

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Petition to Classify Orphan as an Immediate Relative

and

Application for Advance Processing of Orphan Petition

(Form I-600 and I-600A)

OMB No. 1615-0028

A. JUSTIFICATION:

1. The Form I-600 is used by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to determine whether an alien is an eligible orphan as defined by section 101(b)(1)(F) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and is classifiable as an immediate relative as specified in section 201(b) of the INA. The Form I-600A is used to streamline the procedure for advance processing of orphan petitions. This is necessary to improve service to the public and eliminate delays in processing of orphan petitions filed by individuals traveling abroad to locate or adopt orphans.
2. An alien who believes he or she is eligible to file a petition to classify an orphan as an immediate relative must file Form I-600 in accordance with section 101(b)(1)(F) of the INA, and Form I-600A for advance processing. The USCIS will use this information to determine immigrant eligibility and advance processing of orphans.
3. The use of these forms provide the most efficient means for collecting and processing the required data. In this case the USCIS does not employ the use of information technology in collecting and processing information. Form I-600 and Form I-600A has been scheduled for e-filing under the Business Transformation Project.
4. A review of the USCIS Forms Inventory Report revealed no duplication of effort, and there is no other similar information currently available, which can be used for this purpose.

5. This collection of information does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.
6. If this information collection is not approved, the USCIS has no vehicle to determine eligibility of an alien orphan to be classified as an immediate relative, and therefore an alien orphan would not be eligible to receive immigration benefits. Additionally, without the use of this form the processing of orphan petitions would be protracted.
7. There are no special circumstances applicable to this information collection.
8. On April 9, 2008, USCIS published a 60-day notice in the Federal Register at 73 FR 19233. USCIS did not receive any comments for this information collection.
9. The USCIS does not provide payments or gifts to respondents in exchange for a benefit sought.
10. There is no assurance of confidentiality.
11. There are no questions of a sensitive nature.
12. Annual Reporting Burden:

a.	Number of Respondents	34,000
b.	Number of Responses per Respondent	1
c.	Total Annual Responses	34,000
d.	Hours per Response	.5
e.	Total Annual Reporting Burden	17,000

Annual Burden

The annual reporting burden is 17,000. This figure was derived by multiplying the number of respondents (34,000) x frequency of response (1) x hours per response (.5). This estimate is based on prior USCIS experience with the program.

13. There are no capital or start-up costs associated with this information collection. Any cost burdens to respondents as a result of this information collection are identified in Item 14.

However, there is a \$670 fee charge and an \$80 biometric fee charge associated with each collection.

14. Annualized Cost Analysis:

a. Printing Cost	\$	14,550
b. Collection and Processing Cost	\$	25,485,450
c. Total Cost to Program	\$	25, 500,000
d. Fee Charge	\$	25,500,000
e. Total Cost to Government	\$	0

Government Cost

The estimated cost of the program to the Government is calculated by using the estimated number of respondents (34,000) multiplied (x) by the suggested fee charge of \$670 (which includes the suggested average hourly rate for clerical, officer, and supervisory time with benefits, plus a percent for the estimated overhead cost for printing, stocking, distributing and processing of these forms); plus 34,000 respondents multiplied by the biometric services fee of \$80.

Public Cost

The estimated annual public cost is \$ 25,670,000. This figure is based on the number of respondents (34,000) x 30 minutes (.5) hours per response x \$10 (average hourly rate), plus the number of respondents (34,000) x fee charge of \$670; plus the number of respondents (34,000) x \$ 80 biometrics fee.

15. There has been no increase or decrease in the estimated burden hours previously reported for this collection of information.

16. USCIS does not intend to employ the use of statistics or the publication thereof for this information collection.

- 17. USIS will display the expiration date of OMB approval of this information collection.
- 18. USCIS does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection.

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

Not Applicable.

C. Certification and Signature.

PAPERWORK CERTIFICATION

In submitting this request for OMB approval, I certify that the requirements of the Privacy Act and OMB directives have been complied with including paperwork regulations, statistical standards or directives, and any other information policy directives promulgated under 5 CFR 1320.

Stephen Tarragon,
Acting Chief,
Regulatory Management Division,
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Date