



T and U Visas

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Law Enforcement and T visa

Law Enforcement and U visa

Certification Form I-914B

Certification Form I-918B

Who grants a T visa?

Who grants a U visa?



What is a T visa?

- T visas are specific to victims of a severe form of human trafficking who are present in the United States, regardless of their manner of entry.
- T visas provide law enforcement with a tool to protect victims of human trafficking while investigating and prosecuting traffickers.
- To be eligible for a T visa, the victim must cooperate with law enforcement requests for assistance with the investigation or prosecution.
- The victim may self-petition for a T visa.
- Congress limits the issuance of T visas to 5,000 per year.



Who Qualifies for a T Visa?

T visa applicants must be:

- Victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons. A severe form of trafficking is defined as: The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, slavery or acts of commercial sex (sex in exchange for a fee or something of value). Any minor (individuals under age 18) trafficked for commercial sex is a per-se violation of human trafficking; force, fraud or coercion need not be proven.
- Physically present in the US
- Otherwise admissible to the US
- Compliant with any reasonable requests to assist in a federal, state or local investigation or prosecution of acts of trafficking; unless they are:
 - Unable to cooperate due to physical or psychological trauma
 - Under the age of 18
- Experiencing extreme hardship



Law Enforcement and T visa

The T visa is a tool that assists law enforcement with the investigation or prosecution of trafficking and related crimes. Victims of trafficking may possess vital information about the crime and are more apt to assist law enforcement when there may be immigration relief available.

- A T visa application must include proof that the victim cooperated with reasonable requests from law enforcement (federal, state and local).
- Different ways to show that the victim has cooperated include:
 - Form I-914B (not mandatory) commonly referred to as the Law Enforcement Certification Form
 - Show cooperation through other means



Law Enforcement Certification Form I-914B

- Law Enforcement Certification Form I-914B demonstrates how the victim reasonably cooperated with law enforcement's request to help in an investigation or prosecution.
- DHS personnel are authorized to sign the Form I-914B.
- The victim has an ongoing responsibility to be helpful in an investigation or prosecution.
- The Certification Form is not mandatory for a T visa application.
- A signed Certification Form demonstrates that the person is a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons.



Who Grants a T Visa?

- Only USCIS adjudicating officers may grant a T visa.
- The Certification Form I-914B does not grant a T visa.
- The law enforcement certification does not mean that USCIS will automatically grant a T visa.
- USCIS conducts a thorough background investigation.



What is a U visa?

- U visa provides immigration relief for victims of certain crimes who have been, are being or are likely to be helpful to law enforcement.
- The purpose of the U visa is to encourage victims to report crimes to law enforcement, thereby helping law enforcement detect, investigate, and prosecute crimes.
- Congress limits the issuance of U visas to 10,000 per year.



Who Qualifies for a U Visa?

U visa applicants must:

- Have suffered substantial physical or mental abuse as a result of one of 26 qualifying crimes (see below) including an attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation of any of the qualifying crimes or any other similar criminal activity. (Domestic violence is a common crime for U visa applicants.)
- Have information about the crime
- Have been, are being, or are likely to be helpful in the investigation or prosecution of a crime
- Have been subjected to a crime that occurred in the US or violated US law
- Be otherwise admissible to the US

Qualifying Crimes

- Rape
- Torture
- Trafficking
- Incest
- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Abusive Sexual Contact
- Prostitution
- Sexual Exploitation
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Peonage
- Involuntary Servitude
- Slave Trade
- Kidnapping
- Unlawful Criminal Restraint
- False Imprisonment
- Blackmail
- Extortion
- Manslaughter
- Murder
- Felonious Assault
- Witness Tampering
- Obstruction of Justice
- Abduction
- Being Held Hostage
- Perjury



Law Enforcement and the U Visa

The U visa is a tool for law enforcement to assist with the investigation and prosecution of certain crimes. Victims may possess vital information about a crime and are more apt to assist law enforcement when there may be immigration relief available.

- A U visa application must include certification that the victim cooperated with reasonable requests from law enforcement (federal, state and local)
- Current investigation, filing of charges, a prosecution or conviction is not required



Law Enforcement Certification Form I-918B

- Law Enforcement Certification Form I-918B demonstrates how the victim is, was, or is likely to be helpful in an investigation or prosecution.
- The Certification Form is mandatory for a U visa.
- DHS law enforcement personnel are authorized to sign this form.
- Certification demonstrates that the person is a victim of a qualifying crime and that they have been cooperative.
- The victim has an ongoing responsibility to be helpful in an investigation or prosecution.
- Current investigation, filing of charges, a prosecution or conviction is not required.



Who Grants a U Visa?

- Only USCIS adjudicating officers may grant a U visa.
- The Certification Form I-918B does not grant a U visa.
- The law enforcement certification does not mean that USCIS will automatically grant a U visa.
- USCIS conducts a thorough background investigation.



To report suspicious activity, call the ICE Tip Line:

866-347-2423

