

YOUR WORKING CHECKLIST

Marriage and permanent residence: relationship petition versus final grant

Does marriage or an approved spouse petition make someone a permanent resident?

No. A civil marriage, an I-130 relationship petition and a grant of permanent residence are different events. The immigration process must address the relationship and the applicable residence route, with separate decisions and evidence.

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

Your preparation checklist

- ☐ Preserve the official civil event and any name information.
- ☐ Keep relevant earlier marriage or termination records for review.
- ☐ Identify what each record actually shows without manufacturing a narrative.
- ☐ Distinguish adjustment inside the United States from consular visa processing abroad.

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-130: Petition for Alien Relative

<https://www.uscis.gov/i-130>

USCIS: Adjustment of status

<https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-processes-and-procedures/adjustment-of-status>

Immigrant Insider: Editorial policy and verification status

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

U.S. Department of State: Family immigration: categories and agency roles

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/family-immigration.html>

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Return to the complete guide

<https://immigrantinsider.com/immigration-paths/family/marriage-green-card/>

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.