

Bona Fide Marriage Exemption

WHO MUST REQUEST A BONA FIDE MARRIAGE EXEMPTION?

(8) Any alien who seeks to adjust status based upon a marriage which occurred on or after November 10, 1986, and while the alien was in exclusion, deportation, or removal proceedings, or judicial proceedings relating thereto.

(i) *Commencement of proceedings.* The period during which the alien is in deportation, exclusion, or removal proceedings or judicial proceedings relating thereto, commences:

(A) With the issuance of the Form I-221, Order to Show Cause and Notice of Hearing prior to June 20, 1991;

(B) With the filing of a Form I-221, Order to Show Cause and Notice of Hearing, issued on or after June 20, 1991, with the Immigration Court;

(C) With the issuance of Form I-122, Notice to Applicant for Admission Detained for Hearing Before Immigration Judge, prior to April 1, 1997,

(D) With the filing of a Form I-862, Notice to Appear, with the Immigration Court, or

(E) With the issuance and service of Form I-860, Notice and Order of Expedited Removal.

(ii) *Termination of proceedings.* The period during which the alien is in exclusion, deportation, or removal proceedings, or judicial proceedings relating thereto, terminates:

(A) When the alien departs from the United States while an order of exclusion, deportation, or removal is outstanding or before the expiration of the voluntary departure time granted in connection with an alternate order of deportation or removal;

(B) When the alien is found not to be inadmissible or deportable from the United States;

(C) When the Form I-122, I-221, I-860, or I-862 is canceled;

(D) When proceedings are terminated by the immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals; or

(E) When a petition for review or an action for habeas corpus is granted by a Federal court on judicial review.

(iii) *Exemptions.* This prohibition shall no longer apply if:

(A) The alien is found not to be inadmissible or deportable from the United States;

(B) Form I-122, I-221, I-860, or I-862, is canceled;

(C) Proceedings are terminated by the immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals;

(D) A petition for review or an action for habeas corpus is granted by a Federal court on judicial review;

(E) The alien has resided outside the United States for 2 or more years following the marriage; or

(F) The alien establishes the marriage is bona fide by providing clear and convincing evidence that the marriage was entered into in good faith and in accordance with the laws of the place where the marriage took place, was not entered into for the purpose of procuring the alien's entry as an immigrant, and no fee or other consideration was given (other than to an attorney for assistance in preparation of a lawful petition) for the filing of a petition.

INA § 245(a)(iii) Exemptions.

(E) The alien has resided outside the United States for 2 or more years following the marriage; or

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