

Beginning Nov. 2, 2020, asylum offices will no longer accept the filing of Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal. Form I-589s that previously were filed directly with a local asylum office must be filed with the Asylum Vetting Center in Atlanta, Georgia. This is a first step toward shifting all intake to the Asylum Vetting Center.

When you file your Form I-589, you must include a letter explaining why you are filing with the Asylum Vetting Center and identifying which category below applies to your Form I-589. If your Form I-589 does not fit one of the categories listed below, we will reject it, with instructions to file with the appropriate service center.

The following Form I-589s must be filed with the Asylum Vetting Center:

- *Loss of Derivative Status After Asylum Approval but Before Adjustment of Status (Nunc Pro Tunc):* If you are currently a derivative asylee, but you are unable to adjust status to lawful permanent resident due to a loss of derivative relationship, then you may submit a new Form I-589 and request a grant of asylum *nunc pro tunc*. In your letter, please provide information about your previous Form I-589 and explain that you are now filing independently as a principal applicant.
- *Loss of Derivative Status After Initial Filing but Before Final Decision:* If you withdrew from a principal's Form I-589 as a dependent, or if you lost derivative status by marriage, divorce, or death of the principal applicant, then you may submit a Form I-589 as a principal applicant. In your letter, please provide information about your previous Form I-589 and explain that you are now filing independently as a principal applicant.
- *Simultaneous Filing as a Principal Applicant and a Derivative Applicant:* If you are already listed as a derivative applicant on another pending Form I-589, you may file a Form I-589 as a principal applicant. In your letter, please provide information about any previous Form I-589s and explain that you are now filing independently as a principal applicant.
- *Previously Issued a Final Action by USCIS on a Form I-589:* If you previously received a denial of your Form I-589 or a notice dismissing your Form I-589 with USCIS, or you previously withdrew your Form I-589 with USCIS, and we did not place you in immigration court proceedings, then you may be eligible to file a new Form I-589 with USCIS.
- *Previously in Immigration Court Proceedings:* If you have reason to believe that USCIS has jurisdiction over your Form I-589 and you were previously in immigration court proceedings, then you may submit a Form I-589.
- *Asylum Office Director or Asylum Division Chief's Consent:* If none of these categories apply to your Form I-589, you must receive explicit consent, in writing, from the local asylum office director with jurisdiction over your case or from the Asylum Division chief before submitting Form I-589 to the Asylum Vetting Center. The Asylum Vetting Center will not accept your Form I-589 submission if you do not include written documentation of this consent.

If you are filing a Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal, in one of the categories listed above with USCIS, you must mail your Form I-589 to:

USCIS Asylum Vetting Center
P.O. Box 57100
Atlanta, GA 30308-0506