



Office of Communications

**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

# USCIS Update

Jan. 30, 2009

## **USCIS DELAYS RULE CHANGING LIST OF DOCUMENTS ACCEPTABLE TO VERIFY EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY**

*Reopens Public Comment Period for 30 days*

**WASHINGTON**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today it has delayed by 60 days, until April 3, 2009, the implementation of an interim final rule entitled “*Documents Acceptable for Employment Eligibility Verification*” published in the [Federal Register](#) on Dec. 17, 2008. The rule streamlines the Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9) process.

The delay will provide DHS with an opportunity for further consideration of the rule and also allows the public additional time to submit comments. A [notice](#) announcing the delay was transmitted today to the *Federal Register*. In addition, USCIS has reopened the public comment period for 30 days, until March 4, 2009.

Employers must complete a Form I-9 for all newly hired employees to verify their identity and authorization to work in the United States. The interim final rule will amend regulations governing the types of acceptable identity and employment authorization documents employees may present to their employers for completion of the Form I-9. Under the interim rule, employers will no longer be able to accept expired documents to verify employment authorization on the Form I-9.

The interim final rule and an informational copy of the revised Form I-9 will continue to be available for public comment at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

– USCIS –