

Instructions for Form I-956G, Regional Center Annual Statement

Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

What Is the Purpose of Form I-956G?

This form is used by approved regional centers to provide required information, certifications, and evidence to support their continued eligibility for regional center designation. Each approved regional center must file Form I-956G, Regional Center Annual Statement, for each Federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) on or before December 29 of the calendar year in which the Federal fiscal year ended.

| A Designated Regional Center | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| With a designation letter dated: | Must file Form I-956G and submit the appropriate annual fee: |
| On/before September 30 | On/before December 29 of the same calendar year |
| On/after October 1 | On/before December 29 of the following calendar year |

Failure to file Form I-956G in a timely manner for each Federal fiscal year in which the regional center has been designated to participate in the Regional Center Program (the "Program") may result in sanctions, including the termination of the regional center's designation. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will review each statement and will notify the regional center should the statement be deficient or if USCIS otherwise determines that amendment or supplement of the statement is appropriate.

General Instructions

USCIS provides forms free of charge through the USCIS website. To view, print, or fill out our forms, you should use the latest version of Adobe Reader, which you can download for free at <u>http://get.adobe.com/reader/</u>. If you do not have internet access you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283** (TTY **1-800-767-1833**) and ask that we mail a form to you. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

Signature. Each form must be properly signed and filed. For all signatures on this form, USCIS will not accept a stamped or typewritten name in place of a signature. If you are under 14 years of age, your parent or legal guardian may sign the form on your behalf. A legal guardian may also sign for a mentally incompetent person. If the form is not signed or if the requisite signature on the form is not valid, USCIS will reject the request. See 8 CFR 103.2(a)(7)(ii)(A). If USCIS accepts a request for adjudication and determines that it has a deficient signature, USCIS will deny the request.

Validity of Signatures. USCIS will consider a photocopied, faxed, or scanned copy of the original handwritten signature valid for filing purposes. The photocopy, fax, or scan must be of the original document containing the handwritten ink signature.

Filing Fee. Each form must be accompanied by the appropriate filing fee. (See the What Is the Filing Fee section of these Instructions.)

Evidence. At the time of filing, you must submit all evidence and supporting documents listed in the **What Evidence Must You Submit** and **Specific Instructions** sections of these Instructions.

Biometric Services Appointment. USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature) at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks. After USCIS receives your form and ensures it is complete, we will inform you if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If an appointment is necessary, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS Application Support Center (ASC) and the date and time of your appointment or, if you are currently overseas, instruct you to contact a U.S. Embassy, U.S. Consulate, or USCIS office outside the United States to set up an appointment. USCIS may use your biometrics to obtain the criminal history records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), for identity verification, to determine eligibility, to create immigration documents (for example, Permanent Resident Card, Employment Authorization Document), or any purpose authorized by the Immigration and Nationality Act. You may obtain a copy of your own FBI record using the procedures outlined at 28 CFR 16.32. For information, please visit: https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. For Privacy Act information, please visit https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/compact-council/privacy-act-statement.

Copies. You should submit legible photocopies of documents requested, unless the Instructions specifically state that you must submit an original document. USCIS may request an original document at the time of filing or at any time during processing of an application or petition. If USCIS requests an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

NOTE: If you submit original documents when not required or requested by USCIS, **your original documents may be immediately destroyed after we receive them.**

Translations. If you submit a document with information in a foreign language, you must also submit a full English translation. The translator must sign a certification that the English language translation is complete and accurate, and that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English. The certification must also include the translator's signature, printed name, the signature date, and the translator's contact information.

