

What Is the Purpose of Form I-134?

Section 212(a)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) bars the admission into the United States of any foreign national who, in the opinion of the U.S. Department of State officer adjudicating a visa application, a Department of Homeland Security officer, or an immigration judge adjudicating an application for admission, is likely at any time to become a public charge.

For foreign nationals seeking admission or adjustment as lawful permanent residents or as immediate relatives, as family-based immigrants, and as certain employment based immigrants, as specified in sections 212(a)(4)(C) and 213A of the INA and 8 CFR Part 213a, the petitioning relative must file Form I-864.

Form I-134 may be used in any case in which the foreign national is inadmissible on public charge grounds, but in which he or she is not required to have Form I-864 filed on his or her behalf. Section 213 of the INA (not section 213A) permits the admission of an foreign national who is inadmissible on public charge grounds, in the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security (or, for immigration judge cases, the discretion of the Attorney General) upon the posting of a bond or other undertaking (method). Form I-134 is the “undertaking” prescribed in section 213 of the INA.

Do not use Form I-134 if the foreign nationals who you are sponsoring are required to have Form I-864 filed on their behalf instead.

Execution of Affidavit

If you are sponsoring more than one foreign national, you must submit a separate Form I-134 for each foreign national. You, as the sponsor

Translations. If you submit a document with information in a foreign language, you must also submit a full English translation. The translator must sign a certification that the English language translation is complete and accurate, and that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English. The certification should also include the date, the translator's signature and printed name, and may contain the translator's contact information.

How To Fill Out Form I-134

1. Type or print legibly in black ink.
2. If you need extra space to complete any item within this affidavit, use the space provided in **Part 7. Additional Information** or attach a separate sheet of paper; type or print your name and Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any) at the top of each sheet; indicate the **Page Number, Part Number, and Item Number** to which your answer refers; and sign and date each sheet.
3. Answer all questions fully and accurately. If a question does not apply to you (for example, if you have never been married and the question asks "Provide the name of your current spouse"), type or print "N/A," unless otherwise directed. If your answer to a question which requires a numeric response is zero or none (for example, "How many children do you have" or "How many times have you departed the United States"), type or print "None," unless otherwise directed.
4. **USCIS Online Account Number** (if any). If you have previously filed an application, petition, or request using the USCIS online filing system (previously called USCIS Electronic Immigration System (USCIS ELIS)), provide the USCIS Online Account Number you were issued by the system. You can find your USCIS Online Account Number by logging in to your account and going to the profile page. If you previously filed certain applications, petitions, or requests on a paper form via a USCIS Lockbox facility, you may have received a USCIS Online Account Access Notice issuing you a USCIS Online Account Number. If you received such a notice, your USCIS Online Account Number can be found at the top of the notice. If you were issued a USCIS Online Account Number, enter it in the space provided. The USCIS Online Account Number is not the same as an A-Number.
5. **Part 4. Sponsor's Statement, Contact Information, Certification, and Signature.** Select the appropriate box to indicate whether you read this affidavit yourself or whether you had an interpreter assist you. If someone assisted you in completing the affidavit, select the box indicating that you used a preparer. Further, you must sign and date your affidavit and provide your daytime telephone number, mobile telephone number (if any), and email address (if any). Every affidavit **MUST** contain the signature of the sponsor (or parent or legal guardian, if applicable). A stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature is not acceptable.
6. **Part 5. Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature.** If you used anyone as an interpreter to read the instructions and questions on this affidavit to you in a language in which you are fluent, the interpreter must fill out this section, provide his or her name, the name and address of his or her business or organization (if any), his or her daytime telephone number, his or her mobile telephone number (if any), and his or her email address (if any). The interpreter must sign and date the affidavit.
7. **Part 6. Contact Information, Statement, Declaration, and Signature of the Person Preparing this Affidavit, if Other Than the Sponsor.** This section must contain the signature of the person who completed your affidavit, if other than you, the sponsor. If the same individual acted as your interpreter **and** your preparer, that person should complete both **Part 5.** and **Part 6.** If the person who completed this affidavit is associated with a business or organization, that person should complete the business or organization name and address information. Anyone who helped you complete this affidavit **MUST** sign and date the affidavit. A stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature is not acceptable. If the person who helped you prepare your affidavit is an attorney or accredited representative whose representation extends beyond preparation of this affidavit, he or she may be obliterated

Supporting Evidence

As the sponsor, you must show you have sufficient income or financial resources to assure that the foreign national you are sponsoring will not become a public charge while in the United States.

