

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Form I-589: asylum, withholding and the agency handling the case

Should every asylum applicant send I-589 to the same agency?

No. The official I-589 page distinguishes affirmative asylum with USCIS from defensive asylum in EOIR proceedings. The case context determines which official filing instructions need review. A generic form explainer cannot identify an individual filing destination or settle asylum eligibility.

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 agency and any existing proceeding from complete notices.
- ☐ Keep sensitive narratives out of public search and email forms.
- ☐ Inventory records without inventing a model account.
- ☐ Separate informational translations from the official form version.
- ☐ Check the appropriate USCIS or EOIR instructions.
- ☐ Seek qualified help about consequential timing and eligibility questions.

A little support for your next step.

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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-589: Asylum and Withholding of Removal

<https://www.uscis.gov/i-589>

USCIS: Policy Manual: evidence

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

Immigrant Insider: Editorial policy and verification status

<https://immigrantinsider.com/editorial-policy/>

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<https://immigrantinsider.com/forms/i-589/>

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.