

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an educator who works with adult ESOL Programs that serve newly arrived refugees. Many of these individuals desire to become U.S. citizens as soon as they are eligible. However, many of them spend years working in low entry jobs because their professional credentials from their home countries do not transfer to the U.S. As a result, increasing citizenship fees will make it increasingly difficult for these individuals to pursue the dream of U.S. citizenship.

I propose that USCIS creates a system that citizenship fees are on a sliding scale based on one's income level. The new fee amount should be the maximum, with the possibility of lower fees depending on one's income. It saddens me to think that citizenship to our nation would be out of reach to some people because of fees, and I believe that our country has a responsibility to ensure that those who want to pursue citizenship are not prevented from doing so for financial reasons.

Thank you,
Keri Lucas, Chicago