Important Documents for Citizens of Marshall Islands, Micronesia, or Palau Living in Hawai'i

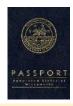






The Compact of Free Association (COFA) refers to individual agreements between the United States of America and Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau. Marshallese, Micronesian, and Palaun citizens can live and work in the United States for an indefinite period of time.

Passport





You need an unexpired passport from Micronesia or Marshall Islands. Make sure you keep your passport in a safe and secure place. Keep all your previous passports, even after you renew it. When you enter the United States, you will receive a stamp in your passport. This stamp is also called your I-94 record.





I-94 Record



"Paper" I-94: If your last entry into the USA was before April 30, 2013, you should have a paper copy of the I-94. Make a copy of it and keep it safe and secure. A replacement of a paper copy of the I-94 costs \$445.00. You must complete the Form I-102, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Document. You can find the application online at www.uscis.gov/i-102



Electronic I-94: If you entered after April 30, 2013, you may be able to access your I-94 online. You will need to provide your name, birth date, and the passport number you used to enter the USA. You can access your electronic I-94 for up to five years via https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home

Social Security Number



A Social Security number is required for you to work and for public benefits. The application is free and takes around 6-8 weeks. You can apply for a Social Security number and EAD at the same time using the I-765, Application for Employment Authorization or directly with the Social Security Administration. For more information see: www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/

How can I get help?

For legal assistance, call the Hawaii Immigrant Justice Center at Legal Aid at (808) 536-4302, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, between 9:00-11:30 AM and 1:00-3:30 PM. Interpreters provided. Check out www.legalaidhawaii.org or find us on Facebook.





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Application for an Employment Authorization Document

Complete the Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization



Attach a photocopy of your passport biometrics page



Attach a photocopy of your I-94 record





Attach 2 passport photos

Mail all these documents to the following address:



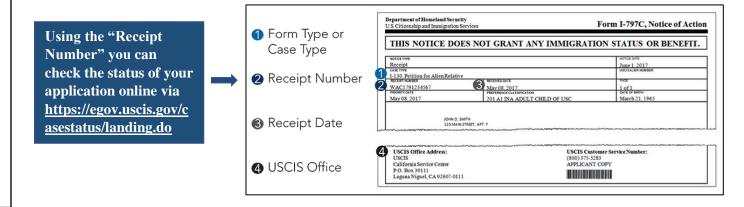
P.O. Box 21281

Phoenix, AZ 85036

Tips for completing Form I-765 Application:

- ✓ The application is free.
- ✓ "Immigration Status"
 - Marshallese Citizens = CFA/MIS
 - Micronesian citizens = CFA/FSM
 - > Palauan citizen = CFA/PAL
- ✓ Eligibility Category
 - (a)(8)
- ✓ Use a secure mailing address!

What's next? US Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") will mail you a notice of receipt. Keep this for your records. USCIS will take 6 + months to process your application.



If approved, your Employment Authorization Document is valid for 5 years. You can use your card to do the following:



- ✓ Get a REAL ID Act compliant driver's license or state identification card.
- ✓ Show your employer as proof you can work in the United States.
- ✓ Use as an identification card to enter federal facilities or go through TSA security at the airport.