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## **Alien Registration Requirement FAQ**

Effective April 11, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will enforce updated regulations regarding alien registration. The following FAQ outlines what this means for foreign national employees and their families.

### **1. What is the alien registration requirement?**

Alien registration under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) requires certain foreign nationals to provide their biographic and biometric information (including fingerprints) to the U.S. government. For example, under the alien registration requirement, **within 30 days of reaching his or her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday, all previously registered children must apply for re-registration and fingerprinting.** The purpose is to maintain accurate government records of foreign nationals residing in the U.S. and to facilitate identity verification and security screenings.

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### **2. Is this a new law?**

No. The obligation to register has existed under the INA, but this was rarely enforced. What's new is the method of registration, introduced following **Executive Order 14159** issued by President Trump on **January 20, 2025**, titled *"Protecting the American People Against Invasion."* The new Interim Final Rule (IFR) provides a modernized system for enforcing existing registration laws.

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### **3. What changed under the new Interim Final Rule (IFR)?**

On **March 12, 2025**, DHS published an IFR that:

- Designates a new registration form: **Form G-325R, Biometric Information (Registration)**;
- Expands the list of documentation accepted as **proof of registration**; and
- Clarifies who is considered already registered and who must take action.

**The IFR takes effect on April 11, 2025.**

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### **4. Who must register now under the IFR?**

The IFR requires registration for the following individuals:

- **Any alien, whether previously registered or not, who turns 14 years old in the United States, within 30 days after their 14th birthday;**
  - All aliens 14 years of age or older who were not registered and fingerprinted (if required) when applying for a visa to enter the United States and who remain in the United States for 30 days or longer. They must apply before the expiration of those 30 days; and
  - The parents or legal guardians of aliens less than 14 years of age: Parents or legal guardians must apply for the registration of aliens less than 14 years of age who have not been registered and remain in the United States for 30 days or longer, before the expiration of those 30 days.
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## 5. Who is already considered registered and does NOT need to take action?

Aliens who have already registered include:

- Aliens admitted to the United States as **nonimmigrants who were issued Form I-94 or I-94W, even if the period of admission has expired;**
  - **Lawful permanent residents** (“green card” holder);
  - Aliens paroled into the United States under INA 212(d)(5), even if the period of parole has expired;
  - All aliens present in the United States who were issued **immigrant or nonimmigrant visas** before their last date of arrival;
  - Aliens whom DHS has placed into removal proceedings;
  - Aliens issued an **Employment Authorization Document (EAD)**;
  - Aliens who have applied for lawful permanent residence using Forms I-485, I-687, I-691, I-698, I-700, and provided fingerprints (unless waived), even if the applications were denied; and
  - Aliens issued **Border Crossing Cards**.
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## 6. Who likely has NOT been registered?

Aliens who have not registered include:

- Aliens present in the United States **without inspection** and admission/parole who have not otherwise registered (e.g., crossed a border illegally);
  - **Canadian visitors who entered the United States at land ports of entry and were not issued evidence of registration;** and
  - Aliens who submitted a USCIS application **not listed** in 8 CFR 264.1(a), such as for **Deferred Action** or **Temporary Protected Status**, and were not issued recognized registration evidence.
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## 7. What is the new method by which a foreign national may apply for registration?



A foreign national may submit Form G-325R electronically via [MyUSCIS.gov](https://myuscis.gov). Each alien submitting Form G-325R must have their own individual USCIS online account. This includes aliens under the age of 14. If you are the parent or legal guardian of an alien under the age of 14 who needs to register, you will need to set up an individual USCIS online account on your child's behalf and in their name.

If you are required to register and provide biometrics (fingerprinting), USCIS will schedule you for a biometric services appointment at one of our Application Support Centers (ASCs) after reviewing the submitted registration form. After registration and fingerprinting (if required), DHS will issue **Proof of Alien Registration**.

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#### 8. What happens after I register via [MyUSCIS.gov](https://myuscis.gov) and provide fingerprints?

Once registration is complete, and fingerprints (unless waived) are collected:

- DHS will issue **Proof of Alien Registration**.
- If you are **18 or older**, you are **legally required to carry this evidence of registration** on your person **at all times**.

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#### 9. What are the penalties for (1) failure/refusal to register or (2) failure to carry evidence of registration?

Any alien who willfully **fails or refuses to apply to register** or be fingerprinted (if required), and any parent or legal guardian who is required to apply for the registration on behalf of an alien less than 14 years of age and who willfully fails or refuses to file an application for the registration of such alien, will be guilty of a misdemeanor and will, upon conviction, be fined not to exceed \$5,000 or be imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

Any alien required to register who is **18 years of age** and older and who fails to comply with the requirement that they carry evidence of registration, and have in their personal possession evidence of registration will be guilty of a misdemeanor and will upon conviction for each offense be fined not to exceed \$5,000 or be imprisoned not more than 30 days, or both.

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#### 10. Does registration give me any legal immigration status or benefits?

No. While registration is a legal requirement, it does **not**:

- Grant immigration status;
- Establish eligibility to work; or
- Affect any existing applications.

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**11. Do employment-based visa holders (e.g., H-1B, L-1, H-4) need to register?**

Many employment-based visa holders and their dependents may have registered already through the visa and admission process (e.g., I-94). But special attention should be paid to **children under 14 years of age who were not fingerprinted**.

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**12. My child was born in the U.S. and is a U.S. citizen. Does my child need to register?**

No. If your child is a U.S. citizen, then this IFR does not apply to your child.

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**13. If I am a lawful permanent resident who acquired lawful permanent residency after 14 years of age, do I have to register and/or undergo fingerprinting?**

No.

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**14. Where can I get more information?**

For individual assistance:

- Visit <https://www.uscis.gov/alienregistration>; or
- Contact Goel & Anderson.

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*Disclaimer: This FAQ is for informational purposes only and is not legal advice. For legal interpretation or assistance, consult a licensed immigration attorney.*