Alien Eligibility Desk Guide

Special Qualified Aliens

A "Yes" indicates the individual passes the citizenship requirement (work quarters are not required).

Alien Status	Class of Admission (COA)	SNAP	Cash Assistance	Refugee Cash/Medical
Refugee	RE1 thru RE9	Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	Yes for 8 months from entry date
Granted Asylum	AS1 thru AS3 AS6 thru AS8 GA6 thru GA8	Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	Yes for 8 months from date status was granted
Deportation/Removal Withheld		Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	No
Cuban /Haitian Entrant Paroled Cuban/Haitian	Contact Refugee Services, to verify refugee@jfs.ohio.gov (614) 466-4815	Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	Yes for 8 months from date status was granted
Amerasian	AM1 thru AM3 AM6 thru AM8	Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	Yes for 8 months from entry date
Victim of Trafficking	Contact Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) (866) 401-5510	Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	Yes for 8 months from date certified by ORR
Iraqi/Afghan Special Immigrant	SI1, SI2, SI3, SI6, SI7,SI9 SQ1, SQ2, SQ3, SQ6, SQ7, SQ9	Yes	Yes for 5 yrs.	Yes for 8 months from entry date
Lawfully Residing in U.S. since prior to 8/22/96		Yes	Yes	No

For cash assistance programs (OWF, DFA, PRC), the 5 year grace period begins from the date of entry. **Exceptions**: For asylees, Cuban/Haitian entrants and victims of trafficking, the 5 year grace period begins from the date status was granted or certified. After 5 years, the individual must meet one of the conditions below to continue to pass the citizenship requirement:

- Become a U.S. Citizen, or
- Adjust to lawful permanent resident status and have at least 40 qualifying work quarters, or
- Have U.S. military service connection: Active duty or honorably discharged veteran and his/her spouse and unmarried dependent children

Note: "Each category of eligible alien status stands alone for purposes of determining eligibility. Subsequent adjustment to a more limited status does not override eligibility based on an earlier, less rigorous status...." This applies to all programs. OAC Rules 5101:4-3-07 (G) and 5101:1-2-30 (B).

Additional Qualified Aliens

Individuals in the following "qualified alien" categories must meet an additional condition to pass the citizenship requirement.

Alien Status	SNAP	Cash Assistance
Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) with class of admission code (COA) other than those listed on page 1	Yes if individual meets one of the five conditions below.	Yes if : - 40 qualifying work qtrs. - U.S. military service connection * Child Citizenship Act
Conditional Entrant	Yes if individual meets one of the five conditions below.	Yes if individual has U.S. military service connection.
Paroled 1 year or more INA Sec 212 (d)(5) Cuban/Haitian see pg 1	Yes if individual meets one of the five conditions below.	Yes if individual has U.S. military service connection.
Battered parent, spouse or child	Yes if individual meets one of the five conditions below.	Yes if individual has U.S. military service connection.

For **SNAP**, an individual who falls within any of the above four "qualified alien" categories must meet one of the additional conditions below in order to pass the citizenship requirement:

1. 40 qualifying work quarters - Only applies to aliens who have adjusted to LPR status.

2. U.S. Military Service connection: active duty or honorably discharged veteran and his/her spouse and unmarried dependent children.

3. A child under age 18.

4. A blind or disabled person, receiving federal disability benefits...

5. An individual who has resided in the U.S. for five years or longer since obtaining status as a qualified alien.

* Under the **Child Citizenship Act of 2000**, a minor child who is a lawful permanent resident is considered to be a U.S. citizen if living with a U.S. citizen parent. OAC Rule 5101:1-38-02 (B)(2)(m)

Limited Eligibility Aliens

Individuals in the following three categories have limited program eligibility:

Alien Status	SNAP	Cash Assistance
Hmong / Highland Laotian	Yes	No
Member of an American Indian tribe born in Canada (link to tribes at end of OAC Rule 5101:4-3-07)	Yes	No
Indefinite detainee Order of Supervision INS I-220 B or I-688B Sec 274a.12 (c)(18)	No	Yes, depending on individual's status prior to becoming an indefinite detainee.
Student Visa, DACA Employment Authorized	No	No

*Undocumented aliens applying for others but not themselves are not required to verify their citizenship status or provide a social security number and should not be reported to law enforcement. OAC Rule 5101:4-3-07

