

TABLE OF CHANGES – INSTRUCTIONS
Form I-589, Application for Asylum and Withholding of Removal
OMB Number: 1615-0067
7/16/2026

Reason for Revision: AARWI Rule

Legend for Proposed Text:

- Black font = Current text
- **Red font** = Changes

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Current Page Number and Section	Current Text	Proposed Text
Page 1, Instructions Sections: Filing Information and How Your Application Will Be Processed	[Page 1] ... If filing with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), unexcused failure to appear for an appointment or to provide biometrics (such as fingerprints) and other biographical information within the time allowed may delay eligibility for employment authorization and result in an asylum officer dismissing your asylum application or referring it to an immigration judge. Applicants and eligible dependents in removal proceedings who fail without good cause to provide USCIS with their biometrics or their biographical information as required within the time allowed may have their applications found abandoned by the immigration judge. See sections 208(d)(5)(A) and 208(d)(6) of the INA and 8 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) sections 208.10, 1208.10, 208.20, 1003.47(d), and 1208.20. [New]	[Page 1] ... If filing with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), unexcused failure to appear for an appointment or to provide biometrics (such as fingerprints) and other biographical information within the time allowed may delay eligibility for employment authorization and result in an asylum officer dismissing your asylum application or referring it to an immigration judge. Applicants and eligible dependents in removal proceedings who fail without good cause to provide USCIS with their biometrics or their biographical information as required within the time allowed may have their applications found abandoned by the immigration judge. See sections 208(d)(5)(A) and 208(d)(6) of the INA and 8 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) sections 208.10, 1208.10, 208.20, 1003.47(d), and 1208.20. If USCIS issues a request for evidence prior to interview scheduling, failure to respond to the request for evidence by the required date may result in an asylum officer referring your application to an immigration judge. See 8 CFR section 208.9(a)(2).

Page 2, Table of Contents	[Page 2] Table of Contents ... Part 2. Information Regarding Post-Filing Requirements/10 I. Notification Requirements When Your Address Changes/10 [New} II. Asylum Interview Process/11 III. Status While Your Application Is Pending/11 IV. Travel Outside the United States/11 V. Employment Authorization While Your Asylum Application Is Pending/11 DHS Privacy Notice/12 USCIS Forms and Information/12 Penalties/12 Paperwork Reduction Act/12 Supplements to Form I-589/12	[Page 2] Table of Contents ... Part 2. Information Regarding Post-Filing Requirements/10 I. Notification Requirements When Your Address Changes/10 II. Referral Without Interview/10 III. Asylum Interview Procedures, If Applicable /11 IV. Status While Your Application Is Pending/11 V. Travel Outside the United States/11 VI. Employment Authorization While Your Asylum Application Is Pending/11 DHS Privacy Notice/12 USCIS Forms and Information/12 Penalties/12 Paperwork Reduction Act/12 Supplements to Form I-589/12
Pages 2-10, Part 1. Filing Instructions	[Page 2] Part 1. Filing Instructions ... The determination of whether you are permitted to apply for asylum will be made once you have had an asylum interview with an asylum officer or a hearing before an immigration judge. Even if you are not eligible to apply for asylum for the reasons stated above, you may still be eligible to apply for withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the INA or under the Convention Against Torture before the Immigration Court. [Page 4] ... IV. Right to Counsel	[Page 2] Part 1. Filing Instructions ... The determination of whether you are permitted to apply for asylum will be made once your application has been reviewed by an asylum officer (with or without an asylum interview) or you have had a hearing before an immigration judge. Even if you are not eligible to apply for asylum for the reasons stated above, you may still be eligible to apply for withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the INA or under the Convention Against Torture before the Immigration Court. [Page 4] ... IV. Right to Counsel

