"And every immigrant, by embracing these ideals, makes our country more, not less, American."





"America has never been united by blood or birth or soil. We are bound by ideals that move us beyond our backgrounds, lift us above our interests and teach us what it means to be citizens. Every child must be taught these principles. Every citizen must uphold them. And every immigrant, by embracing these ideals, makes our country more, not less, American."

- President George W. Bush

For more information, visit the Office of Citizenship website at:

http://uscis.gov/graphics/citizenship/index.htm



The Office of Citizenship





Legislative Mandate



The Office of Citizenship was created by the Homeland Security Act of 2002, and "is responsible for promoting instruction and training on citizenship responsibilities for aliens interested in becoming naturalized citizens of the United States, including the development of educational materials."

(Title IV, Subtitle E, Sec. 451)

Vision Statement



The Office of Citizenship will promote an understanding of the civic principles on which this nation was founded and increase public awareness of the benefits and responsibilities associated with U.S. citizenship.

Strategic Goals



Goal 1: Enhance information and educational opportunities provided to legal immigrants to support their integration and participation in American civic culture by:

- Establishing New Immigrant Orientation Initiative
- Raising awareness of English language instruction opportunities for immigrants
- Publicizing available programs and resources to immigrants

Goal 2: Promote education and training on citizenship rights, privileges, and responsibilities for immigrants interested in becoming citizens by:

- Updating and standardizing materials used for citizenship instruction
- Improving access to materials and instructional opportunities for immigrants interested in becoming citizens
- Publicizing available programs and resources to immigrants

Goal 3: Infuse citizenship-related ceremonies and events with greater meaning and stature by:

- Standardizing and enhancing the meaning of naturalization ceremonies
- Promoting celebration of the meaning of citizenship

Partnership



In order to fully realize its mandate, the Office of Citizenship will work in partnership with Government agencies as well as community and faith-based groups and private organizations that share an interest in civic engagement and integration. These partnerships will allow the Office of Citizenship to achieve its stated goals and will promote valuable connections at all levels to better serve immigrants at all stages of their journey towards American citizenship.

The Office of Citizenship has Community Liaison Officers working in these communities:

Arlington, VA Miami, FL Atlanta, GA New Orleans, LA Burlington, VT New York, NY Chicago, IL Phoenix, AZ Dallas, TX Portland, OR Denver, CO San Antonio, TX Detroit. MI San Diego, CA Houston, TX San Francisco, CA Los Angeles, CA St. Paul, MN

Laguna Niguel, CA