

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
Application for T Nonimmigrant Status
OMB Control No.: 1615-0099
COLLECTION INSTRUMENT(S): I-914, Supplement A, and Supplement B

A. Justification

- 1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.**

This application permits victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons and their family members to demonstrate that they qualify for temporary nonimmigrant status pursuant to the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (VTVPA). See Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, div. A, TVPA, Public Law 106-386, 114 Stat. 1464 (Oct. 28, 2000). This nonimmigrant category was established to provide eligible victims with T nonimmigrant status while strengthening the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute human trafficking. Congress has since amended the TVPA, including the T nonimmigrant status provisions, several times: Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2003, Public Law 108-193, 117 Stat. 2875 (Dec. 19, 2003); Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2005, Public Law 109-162, 119 Stat. 2960 (Jan. 5, 2006); Technical Corrections to VAWA 2005, Public Law 109-271, 120 Stat. 750 (Aug. 12, 2006); TVPRA 2008, Public Law 110-457, 122 Stat. 5044 (Dec. 23, 2008); VAWA 2013, Public Law 113-4, titles viii, xii, 127 Stat. 54 (Mar. 7, 2013); Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, Public Law 114-22, 129 Stat. 227 (May 29, 2015). The TVPA may be found in 22 U.S.C. 7101–7110; 22 U.S.C. 2151n, 2152d.

- 2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

The application is divided into three parts. The Form I-914, I-914 Supplement A and I-914 Supplement B. The Principal Applicant will complete the Form I-914 to apply for temporary immigration status. The Principal Applicant may complete Form I-914 Supplement A, to petition for derivative status for an eligible family member. A Federal, State or local Law Enforcement Officer may complete the Form I-914 Supplement B, at the applicant's request, to attest to the applicant's claim of being a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons. The information on all three parts of the form will be used to determine whether applicants meet the eligibility requirements for benefits. This application incorporates information pertinent to eligibility under the VTVPA and a request for an employment authorization document for principal applicants.

Applicants are also required to submit biometrics for DHS to use to conduct the required background and security checks.

3. **Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

Form I-914 and Supplement A and B provide the most efficient means for collecting and processing the required data. Currently, USCIS does not have the automated capability in place to accept electronic submission of these forms. Form I-914 and Supplements A and B are electronically fillable, but cannot be filed electronically.

Forms I-914, I-914A, and I-914B and instructions are all available at www.uscis.gov, keyword search "Form I-914," and have partial Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) compliance as they can be accessed, completed and saved electronically, but cannot be submitted electronically.

USCIS is in the process of converting forms to be electronically accessed, completed and submitted by the respondent. At this time, there is no finalized timeframe for the form being submitted to be converted to the electronic environment but USCIS will provide an update when the information becomes available.

4. **Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.**

This collection of information is unique to USCIS and is not conducted elsewhere. Any information that is shared with other agencies, or any information collected by other agencies that is used by USCIS to adjudicate the benefit sought in this collection, is notated in Question 2 above.

5. **If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities (Item 5 of OMB Form 83-I), describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

This collection of information does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.

6. **Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

If the information noted above is not collected by the form and supplements, USCIS may not be able to comply with the requirements of the program as mandated by Public Law 106-386,

and provide the immigration benefit sought.

7. **Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:**
- **Requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
 - **Requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
 - **Requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
 - **Requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
 - **In connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;**
 - **Requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
 - **That includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
 - **Requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

This information collection is conducted in a manner consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. **If applicable, provide a copy and identify the data and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and

recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years - even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.

USCIS published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for RIN 1615-AC68 in the Federal Register, which can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/>.

9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

USCIS does not provide any payment for benefit sought.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation or agency policy.

Information about individuals who submit a Form I-914 is protected by the statutory confidentiality protections at 8 U.S.C. § 1367, which generally prohibit the disclosure or use of any information about applicants for, and beneficiaries of, certain victim-based immigration benefits, including T nonimmigrant status, U nonimmigrant status, or relief under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Prior to making information disclosures, USCIS employees are required to consult the individual's A-file or run a query in the Central Index System (CIS), or through the CIS function in the Person Centric Query System. CIS and PCQS include an alert message to indicate that an individual is protected by 8 U.S.C. § 1367. The message reads: 8 USC 1367 Protected Information–Disclosure and Use Restrictions Apply. Any record in CIS and PCQS that displays this banner must be handled in accordance with the protections of 8 USC 1367.

All USCIS employees who come in contact with 8 USC 1367 protected information are required to complete the *VAWA: Confidentiality and Immigration Relief* training on an annual basis.

This collection is covered under the following Privacy Impact Assessment:

- DHS/USCIS/PIA-016 Computer Linked Application Information Management System (CLAIMS 3) and Associated Systems and subsequent updates

The collection is covered under the following System of Records Notices:

- DHS/USCIS/ICE/CBP-001 Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records, September 18, 2017, 82 FR 43556,
- DHS/USCIS-007 Benefits Information System, October 10, 2019 84 FR 54622, and

- DHS/USCIS-018 Immigration Biometric and Background Check (IBBC) System of Records, July 31, 2018, 83 FR 36950.