How To Fill Out Form I-956G

- 1. Type or print legibly in black ink.
- 2. If you need extra space to complete any item within this form, use the space provided in Part 8. Additional Information or attach a separate sheet of paper. Type or print the name of the regional center entity at the top of each sheet; indicate the Page Number, Part Number, and Item Number to which your answer refers; and sign and date each sheet.
- **3.** Answer all questions fully and accurately. If a question does not apply to you (for example, if the new commercial enterprise does not serve as a vehicle for investment into other job creating entities and the question asks for information about those entities), type or print "N/A," unless otherwise directed. If your answer to a question which requires a numeric response is zero or none (for example, "Aggregate EB-5 Capital Investment"), type or print "None," unless otherwise directed.
- 4. USCIS Online Account Number. Providing the applicant's unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps them manage their online account. Applicants have an Online Account Number if they previously filed an application, petition, or request online or by mail and were issued a receipt number that begins with IOE. If the applicant filed a form online, they can find their OAN in their USCIS Online Account profile. If they mailed their form, they can find their OAN at the top of the USCIS Account Access Notice we sent them. The OAN is not the same as an A-Number. If the applicant does not have a receipt number beginning with IOE, they do not have an OAN.

Specific Instructions

Part 1. Form Type

Item Number 1. Select the appropriate box to indicate whether you are submitting an initial Form I-956G or an amendment or supplement to an already submitted Form I-956G.

Item Number 2. Indicate the Federal fiscal year the form is meant to cover regarding reporting for the regional center in YYYY format.

Part 2. Information About the Regional Center

Item Numbers 1. - 2. Information About the Regional Center Entity. Provide the legal name of the regional center entity as it appears on the entity's document of formation and the regional center identification number.

Item Number 3. Regional Center Mailing Address (and Physical Address when applicable). Provide the mailing address where the regional center entity can receive a printed notice from USCIS. If the mailing address of the regional center entity is the same as the physical address, select the box indicating so. If the mailing address of the regional center entity is different from its physical address, provide the physical address of the regional center entity in the space provided in **Part 8. Additional Information**.

Item Numbers 4. - 6. Regional Center Contact Information. Provide the Regional Center's telephone number, email address (if any), and website address (if any).

Part 3. Information About the Regional Center's Operations

Item Number 1. Accounting of All Alien Investor Capital Invested in the Regional Center. Provide the total EB-5 investor capital invested in the regional center and its associated new commercial enterprise(s) and job-creating entity(ies since the date of regional center designation.

Item Number 2. Litigation and Bankruptcy Proceedings. Indicate whether the regional center has submitted documentation regarding pending material litigation or bankruptcy proceedings, or material litigation or bankruptcy proceedings resolved during the preceding fiscal year, involving the regional center, the new commercial enterprises, or any affiliated job-creating entities.

If the regional center provided documentation, describe the documentation (for example, exhibit number, name of the document) submitted.

If the regional center has not submitted documentation, describe the policies and procedures in place to ensure the regional center's compliance with EB-5 program requirements.

Item Number 3. Policies and Procedures to Ensure Compliance with Federal Labor Laws. Indicate whether the regional center has submitted documentation describing the policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance to all applicable Federal labor laws.

If the regional center provided documentation, describe the documentation (for example, exhibit number, name of the document) submitted.

If the regional center has not submitted documentation, describe the policies and procedures in place to ensure the regional center's compliance with EB-5 program requirements.

Item Number 4. Information about Each New Commercial Enterprise and Capital Investment Project. You must complete Attachment 1. Information About Each New Commercial Enterprise and Capital Investment Project for each NCE sponsored by the regional center and each capital investment project undertaken by such NCE with active EB-5 investors (i.e. those who are seeking classification under INA 203(b)(5) or who have obtained conditional permanent resident status and not yet filed for removal of conditions) in the applicable reporting period. You do not need to complete Attachment 1 for any previously sponsored NCEs and capital investment projects that no longer have any active EB-5 investors in the applicable reporting period. For example, if the last investor in an NCE sponsored by the regional center filed their Form I-829 petition in the fiscal year for which the I-956G is being filed, you must complete Attachment 1 for that NCE and capital investment project. If an NCE is undertaking multiple capital investment 1 for that NCE and capital investment 1 only for those projects being undertaken by the NCE with active EB-5 investors in the applicable reporting period. If or that NCE and capital investment 1 only for those projects being undertaken by the NCE with active EB-5 investors in the applicable reporting period. If on that NCE and capital investment 1 only for those projects being undertaken by the NCE with active EB-5 investors in the applicable reporting period. Indicate how many Attachments 1s are included with this Form I-956G.

