

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Dependent records: an I-539 research index

How should an I-539-related family file keep each dependent's record separate from the principal's?

Create a person-specific index linking the principal record, relationship evidence and each dependent's own history. A family's shared plans do not make their documents or proposed activities identical.

Check the boxes on screen or by hand. Use the notes area for records to find and questions to ask.

Your preparation checklist

- ☐ Index principal category with its source and event date.
- ☐ Index relationship source with its source and event date.
- ☐ Index dependent history with its source and event date.
- ☐ Index proposed activity with its source and event date.
- ☐ Mark missing or conflicting information without inventing an answer.
- ☐ Compare the finished index with current official instructions before relying on it.

Notes and questions to follow up

Source links and current instructions

Sources checked October 25, 2026. Follow current instructions at the linked institution.

USCIS: I-539: Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status

<https://www.uscis.gov/i-539>

USCIS: Policy Manual: evidence

<https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-1-part-e-chapter-6>

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<https://immigrantinsider.com/checklists/i539-dependent-record-index/>

General information

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