

NEW LRIF UPDATE

On October 29, 2021, USCIS announced updated guidance for Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness (LRIF).

WHAT HAPPENED?

EVIDENCE OF LIBERIAN NATIONALITY

USCIS recently updated its **Policy Manual** for LRIF.

The LRIF sections of the Policy Manual help USCIS officers process LRIF applications.

The updates provide instructions on how applicants can explain why they do not have **primary evidence** of Liberian nationality.

PRIMARY EVIDENCE

USCIS will accept two forms of **primary evidence** that can demonstrate your Liberian nationality: an unexpired Liberian passport or a certificate of Liberian naturalization.

USCIS has not yet stated whether one of these two types of primary evidence is enough, on its own, to prove your Liberian nationality.

SECONDARY EVIDENCE

USCIS will also accept multiple forms of **secondary evidence** that can help demonstrate your Liberian nationality, such as expired Liberian passports, baptismal or religious records, school records, medical records, and more.

However, USCIS says that these secondary types of evidence are not enough, on their own, to prove your Liberian nationality. These types of documents can support stronger types of evidence that you are a Liberian national.

WHAT MUST I DO?

If you do not have primary evidence of your Liberian nationality at the time you file your LRIF application, you must tell USCIS why. The best way to do this is to submit a written and signed statement that explains your attempts to get primary evidence along with records demonstrating your attempts. For example, submit a written statement plus proof of a Liberian passport application, proof of communication with the Liberian government who could issue primary evidence, or receipts of transactions to get primary evidence.

IMPORTANT NOTE

USCIS strongly encourages applicants to submit any and all evidence available to them when applying for LRIF. USCIS will consider any and all evidence provided by the applicant, including the applicant's testimony during an interview, when determining eligibility for adjustment of status.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

You can find more information about LRIF's requirements, where to find free or low-cost legal representation, and where to find financial assistance with LRIF application fees on our resource website:

<http://www.undocublack.org/lrif>.

