



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

USCIS Approves 10,000 U Visas for 5th Straight Fiscal

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U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has approved the statutory maximum 10,000 (U visas) for fiscal year 2014. This marks the fifth straight year that USCIS has reached the statutory maximum of U visas in 2008.

Each year, 10,000 U visas are available for victims of certain qualifying crimes who have suffered and are willing to help law enforcement authorities investigate or prosecute those crimes. A U visa provides assistance from law enforcement.

Congress created the U visa program to strengthen the law enforcement community's ability to address domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other crimes, while also offering protection to victims and their family members have received U visas since the program was implemented in 2009.

Though USCIS has reached its statutory cap of 10,000 U visas, it will continue to review pending applications and send a letter to all eligible petitioners who, due solely to the cap, are not granted U-1 visas, notifying them to receive a U visa when visas again become available and what options they have in the interim. Members must continue to meet eligibility requirements at the time the U visa is issued.

USCIS will resume issuing U visas on Oct. 1, 2014, the first day of fiscal year 2015, when visas become available.

Visit uscis.gov for more information about the U visa on our [Victims of Criminal Activity](#) Web page or [Questions and Answers](#).