Attachment 1. Information About Each New Commercial Enterprise and Capital Investment Project

The regional center must provide the information below for each NCE sponsored by the regional center and each capital investment project undertaken by such NCE. If there is more than one NCE, you may make copies of Attachment 1 to complete and submit with the Form I-956G.

Item Numbers 1. - 2. Information About the Regional Center. Provide the legal name of the regional center entity as it appears on the entity's document of formation and the regional center identification number.

Item Number 3. Indicate the Federal fiscal year the Attachment 1 in YYYY format. The Federal fiscal year should be the same as indicated in **Part 1.** of the Form I-956G.

Item A. in Item Number 4. Receipt Number of Associated Form I-956F. If applicable, provide the receipt number of the Form I-956F, Application for Approval of an Investment in a Commercial Enterprise, associated with the NCE.

Items B. - D. in Item Number 4. Information about the NCE. Provide the NCE's legal name, the NCE identification number, and the legal name of the associated JCE, if any.

Item Number 5. NCE Mailing Address (and Physical Address when applicable). Provide the mailing address where the NCE can receive a printed notice from USCIS. If the mailing address of the NCE is the same as the physical address, select the box indicating so. If the mailing address of the NCE is different from its physical address, provide the physical address of the NCE in the space provided in **Part 8. Additional Information**.

Item Numbers 6. - 8. NCE Contact Information. Provide the telephone number, email address (if any), and website address (if any) for the NCE.

Item Number 9. JCE Mailing Address (and Physical Address when applicable). Provide the mailing address where the JCE can receive a printed notice from USCIS. If the mailing address of the JCE is the same as the physical address, select the box indicating so. If the mailing address of the JCE is different from its physical address, provide the physical address of the JCE in the space provided in **Part 8. Additional Information**.

Item Numbers 10. - 12. JCE Contact Information. Provide the telephone number, email address (if any), and website address (if any) for the JCE.

Item Number 13. Aggregate Amount of Investor Capital Invested in the NCE. Provide the aggregate amount of EB-5 investor capital invested in the NCE for the capital investment project over the lifespan of the project. The amount must be supported by an "accounting" of the aggregate capital investment described here which may include, but is not limited to, NCE bank statements and/or wire transfers.

Item Number 14. Use of the Investor Capital. Describe how the alien investor capital described in **Item Number 13.** is being used to execute the capital investment project.

Item Number 15. Commitment of the Investor Capital. Provide evidence that 100 percent of alien investor capital has been committed to the capital investment project. Describe the evidence provided (exhibit number, document name).

Item Number 16. Progress of the Capital Investment Project. Provide detailed evidence of the progress made toward the completion of the NCE's capital investment project. Describe the evidence provided (exhibit number, document name).

Item Number 17. Job Creation. Provide the aggregate number of direct jobs created or preserved by the capital investment project over the lifespan of the project.

Item Number 18. Fees. Provide a description of all the fees collected. The description of the fees should include the amount collected over the lifespan of the project. Provide the names of the entities that received such fees, and the purpose for which the entities collected the fees.

Item Number 19. Material Changes to NCE's Offering Documents. If applicable, indicate whether there have been any material changes during the preceding fiscal year to any documentation or disclosures referred to in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) section 203(b)(5)(F)(i)(IV) associated with Form I-956F. If there has been material changes, provide the documentation and describe the documentation provided (exhibit number, name of document).

Item Number 26. Separate Account Information. Indicate whether the NCE has set up a separate account for the deposit and maintenance of all capital investment from alien investors for the offering and project undertaken by the NCE and/or described in Form I-956F. Provide the name of the bank (or financial institution) and all associated bank account numbers set up by the NCE or affiliated JCE(s).

Item Number 27. Fund Administration. Indicate whether NCE and/or affiliated JCE retained a fund administrator to administer all investment capital deposited and maintained in the separate account(s). Indicate whether the administrator is a certified public accountant, attorney, or broker-dealer or investment adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and provide the full legal name, contact information, job title, relevant certification, and bar/registration number of the administrator.

Item Number 28. Indicate whether the NCE and/or affiliated JCE is controlled by or under common control of an investment adviser or broker-dealer that is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. If you answer "Yes," provide the full legal name, contact information, job title, relevant certification, and bar/registration number of the registered broker-dealer or investment adviser.

