

# **USCIS Fee Increase & Fee Waiver Changes**

The United States and Citizenship Immigration Services (USCIS) was scheduled to implement drastic changes in their fee structure on October 2, 2020. A summary of the changes is below.

**Update**: On September 29, 2020, a federal court in California blocked these fee changes from taking effect. Until there is a new decision from the federal courts, the current fee structure will remain in place. We do not yet know how long the changes will be blocked.

# Fee Increases

The fee increases will impact many immigration applications including, but not limited to:

Benefit Sought	Current	Effective
		Oct 2nd 2020
N-400, Application for Naturalization/Citizenship	\$640	\$1,170
I-130, Petition for Relative	\$535	\$560
I-601A, Application for Provisional Unlawful Presence Waiver	\$630	\$960
I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or	\$1,225*	\$2,270*
Adjustment Status		
I-765, Application for Employment Authorization (non DACA)	\$410	\$550
I-131, Application for Advance Parole/Travel Document/Reentry	\$575	\$590
Permit		
I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence	\$595	\$760
I-589, Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal	\$0	\$50

\**Reflects price of I-485, I-765 (work permit), and I-131 (travel permission) filed concurrently. The I-485 alone will cost \$1,130.* 

## Fee Waiver Changes

In addition, most fee waivers for immigration applications will be <u>eliminated</u> included, but not limited to:

I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card

I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjustment Status (with few exceptions)

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization (non DACA)

I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence

I-589, Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal

Fee waivers will remain available where mandated by law (e.g., VAWA, T visa, U visa, TPS, SIJS); *however*, fee waiver eligibility will be **limited** to those with annual household incomes at

or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines and will require submission of a federal income transcript as proof of income.

#### When will this happen?

The fee changes were scheduled to take effect **October 2, 2020**. A federal court has currently blocked the implementation of the fee changes. We do not yet know if and when the fee changes will take effect.

### Who is impacted?

These changes will most heavily impact citizenship and family-based applications and is another devastating attack on low-income immigrants by the current administration. The fee increases and elimination of fee waivers will discourage people from becoming citizens and in turn having the power to vote and participate more fully in society. The elimination of the fee waivers will prevent immigrants from keeping their work permits current. Moreover, the fee increases will make it more difficult for immigrant families to unite or remain together.

#### How can I apply for citizenship before the fees change?

Please contact the Make the Road New York office closest to you as soon as possible:

Brooklyn	Queens	Staten Island	Long Island	Westchester
718-418-7690	718-565-8500	718-727-1222	631-231-2220	914-948-8466

### Updated: October 1, 2020



WESTCHESTER 46 WALLER AVENUE WHITE PLAINS, NY 10605 914 948 8466

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