Child Citizenship Act 2000 Program Eligibility Facts

A minor child born outside of the United States is considered to be a U.S. citizen if the following conditions are met:

- Has at least one United States citizen parent (by birth or naturalization)
- Is under 18 years of age
- Is currently residing permanently in the United States in the legal and physical custody of the United States citizen parent
- Has been admitted to the United States as a lawful permanent resident or has been adjusted to this status
- An adopted child must also meet the requirements applicable to the particular provision under which they qualified for admission as an adopted child under immigration law

  OAC Rule 5160:1-1-58.2 (D)(1)(l)

Helpful Budgeting Hints for AGs with Ineligible Alien Members

1. When processing **OWF applications** with ineligible alien parents, special attention should be paid to the following:

   a. The OWF AG name should be listed in the name of one of the eligible children, with the parent listed as the protective payee or authorized representative to "receive" the benefit. If the ineligible alien parent is entered as the OWF AG name, the cash grant will not be counted in the children's SNAP budget.

   b. When an OWF AG includes an ineligible alien parent, the income of the ineligible parent should be allocated to the OWF AG. OAC Rule 5101:1-23-20.2 (A)(4)

2. For **SNAP**, the income and expenses of an ineligible alien should be prorated. The AG correctly receives full credit for the utility allowance because utility allowances are never prorated. OAC Rules 5101:4-6-13 (B) and 5101:4-4-23 (F)

Qualifying Work Quarters

The term "quarter" means a three calendar month period ending with March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of any year. Social Security "credits" (formerly called quarters of coverage) are based on earnings from employment or self-employment. A maximum of **4 credits/quarters** can be earned each year.

Prior to 1978:
From 1951 through 1954, a credit was earned for each calendar quarter in which an individual was paid **$50** or more in wages (including agricultural wages). From 1955 through 1977, a credit was earned for each calendar quarter in which an individual was paid **$100** or more in wages (including agricultural wages). Four credits were earned for each taxable year in which an individual's net earnings from self-employment were $400 or more.

For 1978 and later:
Effective 1978, credits/quarters are determined based on an individual's yearly, rather than quarterly earnings, up to a maximum of four quarters per year. The amount of earnings needed to qualify as a credit/quarter changes annually. Dividing the yearly earnings by the credit increment amount equals the number of countable quarters in whole numbers earned in that calendar year. For example, in 1994, a credit equaled $620. So, if an individual earned $2,000 in 1994, he gained three countable credits/ quarters for that year ($2000 divided by $620 = 3.226 = 3 countable quarters). Any three quarters in that year are countable.

1978 - $250	1987 - $460	1996 - $640	2005 - $920	2014 - $1,200
1979 - $260	1988 - $470	1997 - $670	2006 - $970	2015 - $1,220
1980 - $290	1989 - $500	1998 - $700	2007 - $1,000	2016 - $1,260
1981 - $310	1990 - $520	1999 - $740	2008 - $1,050	2017 - $1,300
1982 - $340	1991 - $540	2000 - $780	2009 - $1,090	
1983 - $370	1992 - $570	2001 - $830	2010 - $1,120	
1984 - $390	1993 - $590	2002 - $870	2011 - $1,120	
1985 - $410	1994 - $620	2003 - $890	2012 - $1,130	
1986 - $440	1995 - $630	2004 - $900	2013 - $1,160	

For work quarter discrepancies, have client contact SSA at 1-800-772-1213.

Can count non-covered employment (i.e., doesn't require payment of Social Security taxes).

Exclude any work quarters earned on or after **1/1/97** in which an individual received a federal means-tested benefit during the calendar quarter. Examples of **federal means-tested benefits** include SNAP, Medicaid, OWF/PRC, SSI, Title XX day care and federal housing assistance. Don't credit an individual with a work quarter until the calendar quarter has ended.

Qualifying quarters can be **shared** from applicant's:

1. **natural or adoptive parents** but consider only quarters earned through the calendar quarter the applicant attains age 18 (include any quarters earned prior to the child's birth).
2. **step-parent**, provided the step-parent relationship still exists (death of the stepparent does not terminate the relationship), but consider quarters earned only while the relationship was in existence and through the calendar quarter the applicant attains age 18.
3. **current or deceased spouse**, but consider only the quarters earned during their marriage.

Quarters earned concurrently by the applicant and any of the above individuals are all countable.