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Immigration Legal Services

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IMPORTANT UPDATE:

USCIS announces

new policy on

Adjustment of

Status

On May 22, 2026, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced a significant policy change that could affect many individuals' ability to adjust their status while remaining in the United States.

What Changed?

USCIS has announced that Adjustment of Status applications will now only be approved in "extraordinary circumstances." Adjustment of Status permits eligible individuals to apply for lawful permanent residence from within the United States.

As a result, most individuals seeking permanent residence will be required to undergo consular processing abroad through a U.S. embassy or consulate.

Thus, nonimmigrants such as students, temporary workers or people on tourist visas will most likely need to return to their country of citizenship and follow the consular process to adjust their status.

Officers are instructed to weigh both negative and positive factors when deciding whether to approve an adjustment of status application.

Negative factors may include: immigration violations, fraud or false statements, misuse of visa/parole status, overstaying in the U.S., avoiding consular processing, or attempts to bypass the standard immigrant visa process.

Positive factors may include: strong family ties in the U.S., good moral character, community involvement, a clean record, long-term lawful presence, and contributions that benefit the U.S. economy or national interest.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND YOUR OPTIONS AND PREPARE YOUR CASE CAREFULLY.

If you believe this change may affect your case, contact our office as soon as possible. We remain committed to guiding you through your immigration proceedings and helping you make informed decisions moving forward.

The contents of this flyer are intended solely for informational purposes and should not be relied upon as legal advice. For individualized legal assistance, please contact Moreno Law Office, LLC.