- 11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

There are questions of a sensitive nature. However, these questions are necessary in order for USCIS to make a determination on whether the applicant meets the eligibility requirements to receive benefits under the VTVPA. USCIS will take every step to safeguard this information appropriately.

Form I-914 collects sensitive data regarding applicants for T nonimmigrant status. Such data includes, but is not limited to, personally identifiable information as well as details about personal victimization resulting from severe forms of trafficking in persons. USCIS takes every step to safeguard this information, including the steps outlined in the Privacy Documents associated with the collection.

Additionally, USCIS stringently follows the confidentiality provisions on the disclosure of information relating to T nonimmigrants found in 8 USC 1367.

- 12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The statement should:**

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size, or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.**
- **If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB Form 83-I.**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included in Item**

14.

Type of Respondent	Form Name / Form Number	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total No. of Responses	Avg. Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Annual Burden (in hours)	Avg. Hourly Wage Rate (in dollars)	Total Annual Respondent Cost (in dollars)
Individuals or Households	Application for T Nonimmigrant Status/ I-914	1,310	1	1,310	2.63	3,445	39.52	136,146
Individuals or Households	Application for Family Member of T-1 Recipient/ I-914A	1,120	1	1,120	1.083	1,213	39.52	47,938
State, local or Tribal Government	Declaration of Law Enforcement Officer for Victim of trafficking in Persons (Law Enforcement Officer completion activity)/ I-914B	459	1	459	3.58	1,643	49.14**	80,737
Individuals or Households	Declaration of Law Enforcement Officer for Victim of trafficking in Persons (Contact by Respondent to Law Enforcement/ I-914B	459	1	459	0.25	115	39.52	4,545
Individuals or Households	Biometric processing	2,430	1	2,430	1.17	2,843	39.52	112,355
Total				5,778		9,259		381,721

* The above Average Hourly Wage Rate is the [May 2020 Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) average wage for All Occupations of \$27.07 times the wage rate benefit multiplier of 1.46 (to account for benefits provided) equaling \$39.52. The selection of "All Occupations" was chosen because respondents to this collection could be expected from any occupation.

** The above Average Hourly Wage Rate is the [May 2020 Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) average wage for Law Enforcement Workers of \$33.66 times the wage rate benefit multiplier of 1.46 (to account for benefits provided)

equaling \$49.14. The selection of “All Occupations” was chosen as the expected respondents for this collection could be expected to be from any occupation.

For form I-914B, the burden is separated by the time that the respondent takes to contact the law enforcement agency that investigated them as a result of a trafficking incident to obtain a report, and by the time that the law enforcement requires to gather all evidence collected during the investigation and then completing the form.

- 13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14).**
- **The cost estimate should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life); and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software; monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and record storage facilities.**
 - **If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of purchasing or contracting out information collection services should be a part of this cost burden estimate. In developing cost burden estimates, agencies may consult with a sample of respondents (fewer than 10), utilize the 60-day pre-OMB submission public comment process and use existing economic or regulatory impact analysis associated with the rulemaking containing the information collection, as appropriate.**
 - **Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services, or portions thereof, made: (1) prior to October 1, 1995; (2) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection; (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government; or, (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.**

There are no capital, start-up, operational or maintenance costs associated with this collection of information. For information purposes only, there is not a filing fee for Form I-914, Form I-914 Supplement A, and Supplement B.

There are no out-of-pocket costs to respondents.

- 14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of**

information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.

The estimated cost of the program to the Government is calculated by using the estimated number of respondents multiplied by the Adjudication Hours multiplied by the Average Hourly Rate, in dollars. The total cost to the Federal government is **\$629,472**.

IC	Cost Description	Respondents	Adjudication Hours	Avg. Hourly Rate, in dollars (Vermont GS-12, Step-1; Weight 1.46)	Total, in dollars
I-914	USCIS hours	1,310	4.35	54.11	308,332
I-914A	USCIS hours	1,120	0.96	54.11	58,176
Biometric Services	USCIS hours	2,430	2.00	54.11	262,963
Total Est. Cost					629,472

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reporting in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB Form 83-I.

Data collection Activity/ Instrument (in hours)	Program Change (hours currently on OMB Inventory)	Program Change (New)	Difference	Adjustment (hours currently on OMB Inventory)	Adjustment (New)	Difference
I-914				3,445	3,445	0
I-914A				1,213	1,213	0
I-914B				1,760	1,760	0
Biometric Services				2,843	2,843	0
Total(s)				9,261	9,259	0

There is a decrease in the annual estimated hour burden due to a calculation error correction to the Total Annual Burden (in hours). There is no change to the annual estimated hour burden to respondents for this information collection as a result of the proposed rulemaking.

There is no change to the annual estimated cost burden to respondents for this information collection as a result of the proposed rulemaking.

16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation, and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.

This information collection will not be published for statistical purposes.

- 17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

USCIS will display the expiration date for OMB approval of this information collection.

- 18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19, “Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submission,” of OMB 83-I.**

USCIS does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection.

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

There is no statistical methodology involved with this collection.