



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

# Public Notice

July 15, 2004

## NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS WITH A PENDING I-130 PETITION

Washington, D.C.– USCIS is now processing Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, as a visa number becomes available. Filing and approval of an I-130 relative petition is only the first step in helping a relative immigrate to the United States. Eligible family members must wait until there is a visa number available before they can apply for an immigrant visa or adjustment of status to a lawful permanent resident. This process will allow USCIS to concentrate resources first on cases where visas are actually available. This process should not delay the ability of one's relative to apply for an immigrant visa or adjustment of status. Refer to [www.state.gov/travel](http://www.state.gov/travel) to determine current visa availability dates.

- If you filed an I-130 petition that is currently pending with USCIS, please be advised that USCIS will adjudicate your petition based upon visa availability which means that the estimated processing time listed on your receipt notice may no longer be accurate.
- If you are a U.S. Citizen or lawful permanent resident and plan to file a petition for a qualifying relative, you are encouraged to file as soon as you are eligible in order to establish your relatives place in line even if the petition may not be decided for some time to come. Upon filing, USCIS will send you a receipt that will establish a place in line for a visa called a “priority date”. USCIS will adjudicate your Form I-130 prior to visa availability (or within six months if a visa is immediately available upon filing).

For more information, please visit our website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) or contact us at 1-800-375-5283.

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On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services became one of three legacy INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing our nation's security.