

Non-Substantive Change Request to Form DS-7699 (OMB Control Number 1405-0217)

The Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) requests a non-substantive change to DS-7699 (OMB 1405-0217) to make all DNA testing references consistent throughout the form and instructions. The Supporting Statement is clear that DNA testing is required to validate relationships; however, the form and instructions equivocate with regard to this requirement.

We propose the following changes for consistency:

- 1) Replacing the word “may” to “will” in Section V of Instruction Page 5 to make it consistent with Section 6 on Instruction Page 3, where it states DNA *will* be required.
- 2) Make the statement in Section V on Instruction Page 5 consistent in meaning with Signature Page on 4/4, but replacing pronoun I/you usage. So, the signature page on page 4/4 would read: “By submitting this Affidavit of Relationship, I understand that I and my biological Qualifying Child(ren); biological parent of Qualifying Child(ren); married and/or age 21 or older son(s) and daughter(s); and caregiver (when applicable) will be required to submit DNA evidence. I agree to pay all necessary fees associated with that expense and the expenses associated with the submittal of DNA evidence by any of the biologically Qualifying Family Members I am claiming on this form. I further understand that DNA testing may be requested between my biologically Qualifying Children and their derivative beneficiaries at no expense to the U.S. Government. I also understand that my family members may not be considered qualified to apply for refugee resettlement if I, or they, fail to submit DNA evidence upon request. *Note: The green highlight mirrors the sentence EXACTLY as it appears in the instruction page and the yellow highlight remains EXACTLY as is currently approved—no changes were made.*”
- 3) Insert the word “Biological Parent” after the word Qualifying Parent, since a biological grandparent can be varied through DNA by testing both a biological parent and qualifying parent. So, it would read: “A DNA sample will also be required between you(the Qualifying Parent)/Biological parent and caregiver if the biological relationship can be verified through DNA testing (ie. biological grandparent).
- 4) Use the correct name-Resettlement Agency vs. Resettlement Support Center

No substantive changes to the type or nature of the collection will be required.