

following information collection to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The submission describes the nature of the information collection, the categories of respondents, the estimated burden (i.e., the time, effort and resources used by respondents to respond) and cost, and includes the actual data collection instruments DHS will use.

Title: Citizens Corps Affiliated Programs and Organizations Applications.

OMB Number: 1660-0066.

Abstract: This information collection will enable Citizens Corps to operate effective and efficiently to regularize and coordinate activities between Citizens Corps and those groups active in its mission areas.

Affected Public: Not-for-Profit Institutions.

Number of Respondents: 8 per year.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 4 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 32 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Comments: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management Budget, Attention: Nathan Lesser, Desk Officer, Department of Homeland Security/ Citizens Corps and sent via electronic mail to oir_submission@eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395-6974. Comments must be submitted on or before October 23, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be made to Chief, Records Management, DHS, Office of Community Preparedness, Karen Marsh, 810 7th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20531, Karen.Marsh@dhs.gov, phone number (202) 577-9820 and fax number (202) 786-9619.

Dated: September 18, 2006.

Charlie Church,

Chief Information Officer, Information and Technology Division, Preparedness Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 06-7911 Filed 9-20-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

General Program Test Extended: Quota Preprocessing

AGENCY: Customs and Border Protection; Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: With this notice, the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announces that the duration of the quota preprocessing program test, which provides for the electronic processing of certain quota-class apparel merchandise prior to arrival of the importing carrier, is extended until December 31, 2008. The quota preprocessing program test is currently being conducted at all CBP ports and was set to expire on December 31, 2006. The duration of the test is being extended so that CBP can continue to evaluate the program's effectiveness. Public comments concerning any aspect of the program test as well as applications to participate in the test are requested.

DATES: The program test is extended to run until December 31, 2008.

Applications to participate in the test and comments concerning the test will continue to be accepted throughout the testing period.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding this notice or any aspect of the program test should be addressed to Christine Kegley, Quota Enforcement and Administration, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 5.3-D, Washington, DC 20229, or may be sent via e-mail to HQ.Quota@dhs.gov. An application to participate in the program test must be sent to the CBP port(s) (Attention: Program Coordinator for Quota Preprocessing) where the applicant intends to submit quota entries for preprocessing. Information on CBP port addresses may be obtained from the CBP Web site at <http://www.cbp.gov> (Office Locations).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christine Kegley, Quota Enforcement and Administration, 202-344-2319.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On July 24, 1998, the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) published a general notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 39929) announcing the limited testing of a new operational procedure regarding the electronic processing of quota-class apparel merchandise. The test,

authorized under § 101.9(a), CBP Regulations (19 CFR 101.9(a)), was commenced on September 15, 1998, at two ports. Quota preprocessing permits certain quota entries (merchandise classifiable in chapter 61 or 62 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)) to be filed, reviewed for admissibility, and to have their quota priority and status determined by CBP prior to arrival of the carrier, similar to the method of preliminary review by which non-quota entries are currently processed. The purpose of quota preprocessing is to reduce CBP processing time for qualified quota entries and to expedite the release of the subject merchandise to the importer. To this end, participants in the quota preprocessing test have been allowed to submit quota entries to CBP up to 5 days prior to vessel arrival or after the wheels are up on air shipments. The July 24, 1998, **Federal Register** notice described the new procedure, specified the eligibility and application requirements for participation in the program test, and noted the acts of misconduct for which a participant in the test could be suspended and disqualified from continued participation in the program. The test was scheduled to continue for a six-month period that expired on March 14, 1999.

On March 25, 1999, January 6, 2000, and November 30, 2000, CBP published general notices in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 14499, 65 FR 806, and 65 FR 71356, respectively) that extended the program test through December 31, 2002. These extensions of the test procedure were undertaken so that CBP could further evaluate the effectiveness of the program and determine whether the program test should be expanded to other ports. By a notice published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 66018) on December 21, 2001, the test was expanded to a selected number of additional ports in order to enable CBP to continue to study the program's effectiveness and determine whether the program should be established nationwide on a permanent basis.

The expansion of the test to the additional 15 ports was determined by the volume of quota lines of apparel merchandise entered at these ports. By a notice published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 57271) on September 9, 2002, CBP expanded the test to all CBP ports effective as of October 9, 2002, and extended the duration of the program test until December 31, 2004. CBP further extended the duration of the test until December 31, 2006, by a notice published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 1732) on January 10, 2005.

The duration of the test is now being further extended so that CBP can continue to evaluate the program's effectiveness. Prospective applicants may consult the July 24, 1998 and December 21, 2001, **Federal Register** notices for a more detailed discussion of the quota preprocessing program and the September 9, 2002, **Federal Register** notice for eligibility criteria. All requirements and aspects of the quota preprocessing test, as set forth in these notices, continue to apply.

Dated: September 18, 2006.

Jayson P. Ahern,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.

