

From: U.S. Department of Homeland Security <departmentofhomelandsecurity@service.govdelivery.com>
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To:
Subject: Ombudsman Alert: Recent Updates to USCIS Form Instructions

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Homeland Security

Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman

January 2020

Please note that on December 31, 2019, USCIS added to its Forms website an [alert](#) for Form I-918, *Petition for U Nonimmigrant Status* and Form I-918, *Supplement A, Petition for Qualifying Family Member of U-1 Recipient*, stating:

We may reject your Form I-918 or your Form I-918 Supplement A if you leave a field blank, unless the field is optional. Optional fields include the safe mailing address as well as fields you should only complete if you answered yes to a previous question. You must provide a response to all other questions, even if the response is "none," "unknown" or "n/a." We will reject a Form I-918 or a Form I-918 Supplement A that has, for example, an empty field for middle name, for current immigration status, or for information pertaining to a spouse or child.

USCIS' intake process now includes a review of the entire Form I-918 and/or I-918, Supplement A for completeness – beyond containing the proper signature, fee, and supporting documents. Forms submitted without every applicable field completed, as stated above, will be rejected.

We have also been alerted to the rejection of Forms I-589, *Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal*, for responses left blank. This is reflected in the instructions to the [Form I-589](#), which note that:

*You must provide the specific information requested about you and your family and **answer all the questions asked.** If any question does not*

apply to you or you do not know the information requested, answer "none," "not applicable," or "unknown." You must provide detailed information and answer the questions as completely as possible. If you file your application with missing information, we may return it to you as incomplete.

Please follow the instructions above by filling in every field on a USCIS form, even if the field is optional, has been answered elsewhere, or does not apply to you, in order to avoid rejection by USCIS.



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