What Evidence Must You Submit?

Each regional center must submit to USCIS an annual statement, which must include specified information, evidence, and certifications to demonstrate compliance with applicable requirements for the Federal fiscal year being reported on, as shown in **Part 1.**, **Item Number 2**. The evidence should include all changes or updates to the total aggregate job creation and aggregate investment since the prior reporting period. Required evidence includes:

1. An accounting of all individual alien investor capital invested in the regional center, new commercial enterprise, and job-creating entity.

For each new commercial enterprise:

- 1. An accounting of the aggregate capital invested in the new commercial enterprise and any job-creating entity by alien investors under this paragraph for each capital investment project being undertaken by the new commercial enterprise;
- 2. Detailed evidence of the progress made toward the completion of each capital investment project which may include,but is not limited to:
 - A. Evidence of expenditures related to the project;
 - **B.** Photographic evidence of project construction;
 - C. News articles relating to project progress;

D. Affidavits from persons with first-hand knowledge of project progress, such as construction supervisors, architects, or project leads;

- E. Copies of permits or certificates of occupancy; or
- **F.** Other relevant documentation.
- 3. An accounting of the aggregate direct jobs created or preserved; and
- **4.** Any documentation referred to in INA section (F)(i)(IV) if there has been a material change during the preceding fiscal year.

If you fail to completely fill out your Form I-956G, USCIS may reject your form or require that you amend or supplement this form. USCIS may impose appropriate sanctions, including fines, suspension, permanent bar or termination, if a regional center fails to submit the required information or upon a determination that the regional center is otherwise in violation of applicable requirements.

What Is the Filing Fee?

The filing fee for Form I-956G is \$3,035.

USCIS will reject your Form I-956G if you submit the incorrect fee.

Payments by Check or Money Order

Use the following guidelines when you prepare your check or money order for the Form I-956G filing fee:

- 1. The check or money order must be drawn on a bank or other financial institution located in the United States and must be payable in U.S. currency; and
- 2. Make the check or money order payable to U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

NOTE: Spell out U.S. Department of Homeland Security; do not use the initials "USDHS" or "DHS."

3. If you live outside the United States, contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate for instructions on the method of payment.

Notice to Those Paying by Check. If you send USCIS a check, we will convert it into an electronic funds transfer (EFT). This means we will copy your check and use the account information on it to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will usually take 24 hours and your bank will show it on your regular account statement.

You will not receive your original check back. We will destroy your original check, but will keep a copy of it. If USCIS cannot process the EFT for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in place of your original check. If your check is returned as unpayable, we will re-submit the payment to the financial institution one time. If the check is returned as unpayable a second time, we will reject your application and charge you a returned check fee.

Payments by Credit Card

If you are filing your form at a USCIS Lockbox facility, you can pay your filing fee using a credit card. Please see Form G-1450, Authorization for Credit Card Transactions, at <u>www.uscis.gov/G-1450</u>, for more information.

NOTE: By completing this transaction, you agree that you have paid for a government service and that the filing fee, biometric services fee, and all related financial transactions are final and not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on an application, petition, or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision.

NOTE: The filing fee is not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on this application. **DO NOT MAIL CASH.** You must submit all fees in the exact amounts.

How to Check If the Fees Are Correct

Form I-956G's filing fee is current as of the edition date in the lower left corner of this page. However, because USCIS fees change periodically, you can verify that the fee is correct by following one of the steps below.

- 1. Visit the USCIS website at <u>www.uscis.gov</u>, select "FORMS," and check the appropriate fee; or
- Visit the USCIS Contact Center at <u>www.uscis.gov/contactcenter</u> to get answers to your questions and connect with a live USCIS representative. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at 1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833). The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

USCIS will reject your Form I-956G if you submit the incorrect fee or if you attach payment for more than what you are required to pay. In such a case, USCIS will return any filing fees you submitted with your Form I-956G. Form I-956G is not eligible for a fee waiver under 8 CFR 103.7(c).

Where To File?

