



Office of Communications

U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

# USCIS Update

March 21, 2008

## USCIS REVISES FILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PETITION FOR ALIEN RELATIVE

*Form I-130s to be filed with the Chicago Lockbox*

**WASHINGTON**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has revised the filing instructions for the Petition for Alien Relative (Form I-130). Effective immediately, all petitioners filing stand-alone Form I-130s must file their petitions with the Chicago Lockbox instead of a USCIS Service Center. A [USCIS Update](#) was issued on Nov. 30, 2007, encouraging petitioners to file with the Chicago Lockbox while the form was being revised.

The revision to the instructions of Form I-130 became effective on January 31, 2008. USCIS published an [USCIS Update](#) announcing these changes on Feb. 19, 2008. USCIS is issuing this reminder to notify petitioners that improperly filed Form I-130s will be rejected. Now that the revision is complete, filing with the Chicago Lockbox is required. **As of April 30, 2008, all stand-alone Form I-130s submitted to any location other than the Chicago Lockbox will be rejected.**

Petitions filed with the Chicago Lockbox will be routed to, and adjudicated at, the appropriate USCIS Service Center. This routing will be based on the petitioner's place of residence in the United States. Two separate post office box addresses (see below) have been established that correspond to the appropriate USCIS Service Center (either Vermont or California) that will process and adjudicate the petition. Although Form I-130 must be filed with the Chicago Lockbox, petitioners will receive receipt notices from either the Vermont or California Service Center.

Petitioners who reside in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin or Wyoming must file their stand-alone Form I-130s with the Lockbox using the following address:

**USCIS  
P.O. Box 804625  
Chicago, IL 60680-1029**

Petitioners who reside in Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, U.S. Virgin Islands, West Virginia or District of Columbia must file their stand-alone Form I-130 with the Lockbox using the following address:

**USCIS  
P.O. Box 804616  
Chicago, IL 60680-1029**

The revised form and filing instructions are available through the USCIS' Web site at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

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