

USCIS Citizenship Education Resources and Initiatives

An Overview for Libraries

Webinar will begin at 1:00 p.m. EST

Technical tips for participants:

- For the best audio and to participate in the Q&A portion, connect by phone
- Dial: 1-888-946-7306
- Password: IMLS
- All participants will be muted
- For the Q&A session, the session operator will give instructions on how to ask a question



U.S. Citizenship
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Services



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Citizenship Education Resources and Initiatives

An Overview for Libraries

March 6, 2014

What is an Immigrant?

- An individual who has been granted the right to live and work permanently in the United States
- Sometimes referred to as:
 - ✓ Lawful Permanent Resident
 - ✓ Permanent Resident
 - ✓ Green Card Holder



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Obtaining Lawful Permanent Resident Status

- Lawful permanent resident status can be obtained through a relationship to a family member willing to sponsor a relative:
 - ✓ U.S. citizens can file for spouses, children of any age, parents and siblings
 - ✓ LPRs can file for their spouse, children under 21 or unmarried son/daughter over 21
- An employer willing to sponsor an employee
- Qualify as a refugee or asylee
- Other special immigrant programs



General Path to U.S. Citizenship

Requirements Provide Basis for Civic Integration

In general, lawful permanent residents must:

- Be at least 18 years old and a lawful permanent resident for at least 5 years
- Be physically present and live continuously in the U.S. for a specific period of time
- Be able to read, write, and speak basic English
- Have a basic understanding of U.S. history and government
- Be a person of good moral character
- Demonstrate an attachment to the principles and ideals of the U.S. Constitution



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Key Steps in the Naturalization Application Process

- File *Form N-400, Application for Naturalization* with USCIS
- Receive an appointment notice for biometrics collection
- Appear for a naturalization interview
 - Form N-400 will be reviewed with a USCIS officer
 - The reading, writing and civics tests will be administered
- If approved, a naturalization ceremony will be scheduled for the applicant to take the Oath of Allegiance
- For more information on the naturalization test and study materials, visit www.uscis.gov/citizenshiptest
- To learn more about citizenship, visit: www.uscis.gov/citizenship



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About the Office of Citizenship

Strategic Goals

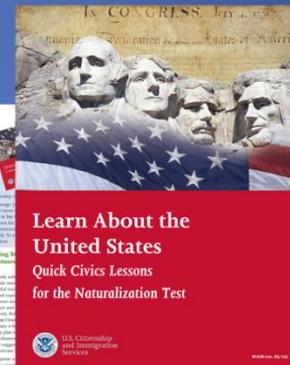
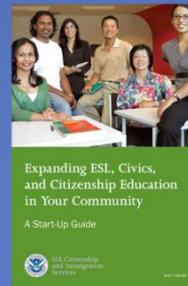
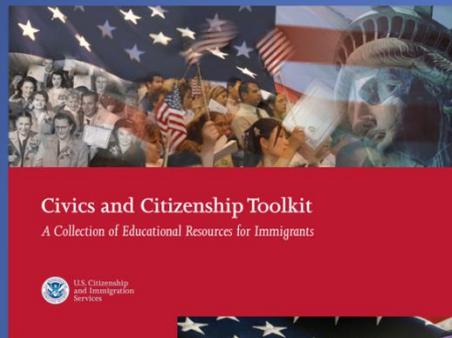
Established by the Homeland Security Act of 2002, the Office of Citizenship engages and supports partners to welcome immigrants, promote English language learning and education on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and encourage U.S. citizenship by:

- Providing immigrants with opportunities and tools to become vested citizens;
- Building community capacity to prepare immigrants for citizenship; and
- Promoting dialogue and collaboration on civic integration and citizenship and raising awareness of its importance to society



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USCIS Citizenship Education Resources

