

Liquefied Gases and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Two subcommittees will meet to discuss the following task statements:

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. CST

(1) *Task Statement 22–03*: Recommendations on Testing Requirements for Anti-Flashback Burners for Vapor Control Systems.

1:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m. CST

(2) *Task Statement 22–02*: Recommendations on Industry Best Practices and Regulatory Updates Related to the Maritime Transportation of Lithium Batteries.

The task statements and other subcommittee information are located at Homeport at the following address: [https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-chemical-transportation-safety-advisory-committee-\(nctsac\)/task-statements](https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-chemical-transportation-safety-advisory-committee-(nctsac)/task-statements). The agenda for the discussion of each task statement will include the following:

- (1) Introduction and review subcommittee task statement.
- (2) Public comment period.
- (3) Subcommittee discussion and preparation of any proposed recommendations for the Committee meeting on November 30, 2023.
- (4) Adjournment of meeting.

Thursday, November 30, 2023

The agenda for the National Chemical Transportation Safety Advisory Committee meeting on Thursday, November 30, 2023 is as follows:

- (1) Call to order.
- (2) Roll call and determination of quorum.
- (3) Remarks from U.S. Coast Guard leadership.
- (4) Chairman and Designated Federal Officer's remarks.
- (5) Acceptance of June 15, 2023 meeting minutes and status of task items.

(6) Committee will review, discuss, and formulate recommendations on the following items:

a. *Task Statement 21–01*: Recommendations on Loading Limits of Gas Carriers and U.S. Coast Guard Supplement to International Hazardous Zone Requirements.

b. *Task Statement 22–01*: Recommendations to Support Reductions to Emissions and Environmental Impacts Associated with Marine Transport of Chemicals, Liquefied Gases and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

c. *Task Statement 22–02*: Recommendations on Industry Best

Practices and Regulatory Updates Related to the Maritime Transportation of Lithium Batteries.

d. *Task Statement 22–03*: Recommendations on Testing Requirements for Anti-Flashback Burners for Vapor Control System.

(7) Subcommittee recommendation discussion.

(8) *Presentation of Task Statement 23–01*: Recommendations to Update CG–ENG Policy Letter 02–15.

(9) Task statement tracking discussion.

(10) Public comment period.

(11) Set next meeting date and location.

(12) Adjournment of meeting.

A copy of all meeting documentation will be available at: [https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-chemical-transportation-safety-advisory-committee-\(nctsac\)/committee-meetings](https://homeport.uscg.mil/missions/federal-advisory-committees/national-chemical-transportation-safety-advisory-committee-(nctsac)/committee-meetings) no later than November 22, 2023.

Alternatively, you may contact Lieutenant Ethan Beard as noted in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

Public comments or questions will be taken throughout the meetings as the Committee discusses the issues and prior to deliberations and voting. There will be a public comment period at the end of meetings. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to two minutes. Contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above, to register as a speaker.

Dated: October 2, 2023.

**Jeffrey G. Lantz,**

*Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards.*

[FR Doc. 2023–22410 Filed 10–6–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110–04–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### Quarterly IRS Interest Rates Used in Calculating Interest on Overdue Accounts and Refunds of Customs Duties

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** General notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the quarterly Internal Revenue Service interest rates used to calculate interest on overdue accounts (underpayments) and refunds (overpayments) of customs duties will increase from the previous quarter. For

the calendar quarter beginning October 1, 2023, the interest rates for underpayments will be 8 percent for both corporations and non-corporations. The interest rate for overpayments will be 8 percent for non-corporations and 7 percent for corporations. This notice is published for the convenience of the importing public and U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel.

**DATES:** The rates announced in this notice are applicable as of October 1, 2023.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bruce Ingalls, Revenue Division, Collection Refunds & Analysis Branch, 6650 Telecom Drive, Suite #100, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278; telephone (317) 298–1107.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1505 and Treasury Decision 85–93, published in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 1985 (50 FR 21832), the interest rate paid on applicable overpayments or underpayments of customs duties must be in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code rate established under 26 U.S.C. 6621 and 6622. Section 6621 provides different interest rates applicable to overpayments: one for corporations and one for non-corporations.

