



March 7, 2023

PA-2023-06

Policy Alert

SUBJECT: Domestic Mobile Biometrics Collection and Remote Domestic Applicant Biometrics Collection

Purpose

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is issuing policy guidance in the [USCIS Policy Manual](#) to address mobile biometrics collection and the biometrics collection of benefit requestors in remote locations.

Background

USCIS has evaluated how it may conduct mobile biometrics collection as well as biometrics collection in remote locations throughout the United States to make it more accessible for certain benefit requestors. These benefit requestors may be unable to attend appointments at USCIS Application Support Centers (ASC) due to health or other issues, or because their physical location requires multiple modes of transportation or substantial travel times to reach an ASC, where USCIS generally collects biometrics.

This update provides circumstances under which USCIS may offer mobile biometrics collection and biometrics collection at remote locations in coordination with law enforcement agencies or other DHS components. This update, contained in Volume 1 of the Policy Manual, is effective immediately. The guidance contained in the Policy Manual is controlling and supersedes any related prior guidance.

Policy Highlights

- Provides circumstances under which USCIS may conduct mobile biometrics collection for benefit requestors who reside in remote locations in relation to ASCs.
- Provides an alternative method to fingerprint collection, to include fingerprint cards and coordination with other agencies, for certain benefit requestors who live in locations so remote that USCIS mobile biometric services would not be practical.

Summary of Changes

Affected Section: Volume 1 > Part C > Chapter 2 > Section B, Mobile Biometrics Collection

- Revises introductory language, including making minor edits to the existing paragraph and adding a new paragraph.
- Adds new content under the italicized subheading “Remote Locations” above existing italicized subheading (Persons in Custody).

USCIS may also make other minor technical, stylistic, and conforming changes consistent with this update.

Citation

Volume 1: General Policies and Procedures, Part C, Biometrics Collection and Security Checks, Chapter 2, Biometrics Collection [[1 USCIS-PM C.2](#)].