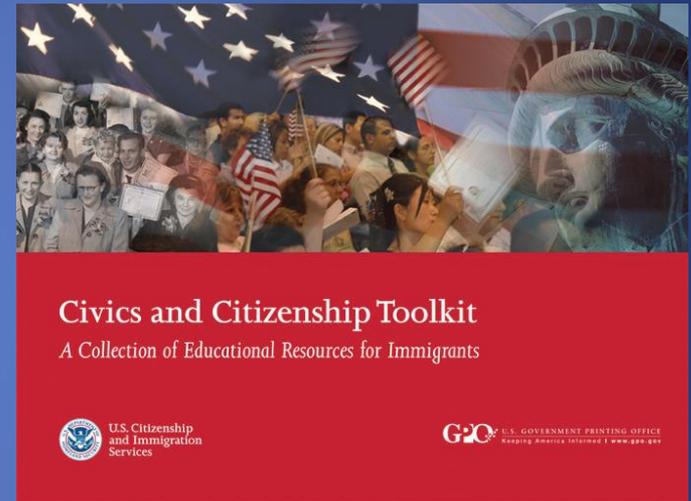


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Civics and Citizenship Toolkit

Free Resource for Organizations

- Contains educational materials designed to help permanent residents learn more about the United States and prepare for the naturalization process
- Comprises immigration and civics publications, handbooks, guidance on product usage, and multimedia tools
- Immigrant-serving organizations can register to receive a free copy at www.uscis.gov/citizenshiptoolkit



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HOME

LEARNERS

TEACHERS

ORGANIZATIONS

OTHER LANGUAGES



Citizenship Resource Center Educational Tools and Information for Citizenship Preparation

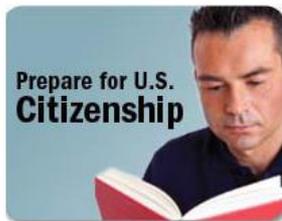
Providing learners, teachers, and organizations with a one-stop resource for locating citizenship preparation materials and activities.



LEARNERS

TEACHERS

ORGANIZATIONS



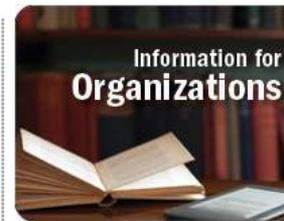
Prepare for U.S. Citizenship

- Should I Consider U.S. Citizenship?
- Learn About Naturalization
- Apply for Citizenship
- Study for the Test
- Find Help in Your Community
- Attend an Information Session
- Understand Rights and Responsibilities
- Naturalization Resources in Spanish



Welcome Teachers

- Educational Products
- Lesson Plans and Activities
- Training Seminars
- Training and Professional Development
- Naturalization Information
- Add Your Program to America's Literacy Directory
- Supplemental Resource Links



Information for Organizations

- Grant Program
- Promising Practices
- Training and Professional Development
- Add Your Program to America's Literacy Directory
- Supplemental Resource Links
- Citizenship Public Education and Awareness Initiative
- Civics and Citizenship Toolkit

Where can I find English and/or citizenship classes?

Many community organizations and social service providers offer English and citizenship classes. Immigrants can locate class finders, service providers, and information on USCIS-funded programs at www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learners/find-help-your-community



The screenshot shows the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website. At the top left is the USCIS logo. To its right is the text "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services". In the top right corner, there are links for "Home", "Email Updates", and "Contact Us". Below these is a search bar with the word "SEARCH" in red. A navigation menu below the search bar includes "HOME", "LEARNERS" (which is highlighted), "TEACHERS", "ORGANIZATIONS", and "OTHER LANGUAGES". Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Learners > Find Help in Your Community". To the right of the breadcrumb trail is a "Print This Page" icon. The main heading of the page is "Find Help in Your Community" in red. Below this heading is a paragraph of text: "Many community organizations and social service providers offer citizenship classes and assistance with the naturalization process. Classes are often held in the evenings and on weekends. In many cases, these programs provide additional support and referral services as well." To the right of this paragraph is a "More Information" section with a list of four bullet points: "Free Naturalization Information Sessions", "Find an English and/or citizenship class in your area", "Search NALEO's Citizenship Centers directory", and "CitizenshipWorks". Below the "More Information" section is another paragraph: "If you need help with an immigration issue, you can use the services of a licensed immigration attorney or accredited representative of a Board of Immigration Appeals recognized organization. Be sure to review the 'Legal Assistance' section below so you can make the right decision about what kind of legal help you need." At the bottom of the page, there is a final paragraph: "Other resources may be available in your community. See the [NALEO Educational Fund's directory of Citizenship Centers](#) or [CitizenshipWorks](#) for a selection of service providers in each state."