The interest rates are based on the Federal short-term rate and determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on behalf of the Secretary of the Treasury on a quarterly basis. The rates effective for a quarter are determined during the first-month period of the previous quarter.

In Revenue Ruling 2023–17, the IRS determined the rates of interest for the calendar quarter beginning October 1, 2023, and ending on December 31, 2023. The interest rate paid to the Treasury for underpayments will be the Federal short-term rate (5%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of eight percent (8%) for both corporations and non-corporations. For overpayments made by non-corporations, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (5%) plus three percentage points (3%) for a total of eight percent (8%). For corporate overpayments, the rate is the Federal short-term rate (5%) plus two percentage points (2%) for a total of seven percent (7%). These interest rates used to calculate interest on overdue accounts (underpayments) and refunds (overpayments) of customs duties increased from the previous quarter. These interest rates are subject to change for the calendar quarter

beginning January 1, 2024, and ending on March 31, 2024.

For the convenience of the importing public and U.S. Customs and Border

Protection personnel, the following list of IRS interest rates used, covering the period from July of 1974 to date, to

calculate interest on overdue accounts and refunds of customs duties, is published in summary format.

Beginning date	Ending date	Under payments (percent)	Over payments (percent)	Corporate overpayments (eff. 1-1-99) (percent)
070174	063075	6	6	
070175	013176	9	9	
020176	013178	7	7	
020178	013180	6	6	
020180	013182	12	12	
020182	123182	20	20	
010183	063083	16	16	
070183	123184	11	11	
010185	063085	13	13	
070185	123185	11	11	
010186	063086	10	10	
070186	123186	9	9	
010187	093087	9	8	
100187	123187	10	9	
010188	033188	11	10	
040188	093088	10	9	
100188	033189	11	10	
040189	093089	12	11	
100189	033191	11	10	
040191	123191	10	9	
010192	033192	9	8	
040192	093092	8	7	
100192	063094	7	6	
070194	093094	8	7	
100194	033195	9	8	
040195	063095	10	9	
070195	033196	9	8	
040196	063096	8	7	
070196	033198	9	8	
040198	123198	8	7	
010199	033199	7	7	6
040199	033100	8	8	7
040100	033101	9	9	8
040101	063001	8	8	7
070101	123101	7	7	6
010102	123102	6	6	5
010103	093003	5	5	4
100103	033104	4	4	3
040104	063004	5	5	4
070104	093004	4	4	3
100104	033105	5	5	4
040105	093005	6	6	5
100105	063006	7	7	6
070106	123107	8	8	7
010108	033108	7	7	6
040108	063008	6	6	5
070108	093008	5	5	4
100108	123108	6	6	5
010109	033109	5	5	4
040109	123110	4	4	3
010111	033111	3	3	2
040111	093011	4	4	3
100111	033116	3	3	2
040116	033118	4	4	3
040118	123118	5	5	4
010119	063019	6	6	5
070119	063020	5	5	4
070120	033122	3	3	2
040122	063022	4	4	3
070122	093022	5	5	4
100122	123122	6	6	5
010123	093023	7	7	6
100123	123123	8	8	7

Dated: October 4, 2023.

**Jeffrey Caine,**

*Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2023-22413 Filed 10-6-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[Docket No. ICEB-2023-0012]

RIN 1653-ZA43

#### Employment Authorization for Cameroonian F-1 Nonimmigrant Students Experiencing Severe Economic Hardship as a Direct Result of the Current Armed Conflict and Current Humanitarian Crisis in Cameroon

**AGENCY:** U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) is suspending certain regulatory requirements for F-1 nonimmigrant students whose country of citizenship is Cameroon, regardless of country of birth (or individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Cameroon), and who are experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the current armed conflict and current humanitarian crisis in Cameroon. The Secretary is taking action to provide relief to these Cameroonian students who are in lawful F-1 nonimmigrant student status, so the students may request employment authorization, work an increased number of hours while school is in session, and reduce their course load while continuing to maintain their F-1 nonimmigrant student status. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will deem an F-1 nonimmigrant student granted employment authorization by means of this notice to be engaged in a “full course of study” for the duration of the employment authorization, if the nonimmigrant student satisfies the minimum course load requirement described in this notice.

