

LVCA CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

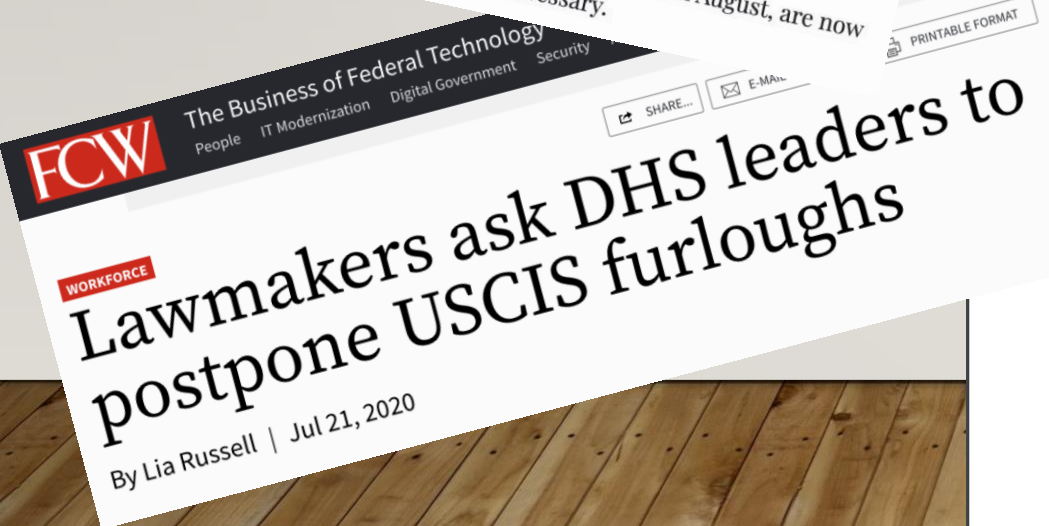


- USCIS UPDATES
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USCIS SERVICES - FEES

- For Naturalization applicants:
 - The proposed fee for N-400 will increase to \$1170 + 85 (biometrics) = **\$1255** (83% increase).
 - USCIS proposes eliminating all fee waivers and reductions for citizenship applicants
- USCIS also proposes eliminating fee waivers/reductions and/or increasing fees for green card replacement or renewal, adjustment of status, DACA renewals, etc., and adding a \$50 asylum fee
- If/when OMB approves, expected before the end of the summer, changes of this kind *usually* go into effect 60 days later.

USCIS FURLOUGH UPDATE



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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6025
<http://appropriations.senate.gov>

July 21, 2020

The Honorable Chad F. Wolf
Acting Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Joseph Edlow
Deputy Director for Policy
U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services
20 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Secretary Wolf and Deputy Director Edlow:

We write to you today about the fact that United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) currently projects to end the fiscal year with a surplus and a sufficient balance to pay its employees for the remainder of the fiscal year. We ask that you take immediate action to save USCIS employees from unnecessary furloughs.

A surplus is certainly in stark contrast to the revenue forecast provided to Congress earlier this year that indicated a \$571 million deficit for FY 2020. Yet, despite this welcome reversal in revenue estimates, USCIS has perplexingly chosen to proceed with furloughs of over 13,000 federal employees. During this pandemic with record unemployment, needlessly forcing these hardworking Americans into unemployment will crush the morale of the workforce and put an untold number of families into unnecessary financial distress.

With regard to your projected deficit for FY 2021, we are committed to addressing this issue in the next coronavirus supplemental so that USCIS can continue accomplishing its missions without a furlough.

USCIS SERVICES – PROCESSING TIME

- <https://egov.uscis.gov/processing-times/>
 - Form: N-400
 - Field office: Washington, D.C.
- As of July 21, it is back down to 11 to 16 months.
- “The estimated time range displayed is based on data captured approximately two months prior to updating the page. Please note that times may change without prior notice.”

USCIS – NATURALIZATION TEST REVISION

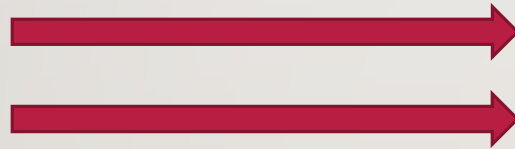
- No information available on whether this is still on track for December/January implementation
- There was a round of pilot testing new civics questions last fall, then there was supposed to be a second round of internal piloting of new items within USCIS field offices in April.
- There were 148 items identified for the fall pilot, which were supposed to be reduced and revised based on data gathered from fall & spring rounds of pilot testing
- They also indicated that they would “assess the speaking test” – no further information

COMPARISON: GEOGRAPHY

CURRENT TEST






- Capital of U.S.
- Statue of Liberty
- Longest River
- Atlantic Ocean
- Pacific Ocean
- US Territory
- State bordering Canada
- State bordering Mexico

PILOT QUESTIONS



COMPARISON: PRESIDENTS

CURRENT TEST

- Washington 
- Jefferson 
- Lincoln 
- Wilson
- FDR 
- Eisenhower 

PILOT QUESTIONS

- Madison
- Teddy Roosevelt
- Truman
- Kennedy
- Reagan

KEEPING TEACHING THE CURRENT CIVICS QUESTIONS



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LVCA INTERMEDIATE CITIZENSHIP CLASSES

PREVIOUS MODEL

- 12 week session
- Class covers all content
 - N-400, Reading, Writing & Civics
- 2 hour class, once a week
- In-person instruction
- Vary days/times offered from one semester to the next


NEW MODEL

- 5-6 week sessions
- Content-specific offerings:
 - N-400, Reading & Writing Part A & B
 - Civics Part A & Part B
- 1 hour class, once a week
- On Zoom
- Two classes offered each session at different days/times. Students can take one or both

PROJECTED FALL SCHEDULE

June	July - early Aug	Late Aug - Sept	Oct – early Nov	Mid Nov - Dec
Civics Part A	Civics Part B	Civics Part A	Civics Part B	
	N400, R&W Part A	N400, R&W Part B	N400, R&W Part A	N400, R&W Part B

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