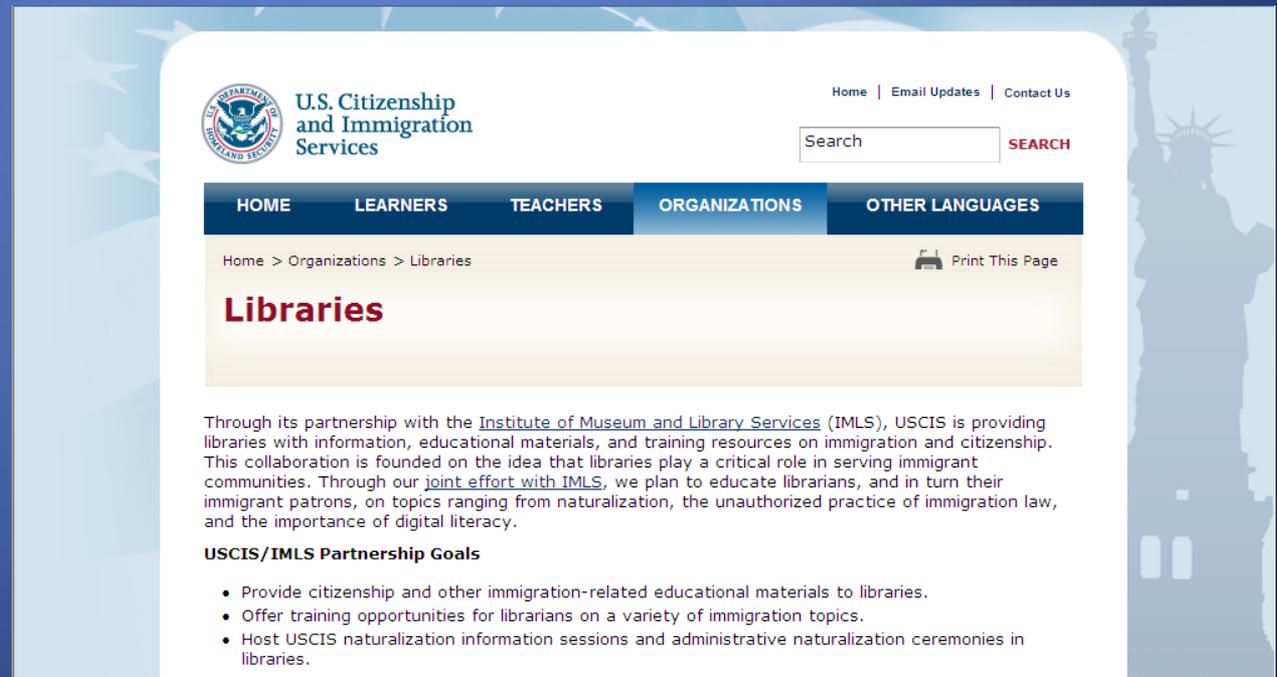


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USCIS Webpage for Libraries

Highlights Key USCIS Resources for Librarians

USCIS has developed an information page for libraries. This page includes helpful resources, upcoming webinars, contact details for local USCIS Community Relations Officers, and much more. The page is available at www.uscis.gov/citizenship/organizations/libraries



The screenshot shows the USCIS website page for Libraries. At the top left is the USCIS logo and the text "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services". To the right are links for "Home", "Email Updates", and "Contact Us". Below this is a search bar with the word "Search" and a "SEARCH" button. A navigation menu below the search bar includes "HOME", "LEARNERS", "TEACHERS", "ORGANIZATIONS" (which is highlighted), and "OTHER LANGUAGES". Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Organizations > Libraries" and a "Print This Page" button. The main heading is "Libraries" in a large, bold, red font. Below the heading is a paragraph of text: "Through its partnership with the [Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#), USCIS is providing libraries with information, educational materials, and training resources on immigration and citizenship. This collaboration is founded on the idea that libraries play a critical role in serving immigrant communities. Through our [joint effort with IMLS](#), we plan to educate librarians, and in turn their immigrant patrons, on topics ranging from naturalization, the unauthorized practice of immigration law, and the importance of digital literacy." Below the paragraph is a section titled "USCIS/IMLS Partnership Goals" with a bulleted list: "• Provide citizenship and other immigration-related educational materials to libraries.", "• Offer training opportunities for librarians on a variety of immigration topics.", and "• Host USCIS naturalization information sessions and administrative naturalization ceremonies in libraries."