**DATES:** This action is effective December 8, 2023, through June 7, 2025.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharon Snyder, Unit Chief, Policy and Response Unit, Student and Exchange Visitor Program, MS 5600, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement,

500 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20536-5600. email: [sevp@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:sevp@ice.dhs.gov), telephone: (703) 603-3400. This is not a toll-free number. Program information can be found at <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### What action is DHS taking under this notice?

The Secretary is exercising authority under 8 CFR 214.2(f)(9) to temporarily suspend the applicability of certain requirements governing on-campus and off-campus employment for F-1 nonimmigrant students whose country of citizenship is Cameroon regardless of country of birth (or individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Cameroon), who are present in the United States in lawful F-1 nonimmigrant student status on the date of publication of this notice, and who are experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the current armed conflict and current humanitarian crisis in Cameroon. The original notice, which suspended certain regulatory requirements for F-1 nonimmigrant students experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the crisis at that time was effective from June 7, 2022, through December 7, 2023. *See* 87 FR 34701 (June 7, 2022). Effective with this publication, suspension of the employment limitations is available through June 7, 2025, for those who are in lawful F-1 nonimmigrant status on the date of publication of this notice. DHS will deem an F-1 nonimmigrant student granted employment authorization through this notice to be engaged in a “full course of study” for the duration of the employment authorization, if the student satisfies the minimum course load set forth in this notice.<sup>1</sup> *See* 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6)(i)(F).

##### Who is covered by this notice?

This notice applies exclusively to F-1 nonimmigrant students who meet all of the following conditions:

(1) Are a citizen of Cameroon regardless of country of birth (or an individual having no nationality who last habitually resided in Cameroon);

<sup>1</sup> Because the suspension of requirements under this notice applies throughout an academic term during which the suspension is in effect, DHS considers an F-1 nonimmigrant student who engages in a reduced course load or employment (or both) after this notice is effective to be engaging in a “full course of study,” *see* 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6), and eligible for employment authorization, through the end of any academic term for which such student is matriculated as of June 7, 2025, provided the student satisfies the minimum course load requirements in this notice.

(2) Were lawfully present in the United States on the date of publication of this notice in F-1 nonimmigrant status under section 101(a)(15)(F)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)(i);

(3) Are enrolled in an academic institution that is Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified for enrollment for F-1 nonimmigrant students;

(4) Are currently maintaining F-1 nonimmigrant status; and

(5) Are experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the current armed conflict and current humanitarian crisis in Cameroon.

This notice applies to F-1 nonimmigrant students in an approved private school in kindergarten through grade 12, public school grades 9 through 12, and undergraduate and graduate education. An F-1 nonimmigrant student covered by this notice who transfers to another SEVP-certified academic institution remains eligible for the relief provided by means of this notice.

##### Why is DHS taking this action?

DHS is taking action to provide relief to Cameroonian F-1 nonimmigrant students experiencing severe economic hardship due to the current armed conflict and current humanitarian crisis in Cameroon. Based on its review of country conditions in Cameroon and input received from the U.S. Department of State (DOS), DHS is taking action to allow eligible F-1 nonimmigrant students from Cameroon to request employment authorization, work an increased number of hours while school is in session, and reduce their course load while continuing to maintain F-1 nonimmigrant status.

In Cameroon’s Far North region, attacks from Boko Haram and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP, aka IS-WA, aka ISIS-WA) are becoming more frequent as part of the armed conflict in that region.<sup>2</sup> Separately, the Republic of Cameroon continues to face secessionist violence in the English-speaking regions (Northwest Region and Southwest Region). The armed conflict in the Far North and violence elsewhere has led to a severe humanitarian crisis in Cameroon, weakened the economy, and caused many Cameroonians to flee to

<sup>2</sup> Cameroon Crisis Response Plan 2023, UN International Office of Migration, Jan. 19, 2023, available at <https://crisisresponse.iom.int/response/cameroon-crisis-response-plan-2023> (last visited July 26, 2023).