

## USCIS Announces Online Case Status Feature for Asylum Applicants

**WASHINGTON**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today that applicants who have a pending affirmative asylum application with USCIS can now check the status of their applications online at <a href="mailto:uscis.gov/casestatus">uscis.gov/casestatus</a>. Only asylum applicants with an application pending with USCIS will be able to use this new feature to check their case status online. It will not cover defensive asylum applicants whose cases are pending in immigration court.

"The new capability increases transparency and assures applicants that they have the most up-to-date and accurate information about their case, 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said USCIS Director L. Francis Cissna. "We strive to adjudicate all applications and petitions in a timely manner and are working to reduce the impact on processing times by aligning resources appropriately."

Previously, asylum applicants could only check their case status through an asylum office in person or by phone, fax, or email. Non-governmental organizations and stakeholders within the legal community informed USCIS that asylum applicants have found this process is very difficult. Furthermore, giving asylum applicants the ability to check their case status online allows asylum office staff to better focus their resources on scheduling interviews and adjudicating pending cases.

This enhancement is a part of our overall modernization efforts to provide a more efficient and effective user experience.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, please visit <u>uscis.gov</u> or follow us on Twitter (<u>@uscis</u>), Instagram (<u>/uscis</u>), YouTube (<u>/uscis</u>), and Facebook(<u>/uscis</u>).

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