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Preparing for the Oath

USCIS and the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History partnered to develop, *Preparing for the Oath: U.S. History and Civics for Citizenship*. This web-based learning tool is designed to help immigrants prepare for the civics portion of the naturalization test. This free resource is available at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/citizenship>. The site includes:

- Short videos on the civics test questions;
- Interactive learning activities;
- Practice tests; and
- Lesson plans for teachers



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A screenshot of the "Preparing for the Oath" website interface. The header includes the title "PREPARING FOR THE OATH" and "U.S. HISTORY AND CIVICS FOR CITIZENSHIP". There are navigation links for "TEST YOURSELF", "ABOUT TEACHERS", "WORD LIST", "TRANSCRIPT", and "HELP". The main content area is titled "CHOOSE A THEME FROM THE MENU" and features a grid of interactive theme cards. The cards include: "GOVERNMENT BASICS" (with the Great Seal), "COURTS" (with a judge's robe), "CONGRESS" (with the U.S. Capitol), "ESTABLISHING INDEPENDENCE" (with the Declaration of Independence), "FAMOUS CITIZENS" (with a portrait of George Washington), "THE PRESIDENCY" (with the White House), "RIGHTS" (with a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr.), "WRITING THE CONSTITUTION" (with the text "We the People"), "THE 1900'S" (with a military helmet), "RESPONSIBILITIES" (with a group of people), "VOTING" (with a person at a ballot box), "GEOGRAPHY" (with a map of the United States), "SYMBOLS & HOLIDAYS" (with the American flag), and "THE 1800'S" (with a historical scene). At the bottom, there are logos for the Smithsonian National Museum of American History and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, along with a footer containing "Privacy Press Credits Give Contact Terms of Use".

Supporting Immigrant Patrons

Citizenship Engagement Activities for Libraries



*Citizenship Program Participants, Springfield, Massachusetts
Courtesy of Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts*



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Supporting Immigrant Patrons

Develop Citizenship Corners



Mid Valley Regional Library, Los Angeles, California
Courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library



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Supporting Immigrant Patrons

Host Immigration-Related Programming

- Citizenship Education Classes
- Naturalization Ceremonies
- Naturalization Information Sessions

If you are interested in working with USCIS on an event or session, please contact:

USCIS-
IGAOutreach@uscis.dhs.gov



*Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Washington, DC
Courtesy of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services*



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Supporting Immigrant Patrons

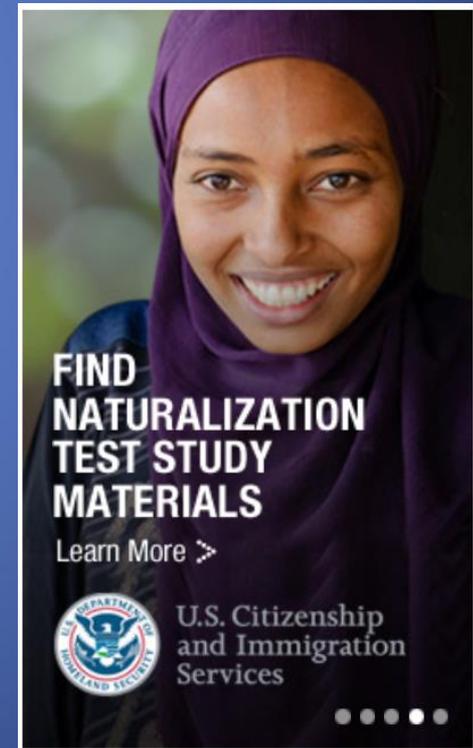
Include Citizenship Information on Your Website

Some libraries have a graphic or link to citizenship content from their homepage and others may have users navigate to it through the web site menu. Examples include:

- Los Angeles Public Library
- Queens Library
- Hartford Public Library



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Los Angeles Public Library

LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY  MY LIBRARY ACCOUNT

Search LAPL for: Library Catalog Keyword

[Collections & Resources](#) | [Locations & Hours](#) | [What's On?](#) | [Get Involved](#) | [About LAPL](#) | [Library Store](#)

