

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



March 23, 1983

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 83-26

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: REVISION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (INS) FORM I-94;
SPONSORED ALIEN STATUS

REFERENCE: ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-153-81

INS Form I-94

This letter is being issued to alert you of the January 1, 1983 revision to Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Form I-94. This form is now being issued to all refugees and sponsored aliens. A copy of this revised form is attached. Individuals who possess the earlier version of Form I-94 need not apply for the revised form, as the earlier version is still acceptable for INS purposes. Sponsored aliens are initially being issued Form I-94 in lieu of Form I-151 or I-551 (Resident Alien) due to significant backlogs in processing Resident Alien forms.

The revised I-94 contains an admission number in place of an Alien (A) number. This admission number will be used by INS in their proposed computer tracking system. The first three digits of the admission number indicate the agency issuing Form I-94. INS's code is 995.

The information on the revised form has been arranged so that the section used to note admission status is now located in the upper right quadrant. Please refer to All-County Information Notice I-153-81, dated December 17, 1981 when reviewing the individual's INS status, which is noted in this section.

The United States Department of State and INS have agreed to include the following additional refugee-specific information on the back of revised Form I-94:

1. Alien Number
2. VOLAG abbreviation
3. VOLAG case numbers
4. Destination in United States (City and State)

These data should be found on the INS documents of refugees who arrive in the future.

Sponsored Aliens

Many alien family members are now being sponsored for Resident Alien status by individuals previously admitted to the United States as refugees that have since had their INS status adjusted to that of Resident Alien or Naturalized U.S. Citizen. Individuals admitted initially as Resident Aliens or admitted and immediately processed for permanent residence are not eligible for assistance under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP), as they are considered sponsored aliens (MPP Section 43-119). Form I-94 for sponsored aliens usually notes admittance status as an immediate relative (IR) or as a certain preference (P). The reverse side of this form will usually be annotated as follows: "PROCESSED FOR I-551 (or I-151). TEMPORARY EVIDENCE OF LAWFUL ADMISSION FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE. VALID UNTIL _____. EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZED." The valid until date is normally 60 to 120 days after the admission date shown on the front of Form I-94.

Refugees

Individuals admitted initially as refugees by INS may apply for an adjustment of status to that of a Resident Alien after one year of United States residence. These individuals (excluding unaccompanied minors) remain eligible for cash and medical assistance funding under the Refugee Resettlement Program for a maximum of 36 months based upon the individual's date of entry into the United States. If an individual presents either Form I-151 or I-551, Form I-94 annotated with "Processed for I-151 or I-551" or other INS documentation noting the individual has been processed for Form I-151 or I-551, the County must first determine whether the individual was admitted initially as a refugee by INS before claiming reimbursement under RRP. Please review INS documentation closely when determining whether the individual was admitted as a refugee.

The time-expiration provision of the Refugee Resettlement Program does not apply to the social or employment services programs under RRP. RRP funding for social services and employment services may be claimed for all refugees until they become naturalized U.S. Citizens. All refugees may apply for naturalization as an U.S. Citizen after five years of U.S. residence; however, this is not required.

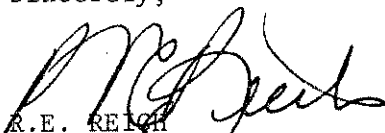
Expired INS Documents

A refugee who possesses a Form I-94 that indicates that the individual has exceeded a "valid until" or "paroled to" date remains eligible for assistance through the Refugee Resettlement Program, if otherwise eligible. INS has incurred a

substantial backlog in the processing of INS documents; therefore, the refugee may not have been issued the status of Resident Alien (Form I-151 or I-551) before the "valid until" or "paroled to" date has been reached. If the County finds that a refugee has not been issued updated status in a timely manner, the County should instruct the refugee to return to INS and check on the processing of his/her revised documents.

Questions regarding AFDC Program eligibility should be directed to your AFDC Program Consultant at (916) 445-4458. Questions regarding Medi-Cal eligibility should be directed to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch at (916) 445-1797. Questions regarding the Refugee Resettlement Program should be directed to your CWD Operations Bureau Consultant noted in All-County Information Notice I-11-83, dated January 20, 1983.

Sincerely,


R.E. REICH
Chief Deputy Director

Attachment

cc: CWDA
ORR-SF