	Immigration law concerning asylum and withholding of removal or deferral or removal is complex. You have a right to provide your own legal representation at an asylum interview and during immigration proceedings before the Immigration Court at no cost to the U.S. Government. [Page 5] ... If any question does not apply to you or you do not know the information requested, answer "none," "not applicable," or "unknown." [New] You must provide detailed information and answer the questions as completely as possible. If you file your application with missing information, we may return it to you as incomplete. If you need more space, attach Form I-589 Supplement A or B (included in the application package) and/or additional sheet(s) indicating the question number(s) you are answering. You can amend or supplement your application at the time of your asylum interview with an asylum officer and at your hearing in Immigration Court by providing additional information and explanations about your asylum claim. ... [Page 6] ...	Immigration law concerning asylum and withholding of removal or deferral or removal is complex. You have a right to provide your own legal representation at an asylum interview (if you are scheduled for an interview) and during immigration proceedings before the Immigration Court at no cost to the U.S. Government. [Page 5] ... If any question does not apply to you or you do not know the information requested, answer "none," "not applicable," or "unknown." USCIS may adjudicate your application without conducting an interview and without issuing a request for evidence. Your application and any supporting evidence that you provide now may be your only opportunity to meet your burden of proof to establish eligibility for asylum before USCIS. You must provide detailed information and answer the questions as completely as possible. If you file your application with missing information, we may return it to you as incomplete. If you need more space, attach Form I-589 Supplement A or B (included in the application package) and/or additional sheet(s) indicating the question number(s) you are answering. You may amend or supplement your application until a decision is issued. ... [Page 6] ...
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	You must clearly describe any of your experiences, or those of family members or others who have had similar experiences that may show that you are a refugee. [New] If you have experienced harm that is difficult for you to write down and express, you must be aware that these experiences may be very important to the decision-making process regarding your request to remain in the United States. At your interview with an asylum officer or hearing with an immigration judge, you will need to be prepared to discuss the harm you have suffered. If you are having trouble remembering or talking about past events, we suggest that you talk to a lawyer, an accredited representative, or a health professional who may be able to help you explain your experiences and current situation. Part C. Additional Information About Your Application Check "Yes" or "No" in the box provided for each question. If you answer "Yes" to any question, explain in detail using Form I-589 Supplement B or additional sheets of paper, as needed. [New] If you answer "Yes" to Question 5, you must explain why you did not apply for asylum within the first year after you arrived in the United States. The Government will accept as an explanation certain changes in the conditions in your	You must clearly describe any of your experiences, or those of family members or others who have had similar experiences that may show that you are a refugee. USCIS may adjudicate your application without conducting an interview and without issuing a request for evidence. Your application and any supporting evidence that you can provide now may be your only opportunity to meet your burden of proof to establish eligibility for asylum before USCIS. If you have experienced harm that is difficult for you to write down and express, you must be aware that these experiences may be very important to the decision-making process regarding your request to remain in the United States, and your application may be your only opportunity to describe your experience to an asylum officer. At any scheduled interview with an asylum officer or hearing with an immigration judge, you will need to be prepared to discuss the harm you have suffered. If you are having trouble remembering or talking about past events, we suggest that you talk to a lawyer, an accredited representative, or a health professional who may be able to help you explain your experiences and current situation. Part C. Additional Information About Your Application Check "Yes" or "No" in the box provided for each question. If you answer "Yes" to any question, explain in detail using Form I-589 Supplement B or additional sheets of paper, as needed. You should ensure that your explanations are complete and detailed. An asylum officer may adjudicate your application without conducting an interview or requesting additional evidence. If you answer "Yes" to Question 5, you must explain why you did not apply for asylum within the first year after you arrived in the United States. The Government will accept as an explanation certain changes in the conditions in your
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	4. If you have other identification documents (for example, birth certificate, military or national identification card, driver's license, etc.), we recommend that you submit one copy with your application and bring the original(s) with you to the interview. ... [Page 10] ... The following categories of individuals are not entitled to an asylum interview at a USCIS asylum office: ...	4. If you have other identification documents (for example, birth certificate, military or national identification card, driver's license, etc.), we recommend that you submit one copy with your application and bring the original(s) with you to any scheduled interview. ... [Page 10] ... USCIS will not adjudicate asylum applications filed by the following categories of individuals: ...
Pages 10-11, Part 2. Information Regarding Post-Filing Requirements	... [Page 10] If you are already in proceedings in Immigration Court, you must notify the Immigration Court on EOIR Form 33/IC, Alien Change of Address Form/Immigration Court, of any changes of address within 5 days of the change in address. You must send the notification to the Immigration Court having jurisdiction over your case. You must also notify USCIS on Form AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card, or by a signed and dated letter within 10 days after you change your address. [New]	... [Page 10] If you are already in proceedings in Immigration Court, you must notify the Immigration Court on EOIR Form 33/IC, Alien Change of Address Form/Immigration Court, of any changes of address within 5 days of the change in address. You must send the notification to the Immigration Court having jurisdiction over your case. You must also notify USCIS on Form AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card, or by a signed and dated letter within 10 days after you change your address. II. Referral Without Interview USCIS may refer your application without conducting an interview or issuing a request for evidence. If USCIS has jurisdiction over your asylum application, USCIS will determine whether to schedule you for an asylum interview. If you respond to the RFE you may be scheduled for an asylum interview See Section III. Asylum Interview Procedures, if Applicable, for information about asylum interviews. A decision to schedule you for an asylum

	II. Asylum Interview Process If you are not in proceedings in Immigration Court or before the Board of Immigration Appeals, you will be notified by the USCIS Asylum Office of the time, date, and place (address) of a scheduled interview. USCIS recommends that you bring a copy of your Form I-589 with you when you have your asylum interview. An asylum officer will interview you under oath and make a determination concerning your claim. In most cases, you will not be notified of the decision in your case until a date after your interview. ... III. Status While Your Application Is Pending While your case is pending, you will be permitted to remain in the United States. After your asylum interview, if you have not been granted asylum and appear to be removable under section 237 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1227, or inadmissible under section 212 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182, the asylum office will refer your application, together with the appropriate charging document, to the Immigration Court for adjudication in removal proceedings.	interview is not an adjudication of your application or a determination that you have met your burden of proof on eligibility. If you fail to submit evidence that overcomes the reason(s) for ineligibility, you may not be scheduled for an interview, and your application may be referred to an immigration judge based on the existing record and evidence. III. Asylum Interview Procedures, if Applicable If USCIS decides to conduct an asylum interview about your application, you will be notified by the USCIS Asylum Office of the time, date, and place (address) of any scheduled interview. If you are scheduled for an interview, USCIS recommends that you bring a copy of your Form I-589 with you when you have your asylum interview. An asylum officer will interview you under oath and make a determination concerning your claim. In most cases, you will not be notified of the decision in your case until a date after your interview. ... IV. Status While Your Application Is Pending While your case is pending, you will be permitted to remain in the United States. After adjudication of your application, if you have not been granted asylum and appear to be removable under section 237 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1227, or inadmissible under section 212 of the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1182, the asylum office will refer your application, together with the appropriate charging document, to the Immigration Court for adjudication in removal proceedings. V. Travel Outside the United States VI. Employment Authorization While Your Application Is Pending
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	IV. Travel Outside the United States V. Employment Authorization While Your Application Is Pending You will be granted permission to work if your asylum application is granted.	You will be granted permission to work if your asylum application is granted.
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