U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of the Director Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009



December 20, 2024

PA-2024-35

# Policy Alert

SUBJECT: Refugee and Asylee Relative Petitions

## **Purpose**

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is issuing policy guidance in the <u>USCIS Policy Manual</u> to address the eligibility, filing, and adjudication requirements for the Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition (<u>Form I-730</u>).

#### **Background**

A noncitizen who has been admitted to the United States as a principal refugee<sup>1</sup> or was granted status in the United States as a principal asylee<sup>2</sup> within the previous 2 years may file a Form I-730 to request that their qualifying spouse and unmarried children receive derivative refugee or asylee status. USCIS is responsible for determining if the beneficiary of a refugee or asylee relative petition is eligible for the classification sought.

This policy update is part of an initiative to move existing policy guidance from the Adjudicator's Field Manual (AFM) and policy memoranda into the Policy Manual. This update is not intended to change existing policy or create new policy. Rather, it incorporates existing guidance into the Policy Manual, streamlining USCIS' immigration policy while removing obsolete information.

This guidance, contained in Volume 4 of the Policy Manual, is effective immediately and applies to petitions pending or filed on or after the publication date. This policy guidance consolidates, updates, and supersedes Chapter 21.10 of the AFM, related AFM appendices, and related policy memoranda. The guidance contained in the Policy Manual is controlling and supersedes any related prior guidance on the topic.

#### **Policy Highlights**

• Provides guidance on eligibility, filing, and adjudication for the <u>Form I-730</u>.

### **Summary of Changes**

Affected Section: Volume 4, Refugees and Asylees

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See <u>INA 207(c)(2)</u>. See <u>8 CFR 207.7</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See INA 208(b)(3). See <u>8 CFR 208.21</u>.

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• Adds new Part C (Relative Petitions).

USCIS may also make other minor technical, stylistic, and conforming changes consistent with this update.

# Citation

Volume 4: Refugees and Asylees, Part C, Relative Petitions [4 USCIS-PM C] (Chapters 1-5).