Please visit our website at <u>www.uscis.gov/I-956G</u> or visit the USCIS Contact Center at <u>www.uscis.gov/contactcenter</u> to connect with a USCIS representative for the most current information about where to file this form. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283** (TTY **1-800-767-1833**). The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

Address Change

The regional center must notify USCIS of any change to the mailing address of the regional center, NCE, or JCE within 30 days of such change. Notification of these changes can be made by sending an email to the EB-5 Program mailbox at: USCIS.ImmigrantInvestorProgram@uscis.dhs.gov. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at 1-800-375-5283 (TTY 1-800-767-1833). The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

NOTE: Do not submit a change of address request to USCIS Lockbox facilities because the Lockbox does not process change of address requests. Sending notification of address change to the EB-5 Program mailbox at **USCIS.ImmigrantInvestorProgram@uscis.dhs.gov** does not negate your requirement to notify USCIS as explained in **www.uscis.gov/addresschange**.

Processing Information

You must have a United States address to file this form.

Form I-956G Processing. Once USCIS accepts your form, we will check it for completeness. If you do not completely fill out Form I-956G, USCIS may reject your form. If you do not completely fill out this form, you will not establish a basis for your eligibility, which may result in sanctions or the termination of the regional center's designation.

Requests for More Information. USCIS may request that you provide more information or evidence to support your form. We may also request that you provide the originals of any copies you submit. If we request an original document from you, it will be returned to you after USCIS determines it no longer needs your original.

Requests for Interview. We may request that you, as the authorized individual, appear at a USCIS office for an interview based on your form. At the time of any interview or other appearance at a USCIS office, we may require that you provide your biometrics to verify your identity or update background and security checks.

Decision. The decision on Form I-956G involves a determination of whether the regional center has established continued eligibility for regional center designation. USCIS will notify you of any adverse decision in writing.

USCIS Forms and Information

To ensure you are using the latest version of this form, visit the USCIS website at <u>https://www.uscis.gov</u> where you can obtain the latest USCIS forms and immigration-related information. If you do not have internet access, you may call the USCIS Contact Center at **1-800-375-5283** (TTY **1-800-767-1833**) and ask that we mail a form to you. The USCIS Contact Center provides information in English and Spanish.

Please visit us at <u>www.uscis.gov/contactcenter</u> to get basic information about immigration services and ask questions about a pending case. Through our digital self-help tools and live assistance, the USCIS Contact Center provides a pathway for you to get consistent, accurate information and answers to immigration case questions.

Penalties

Knowingly submitting or causing to be submitted an untrue statement of material fact with your Form I-956G may result in sanctions, including the termination of the regional center's designation and the denial of other immigration benefits. In addition, you may face other severe penalties provided by law and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

DHS Privacy Notice

AUTHORITIES: The information requested on this form, and the associated evidence, is collected under INA sections 101, 103, 203, 204, 216A, and 245 (as amended), and the EB-5 Reform and Integrity Act of 2022, Div. BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Pub. L. No. 117-103).

PURPOSE: The primary purpose for collecting the requested information on this form is to determine the regional center's continued eligibility for regional center designation. DHS will use the information you provide to determine continued eligibility for regional center designation. The identifying information requested on this form relating to the qualified certifiers and authorized individuals will allow DHS to perform standard background checks with law enforcement agencies. These background checks may reveal derogatory information that may result in the termination of the regional center's designation.

DISCLOSURE: The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information, including your social security number (if applicable), and any requested evidence, may adversely impact continued eligibility for regional center designation.

ROUTINE USES: DHS may share the information you provide on this form with other Federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations. DHS follows approved routine uses described in the associated published system of records notices [DHS/USCIS-007 - Benefits Information System and DHS/USCIS-001- Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records] which you can find at <u>www.dhs.gov/privacy</u>. DHS may also share the information, as appropriate, for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.

Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 16.03 hours per response, for initial and amendment filings, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the form, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the form. The time burden for participating in audits, when required, is 24 hours for the compliance review and 16 hours for the site visit. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, 5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop #2140, Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009; OMB No. 1615-XXXX. **Do not mail your completed Form I-956G to this address.**

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