

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Form I-601A: the limits of a provisional unlawful-presence waiver

What does Form I-601A waive, who is a qualifying relative and what remains unresolved?

I-601A requests a provisional waiver of specified unlawful-presence grounds before an eligible immigrant visa applicant leaves for consular processing. It does not waive every inadmissibility ground. The extreme-hardship inquiry concerns a qualifying U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse or parent, while the visa process and other eligibility questions remain separate.

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

Your preparation checklist

- ☐ Identify the exact unlawful-presence ground and any separate potential inadmissibility issues for qualified review.
- ☐ Keep the approved immigrant petition or DV record separate from qualifying-relative evidence.
- ☐ Identify the qualifying spouse or parent and document the relationship and citizenship or LPR status.
- ☐ Preserve actual hardship evidence and its connection to that qualifying relative.
- ☐ Check the paid immigrant visa processing receipt and actual Department of State case stage.
- ☐ Keep removal-related orders, any I-212 decision and pending applications visible in the history.

Notes and questions to follow up

Source links and current instructions

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

USCIS: Form I-601A: the limits of a provisional unlawful-presence waiver
<https://www.uscis.gov/i-601a>

Form I-601A: the limits of a provisional unlawful-presence waiver

Source links (continued)

Office of the Federal Register / eCFR: 8 CFR 212.7(e): provisional unlawful-presence waivers

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-8/section-212.7>

USCIS: USCIS Policy Manual: extreme-hardship qualifying relatives and discretion

<https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-9-part-b-chapter-1>

Return to the complete guide

<https://immigrantinsider.com/forms/i-601a/>

General information

This free organizer is not a government form and does not submit an application, establish eligibility, preserve a deadline or replace individual legal advice. Government filing fees and professional services are separate.