En español
Kids
Teens
Parents
Teachers
Job Seekers
Adult Literacy
Health Matters
Online Learning
ADA Services

How Do I? >
My Library Account >
Ask a Librarian >
Reserve a Computer >
Find A Library >

Citizenship Information and Resources

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Interested in U.S. Citizenship?	¿Le interesa la ciudadanía de Estados Unidos?
 Understand Rights and Responsibilities	 Aprenda sobre los derechos y responsabilidades
 Learn About Naturalization	 Aprenda sobre la Naturalización
 Download Form N-400	 Descargue el Formulario N-400
 Study for the Naturalization Test	 Estudie para el Examen de Naturalización
 Find Help in Your Community	 Encuentre ayuda en su comunidad

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Queens Library



TEXT SIZE **A A** [Ask a Librarian](#) | [About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [FAQ](#) | 語言 English | [Login](#)

Search for ... By: Keywords In: All categories At: All locations [Go](#)

[Books](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Events](#) | [Research](#) | [Services](#)

Home » [Services](#) » [Citizenship Immigration](#)

Services

- [Adult Literacy](#)
- [Citizenship & Immigration](#)**
- [Community Information](#)
- [Computers & Wi-Fi](#)
- [Get a Library Card](#)
- [Health Information](#)
- [International Relations](#)
- [Job Information](#)
- [Learn English](#)
- [Multilingual Services](#)
- [NYC-Connected Communities](#)
- [Older Adults](#)
- [People with Disabilities](#)
- [Veterans Information](#)

Citizenship & Immigration

- [Bienvenidos a Queens!](#)
- [Citizenship Preparation](#)
- [Directory of Immigrant Serving](#)

Citizenship & Immigration

[Printer-friendly](#)

Citizenship & Immigration

Bienvenidos a Queens!

Community information in Spanish on health, immigration issues, housing, English classes and other topics useful for Spanish speakers.

Citizenship Preparation

A list of organizations offering citizenship preparation classes and immigration services in Queens for free or for low or sliding scale fees. (These services are by referral and not sponsored by Queens Library. List updated every Spring)

Learn English

A list of organizations offering classes in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) in Queens for free or for low fees. (These services are by referral and not sponsored by Queens Library.)

Directory of Immigrant-Serving Agencies

Information on agencies offering low-cost or free social services to immigrants in over 50 languages. You can search by agency location, types of services offered, languages spoken, target group or ethnic group.

Feedback



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Hartford Public Library

The screenshot displays the Hartford Public Library website. At the top left is the logo with the text "Hartford Public Library" and the tagline "A place like no other." Below the logo is a search bar labeled "FIND YOUR PLACE" and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and RSS. On the top right, a vertical menu lists: ABOUT, USING YOUR LIBRARY, LIBRARY POLICIES, SUPPORT HPL, LOCATIONS & HOURS, and CONTACT US. A dark navigation bar contains: Books, Media & More; Library Services (highlighted with a white triangle); Online Education & Research; Programs & Exhibits; Learn About Hartford; A | A; and a TRANSLATE button. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with: Kids; Teens; Parents; Adults; Immigration & Citizenship (highlighted with a white triangle); Job & Career; and Nonprofits. The main content area is titled "LIBRARY SERVICES > IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP" and features a green grid of service categories: Learning English, Citizenship, Immigration, Multicultural Resources, Community & Civic Participation, and News & Media. To the right is a "MY ACCOUNT" section with a play button, a "SEARCH" section with tabs for "Catalog", "Articles", and "Website", and a "GET INVOLVED" section with a play button. Below the "GET INVOLVED" section is a Facebook "Like" button showing "3,658 people like this. Sign Up to see what your friends like." At the bottom right is a "GET A LIBRARY" button. On the left side of the main content area, there is a photo of a library interior and a text box describing the American Place (TAP) program. To the right of the photo is a "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services" banner with a list of services: "Self Check Service" (Friday, Oct. 18, 2013 at 3:17 PM), "E-Verify is Available" (Thursday, Oct. 17, 2013 at 10:28), and "Special Immigrant Visa".

Hartford Public Library
A place like no other.