[FR Doc. 06-7882 Filed 9-20-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[USCIS No. 2391-06; DHS Docket No. USCIS-2006-0026]

RIN 1615-ZA37

Expanding Pilot Program Affecting the Filing Procedures for Certain Form I-485 Applicants Residing Within the Jurisdiction of the Dallas, El Paso, or Oklahoma City Offices

AGENCY: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice expands a pilot program being conducted by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services that changes the procedures for certain aliens filing Form I-485, "Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status," based on a family relationship, the diversity visa lottery, or qualification for most special immigrant categories. Under the expanded pilot program, affected aliens residing within the jurisdiction of the Dallas District Office, El Paso District Office, or Oklahoma City Sub-Office will be required to file Form I-485 and any necessary documentation and fees in person at the appropriate local office, rather than by mail, after self-scheduling an appointment using Internet-based InfoPass. This pilot program tests an alternative to current filing and processing procedures with the goal of achieving a 90-day processing time for affected Forms I-485.

DATES: As applied to the Dallas District Office, this Notice is effective October 23, 2006 and will terminate on September 21, 2007. As applied to the

El Paso District Office and Oklahoma City Sub-Office, this Notice is effective November 20, 2006 and will terminate on September 21, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristie Krebs, Adjudications Officer, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20526, Telephone (202) 272-1001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

A. General Filing Requirements

To apply for lawful permanent resident (LPR) status, aliens residing within the United States must file Form I-485, "Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status," along with any required documentation establishing eligibility, at a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Service Center or USCIS' Chicago Lockbox Facility. Currently, applicants must file Form I-485 by mail. The filing location is specified in the instructions to Form I-485 and on the USCIS Web site, <http://www.uscis.gov>, and depends on the immigrant classification on which the Form I-485 is based and the alien's residence. For example, an alien whose Form I-485 is based on his or her marriage to a U.S. citizen and who resides in the State of Colorado must file Form I-485, with a concurrently filed Form I-130, "Petition for Alien Relative," or evidence that such Form I-130 has already been approved (typically in the form of a Form I-797, "Notice of Action," issued by USCIS), supporting documentation, and required fees to USCIS' Chicago Lockbox Facility. See Direct Mail Instructions for Form I-485.

After mailing-in the Form I-485 application package, the applicant will receive an appointment notice from USCIS to appear at one of USCIS' Application Support Centers (ASCs) for biometrics capture, which involves electronically taking the applicant's photograph, fingerprints, and signature. USCIS uses this information to conduct background checks and produce a secure, biometric Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) in the event of application approval. For those immigrant categories requiring a personal interview, the applicant (and petitioner, if applicable) also will receive an appointment notice to appear at the local USCIS office for a personal interview. See, e.g., 8 CFR 245.6 (interviews are required for adjustment applicants but may be waived for children under the age of 14, when the applicant is clearly ineligible for

adjustment of status, or when deemed unnecessary by USCIS). Once adjudication is completed, USCIS will mail the applicant a written decision. 8 CFR 103.2(b)(19).

B. Dallas Pilot Program

USCIS is continually striving to improve the efficiency of the processing of Forms I-485 to reduce processing times and prevent backlogs. By statute, USCIS has the authority to "implement innovative pilot initiatives" to eliminate current and prevent future backlogs in the processing of immigration benefits. See 6 U.S.C. 271(a)(5). Based on this statutory authority, USCIS launched a pilot program in May 2004 to test an alternative to current filing procedures for certain Form I-485 applicants to achieve a 90-day processing time. See http://uscis.gov/graphics/fieldoffices/dallas/Pilot_overview.htm. The pilot program, called the "Dallas Office Rapid Adjudication" pilot program, has been limited to the Dallas District Office and is a voluntary pilot program. *Id.*

1. Pilot Program Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to participate in the pilot program, the applicant must be filing Form I-485 based upon:

(1) A family relationship (e.g., spouse, parent, child, sibling) demonstrated by an approved or concurrently filed Form I-130 with an "immediately-available" immigrant visa as explained in the instructions to Form I-130 (see 8 CFR 204.1(a)(1));

(2) The diversity visa lottery (see Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) sec. 203(c); 8 U.S.C. 1153(c); 8 CFR 245.1(a));

(3) Qualification as a battered or abused spouse or child (see 8 CFR 204.2(c)) demonstrated by an approved Form I-360, "Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant;" or

(4) Qualification as a Special Immigrant, as set forth at section 101(a)(27) of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27), demonstrated by an approved or concurrently filed Form I-360, excluding special immigrants who are religious workers.

2. Pilot Program Filing Procedures

Prior to the Dallas pilot program, an applicant falling within one of these categories would have had to file his or her Form I-485 package by mailing it to the Chicago Lockbox Facility in accordance with the Direct Mail Instructions for Form I-485. Instead, under the filing requirements of the Dallas pilot program, eligible applicants now may file their Form I-485, together with any petition being concurrently