

# Stakeholder Message

On March 18, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services temporarily suspended in-person services at its field offices, asylum offices, and application support centers (ASCs) to help slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). USCIS is readying offices to re-open in compliance with local and state orders, on or after June 4. Employees in these offices are continuing to perform mission-essential services that do not require face-to-face contact with the public while the offices are temporarily closed. During this time, individuals may still submit applications and petitions to USCIS. Online filing remains the most convenient and interactive way to submit forms, check the status of your case, and receive notices.

## Field Office and ASC Appointments, Naturalization Ceremonies, InfoPass

USCIS field offices will send notices to applicants and petitioners with scheduled appointments and naturalization ceremonies impacted by the extended temporary closure. When USCIS again resumes normal operations, USCIS will automatically reschedule ASC appointments due to the temporary office closure. Individuals will receive a new appointment letter in the mail. Those who had InfoPass or other appointments must reschedule through the USCIS <u>Contact Center</u> once field offices are open to the public again.

## **Asylum Office Interviews**

USCIS asylum offices will send interview cancellation notices and automatically reschedule asylum interviews. When the interview is rescheduled, asylum applicants will receive a new interview notice with the new time, date and location of the interview.

Please check to see if the respective office has been reopened before calling the USCIS Contact Center.

#### **In-Person Public Engagements**

Additionally, USCIS is postponing all in-person public engagement and outreach events for the duration of the temporary office closure. Please contact <a href="mailto:public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov">public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov</a> if you have an immediate engagement question during this time.

#### **For More Information**

USCIS will provide further updates as the situation develops and will continue to follow CDC guidance in response to this situation. Please visit <u>uscis.gov/coronavirus</u> for updates.

Education and precautions are the strongest tools against infection. Get the latest facts by visiting the CDC's <u>COVID-19 website</u>. Continue to practice good health habits, refrain from handshakes or hugs as greetings, and clean hands and surfaces appropriately.

Kind regards,

Public Engagement Division
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services