FIND YOUR PLACE

ABOUT
USING YOUR LIBRARY
LIBRARY POLICIES
SUPPORT HPL
LOCATIONS & HOURS
CONTACT US

Books, Media & More | **Library Services** | Online Education & Research | Programs & Exhibits | Learn About Hartford | A | A | TRANSLATE

Kids | Teens | Parents | Adults | **Immigration & Citizenship** | Job & Career | Nonprofits

LIBRARY SERVICES > IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP

Learning English | Immigration | Community & Civic Participation
Citizenship | Multicultural Resources | News & Media

MY ACCOUNT

SEARCH
Catalog | Articles | Website

GET INVOLVED

Like 3,658 people like this. Sign Up to see what your friends like.

GET A LIBRARY

The American Place (TAP) is a free library program designed to welcome immigrants and facilitate their transition into their new home city. Our services include free English and Citizenship classes.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Self Check Service
Friday, Oct. 18, 2013 at 3:17 PM

E-Verify is Available
Thursday, Oct. 17, 2013 at 10:28

Special Immigrant Visa



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What is the Unauthorized Practice of Immigration Law?

The term Unauthorized Practice of Immigration Law (UPIIL) generally refers to the provision of legal advice and/or representation regarding immigration matters by an individual who is not an attorney eligible to practice law and in good standing or is not an accredited representative. Legal advice may include:

- Identifying what immigration options an applicant or petitioner may have, and
- Choosing what immigration form to file and/or deciding how to answer questions on immigration forms



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UPIIL Initiative

- UPIIL is a serious problem that can affect anyone seeking an immigration benefit
- Perpetrators of immigration services scams often engage in UPIIL as a means to defraud their victims
- Through this initiative to combat UPIIL and immigration services scams, USCIS seeks to protect the integrity of our immigration system and the best interests of the communities we serve



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UPIIL Initiative: Three Pillars

- Public Education
- Capacity Building
- Enforcement



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Common Scams

- Maintaining websites that resemble official USCIS resources available at www.uscis.gov;
- Selling USCIS forms which are available free of charge at www.uscis.gov/forms;
- Applying for benefits on behalf of an individual who is ineligible for those benefits;
- Falsifying information in documents submitted to USCIS;
- Accepting an individual's money for filing fees without submitting any application or petition to USCIS; or
- Making claims that he or she can obtain government-issued documents because he or she has special influence or a connection with the government



Recent Telephone Scam

- USCIS has recently learned of several scams targeting immigrant populations
- One such scam involves phone calls to immigration applicants and petitioners by people claiming to be a USCIS representative. These callers are then requiring that a sum of money be wired immediately to avoid having the applicant's or petitioner's case denied
- The USCIS Customer Access Center will only contact applicants when they directly request to be contacted if there is an excessive hold time. USCIS will never call you requesting immediate payment of fees
- If you are unsure about the validity of the call, please hang up and call the USCIS Customer Service Center at **1-800-375-5283** or make an appointment at your local USCIS office via <http://infopass.uscis.gov>



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Engaging with USCIS/IMLS

Next Steps

- Visit the USCIS Citizenship Resource Center's library page under the Organizations tab at www.uscis.gov/citizenship
- Register for a free copy of the *Civics and Citizenship Toolkit* at www.uscis.gov/citizenshiptoolkit
- Consider establishing a citizenship corner at your library
- Post a USCIS widget on your website. Available at www.uscis.gov/citizenshipawareness
- Consider hosting a citizenship class, information session, or naturalization ceremony at your library



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Engaging with USCIS/IMLS

Next Steps (cont.)

- Subscribe to the IMLS newsletter (*Primary Source*) at www.imls.gov/signup.aspx
- Register for the USCIS free email alert service at www.uscis.gov/citizenship and click on “Email Updates”
- Find information on upcoming webinars for libraries at www.imls.gov/about/serving_new_americans.aspx or on USCIS’s Library page at www.uscis.gov/citizenship
- Contact your local USCIS Community Relations Officer for further information and guidance on the support and opportunities available for libraries



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About this Presentation

- Authors: USCIS Office of Citizenship/Customer Service and Public Engagement Directorate
- Date of last revision: February 27, 2014
- This presentation is valid as of the date of the last revision.
- This presentation contains no sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (PII).
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