsors on behalf of most family-based and some employment-based immigrants. The final rule makes the [Affidavit of Support process](#) less burdensome for sponsors while continuing to ensure that each intending immigrant has a sponsor who has sufficient income and/or assets to support the sponsored immigrant(s). The Affidavit of Support also allows a sponsored intending immigrant to establish that he or she is not likely to become a public charge (e.g., receive certain federal or state means-tested benefits).

The final rule is effective July 21, 2006. It will apply to any application for an immigrant visa or adjustment of status that is decided on or after July 21, 2006 even if the case was filed before July 21, 2006.

More information about the final rule, including a [Fact Sheet](#) and a [Questions and Answer](#) document, is available on the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). The final rule as published in the Federal Register is available at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/06-5522.htm> (71 FR 35732).

– USCIS –

On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services became one of three legacy INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.