



# Instructions for Declaration for Interpreted USCIS Interview

Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS  
Form G-1256  
Internal Use

## What Is The Purpose Form G-1256?

Form G-1256 documents that the interviewee has provided an interpreter for his or her interview with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and that the interviewee is satisfied with the interpreter's ability to provide verbatim consecutive interpretation from English to a language that the interviewee speaks and understands, and from the same language to English. Form G-1256 notifies the interviewee that an interpreter may learn confidential information shared between him or her and the interviewing officer. Form G-1256 also documents that the interpreter understands the requirements for his or her role as an interpreter. Form G-1256 reminds all parties that the interpreter must accurately, literally, and fully interpret for both the interviewee and the USCIS interviewer, and that USCIS has discretion to deny permission for the interpreter to participate for the entire interview or certain portions of the interview.

## Who Must Complete Form G-1256?

If you intend to provide an interpreter to assist in your communication with USCIS because you are appearing for a scheduled domestic interview and are eligible to bring an interpreter to your interview with USCIS, please review this form and bring it with you to the interview.

## When Should I Complete Form G-1256?

Before the beginning of the interview, the interpreter must interpret the contents of Form G-1256 to the interviewee. Form G-1256 may be obtained online before the interview or from the USCIS Officer at the time of the interview.

At the beginning of the interview, the USCIS officer will confirm that the interviewee fully understands the contents of the document. The officer will complete the form and will ask the interviewee and interpreter to sign Form G-1256 in the officer's presence. The officer will place the completed Form G-1256 in the interviewee's file.

## General Instructions

The interpreter must be fluent in English and in a language understood by the interviewee; competent to interpret in accordance with guidance provided by the USCIS officer at the interview; and impartial and unbiased throughout the interview. The interviewing USCIS officer will make the determination as to whether the proposed interpreter meets these core qualifications and may decline to permit the individual to interpret if at any time the officer, in his or her discretion, determines that the interpreter is not meeting these criteria. The interpreter also must be at least 18 years of age and cannot be a witness in the interviewee's case. If the interviewee demonstrates good cause for a discretionary exception, USCIS may allow individuals 14 through 17 years of age and persons who are witnesses in the case to be interpreters. Attorneys and accredited representatives cannot serve simultaneously as interpreters for their clients during the interview.

If USCIS declines to permit your proposed interpreter to interpret for you at the interview, you will be offered an opportunity to proceed with the interview with another acceptable interpreter, reschedule the interview in order for you to obtain an acceptable interpreter, or to proceed voluntarily with the interview without an interpreter.

## USCIS Privacy Act Statement

**AUTHORITIES:** The information requested on this form, and the associated evidence, is collected under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), section 103(a)(3).

**PURPOSE:** The primary purpose for providing the requested information on this form is to provide your consent and understanding that any personal information that you disclose during an interview to seek an immigration benefit will be heard by an interpreter. This form provides you with notice that the interpreter may learn your personal information or other information related to your benefit request. Additionally, this form advises the interpreter of his/her obligation to interpret accurately, literally, and fully the content of the interview, to act in good faith, and to maintain the confidentiality of your information that he or she may learn during the course of an interview.

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**DISCLOSURE:** The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information on this form, and any additional supporting information that may be requested, may delay a final decision or result in disqualification of your interpreter.

**ROUTINE USES:** The information you provide on this benefit application may be shared with other federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations in accordance with approved routine uses, as described in the associated published system of records notices [[DHS/USCIS/ICE/CBP-001 - Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records](#)], which can be found at [www.dhs.gov/privacy](http://www.dhs.gov/privacy). The information may also be made available, as appropriate for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.