Evidence should consist of copies of any of the documents listed below that apply to your situation.

Failure to provide evidence of sufficient income or financial resources may result in the denial of the foreign national's application for a visa or his or her removal from the United States.

Submit in duplicate evidence of income and resources, as appropriate:

- A. Statement from an officer of the bank or other financial institutions with deposits, identifying the following details regarding the account:
 - (1) Date account opened;
 - (2) Total amount deposited for the past year; and
 - (3) Present balance.
- B. Statement(s) from your employer on business stationery showing:
 - (1) Date and nature of employment;
 - (2) Salary paid; and
 - (3) Whether the position is temporary or permanent.
- C. If self-employed:
 - (1) Copy of last income tax return filed; or
 - (2) Report of commercial rating concern.
- D. List containing serial numbers and denominations of bonds and name of record owner(s).

Sponsor and Beneficiary Liability

Under section 213 of the Act, if the person you are sponsoring becomes a public charge, the agency that provides assistance may be able to sue you to recover the cost of the assistance.

In addition to that provision, your income and assets may be combined with the income and assets of the person you are sponsoring in determining whether that person is eligible for Food Stamps, 7 U.S.C. 2014(i)(1), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), 42 U.S.C. 1382j, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), 42 U.S.C. 608.

Documentation of Income and Resources

A foreign national applying for SSI must make available to the Social Security Administration documentation concerning his or her income and resources and those of the sponsor, including information that was provided in the corresponding application.

A foreign national applying for TANF or Food Stamps must make similar information available to the State public assistance agency.

The U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture are authorized to obtain copies of any such documentation submitted to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, (USCIS) or the U.S. Department of State and to release such documentation to a State public assistance agency.

Joint and Several Liability Issues

Sections 1621(e) of the Social Security Act and subsection 5(i) of the Food Stamp Act also provide that a foreign national and his or her sponsor shall be “jointly and severally liable” to repay any SSI, TANF, or Food Stamp benefits that are incorrectly paid because of misinformation provided by a sponsor or because of a sponsor’s failure to provide information, except where the sponsor was without fault or where good cause existed. “Jointly and severally liable” means the foreign national and sponsors are each liable up to the full amount of any repayment due.

Incorrect payments that are not repaid will be withheld from any subsequent payments for which you or your sponsor are otherwise eligible under the Social Security Act or Food Stamp Act.

These provisions do not apply to SSI, TANF, or Food Stamp eligibility of foreign nationals admitted as refugees, granted asylum or Cuban/Haitian entrants as defined in section 501(e) of P.L. 96-422, and to dependent children of the sponsor or sponsor’s spouse.

Where To File?

Please see our Web site at www.uscis.gov/I-134 or call our National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** for the most current information about where to file this affidavit. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call: **1-800-767-1833**.

What Evidence Must You Submit?

You must submit all evidence requested in these Instructions with your affidavit. If you fail to submit required evidence, USCIS may reject or deny your affidavit, for failure to submit requested evidence or supporting documents in accordance with 8 CFR 103.2(b)(1) and these Instructions.

What Is the Filing Fee?

There is no filing fee for Form I-134.

Address Change

A sponsor who is not a U.S. citizen must notify USCIS of his or her new address within 10 days of moving from his or her previous residence. For information on filing a change of address, go to the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov/addresschange or contact the USCIS National Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283**. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) call: **1-800-767-1833**.

NOTE: Do not submit a change of address request to the USCIS Lockbox facilities because the Lockbox does not process change of address requests.

Processing Information

Initial Processing. Once USCIS accepts your affidavit we will check it for completeness. If you do not completely fill out this affidavit, you will not establish a basis of support for the beneficiary and USCIS or the Department of State may reject or deny your affidavit.

Requests for More Information. We may request that you provide more information or evidence to support your affidavit. We may also request that you provide the originals of any copies you submit. USCIS will return any requested originals when they are no longer needed.

Requests for Interview. We may request that you appear at a USCIS office for an interview based on your affidavit. At the time of any interview or other appearance at a USCIS office, we may require that you provide your fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature to verify your identity and/or update background and security checks.

Decision. The decision on Form I-134 involves a determination of whether you have established a basis of support for the beneficiary seeking an immigration benefit. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing.

USCIS Forms and Information

To ensure you are using the latest version of this affidavit, visit the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov where you can obtain the latest USCIS forms and immigration-related information. If you do not have internet access, you may order

Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 90 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the affidavit, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the affidavit. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, 5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop #2140, Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009; OMB No. 1615-0014. **Do not mail your completed Form I-134 to this address.**