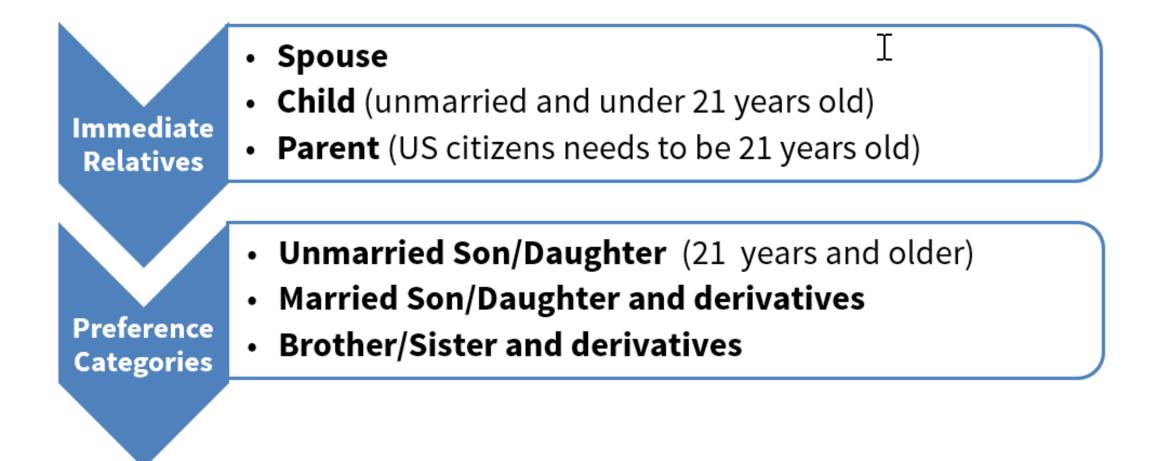
# How to Petition for a Family Member: Form I-130

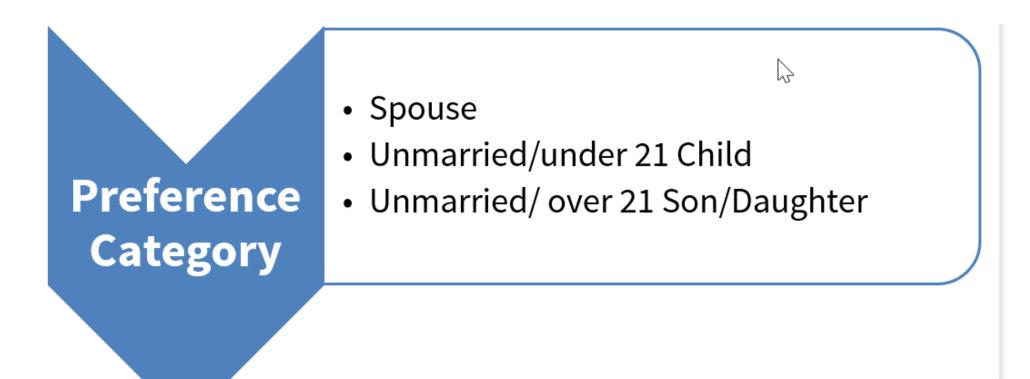
# How can I help a family member immigrate to the United States?

- This depends on your immigration status.
- To Use Form I-130, "Petition for Alien Relative," you must be a:
  - U.S. citizen; or
  - Lawful permanent resident.

# U.S. Citizen Petitioning for Relatives



### Permanent Residents Petitioning for Relatives



# How do I file a Form I-130 petition for my family member?

- Complete and sign Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative and include all required evidence listed on the form instructions
- Submit Online by creating a myUSCIS account or mail the Form I-130, evidence, and filing fee to address on our website. Starting on 4/1/24, fee increases to \$675 if paper filing or \$625 if filing online.
- Immediate relatives need their own petitions and separate filing fees; preference cases do not

# Online Account w/USCIS

- Automatic updates on case status
- Access to request duplicate copies of all correspondences from USCIS
- -Ability to change address in the account
- -Ability to request biometrics reschedule
- -Ability to upload evidence if USCIS requests additional evidence
- Access to ask questions about case

#### What happens after I properly file the petition?

- You will receive a receipt notice (Form I-797) confirming that we received your petition.
- If additional information or evidence is needed, we will send a request for evidence (RFE).
- Be sure to update your address with USCIS if you move.
- Once we make a final decision, we will mail a decision notice (Form I-797) to you.

# How long will it take to process my petition?

• You can use our self-service online tools to check processing times and the status of your pending petition.

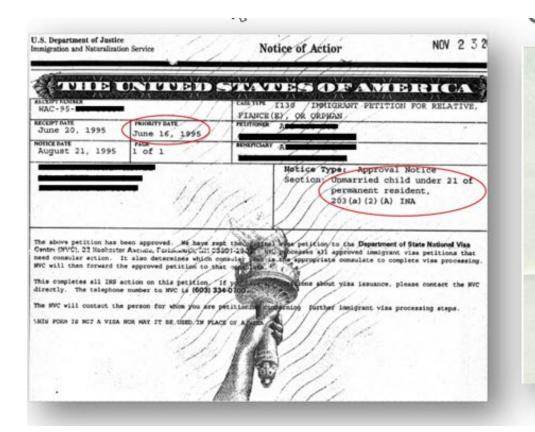
CASE STATUS ONLINE Enter a Receipt Number ?	Check Case Processing Times Select your form number and the office that is processing your case For more information about case processing times and reading your receipt notice, <u>click here</u> .		
	Form		
	Select One	~	
CHECK STATUS	Field Office or Service Center		
PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT	Select One	~	
2	Get processing time		

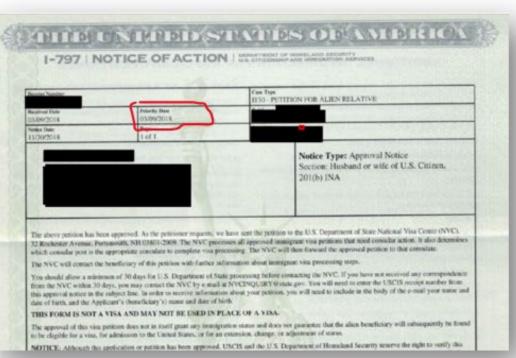


# What does the Form I-130 do for my relative?

- A petition establishes that a qualifying family relationship exists between you (petitioner) and your relative (beneficiary).
- An approved petition DOES NOT give your relative permission to be in the U.S. or work authorization
- The filing date of the petition gives your family member a "priority date" = A place in line to apply for a green card.

### Examples of Approval Notices (Form I-797)





# From Petition to Green Card

- Who is eligible for Adjustment of status in the United States (Form I-485)?
  - Immediate relatives of U.S. citizens with a lawful admission or parole;
  - Preference categories with current priority dates who are currently in lawful immigration status in the United States;
  - Any immigrant who qualifies under INA § 245(i); or
  - Certain beneficiaries of humanitarian programs (VAWA, U/T visa, etc).

# Adjustment of Status Forms

• Can be very complicated and encouraged to work with either an attorney or an accredited representative

Form	Required	Optional	Filing Fee
I-130	Х		\$625/\$675
I-485	Х		\$1440/\$950
I-864	Х		N/A
I-693	Х		Varies
I-765		Х	\$260
I-131		Х	\$630