

THE WRONG HELP CAN HURT

BEWARE OF IMMIGRATION SCAMS



uscis.gov/avoid-scams

Check Before You Trust

Make sure anyone who helps you with your immigration case is authorized to help.

Who is authorized to help me with my immigration case?

1. You can complete the forms yourself and represent yourself before USCIS.
2. You can get legal advice and other help from an attorney or a representative accredited by the U.S. Department of Justice. Learn more at justice.gov/eoir/recognition-accreditation-roster-reports.
3. To find free or low-cost legal services and authorized immigration service providers, visit uscis.gov/avoid-scams/find-legal-services.
4. Other people, such as relatives, friends, and document preparers, can help you fill out USCIS forms. But they cannot give you legal advice and they can only charge you a small fee.

Legal advice includes:

- Helping you interpret questions on immigration forms; and
- Explaining your immigration options.

How can USCIS help me with my immigration questions?

- Call USCIS customer service at 1-800-375-5283 (For customers with disabilities which require

accommodation: TTY/ASCII:
1-800-877-8339, Voice:
1-866-377-8642);

- Ask Emma, the USCIS virtual assistant, at uscis.gov/Emma;
- Find an upcoming event at uscis.gov/outreach; or
- Schedule an appointment at a field office at my.uscis.gov/appointment.

Protect Others, Report Immigration Scams!

Do you know about an immigration scam?

Notify the Federal Trade Commission at 1.usa.gov/1suOHSS or call 1-877-382-4357. You can make an anonymous report in English or Spanish. You can also report immigration scams to the appropriate state agency. Learn more at uscis.gov/avoid-scams/report-scams.

Protect yourself and your family from immigration scams. Learn the facts and find legal help at uscis.gov/avoid-scams.

Common Sense Is Your Best Defense

Some businesses and websites pretend to be immigration experts or say they have special connections to the government. Always go to the official USCIS website, uscis.gov, and not a copycat website. Know how to spot a scam by learning about scams at uscis.gov/avoid-scams/common-scams.

If you receive email that you think is a scam, forward it to USCIS.Webmaster@uscis.dhs.gov.

Tips to Remember

Always...

- Get immigration information from the U.S. government, starting with uscis.gov or state.gov.
- Check that the person who helps you is an attorney or accredited representative.
- Get a receipt if you pay someone to help you.
- Get photocopies of forms prepared for you.
- Keep all letters and notices from USCIS in a safe place.
- Manage your case with self-help tools at uscis.gov/tools.
- Report immigration scams immediately: uscis.gov/avoid-scams/report-scams.

Never...

- Pay for immigration forms. You can get forms free at uscis.gov/forms, by calling 1-800-870-3676, or at your local USCIS office.
- Sign a blank form. Make sure all forms are complete before you sign them.
- Sign any forms that have false information.
- Send original documents as evidence to support your application unless USCIS asks for the original.

When looking for immigration help, remember: the wrong help can hurt!

Learn the facts and find legal help at uscis.gov/avoid-scams.



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services