



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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Press Release

USCIS Announces Extension of Employment Authorization Documents for Somalis with Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

WASHINGTON – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today announced an extension through February 2006 of employment authorization documents (EADs) for eligible Somalis with Temporary Protected Status (TPS). This extension is intended to minimize disruption of employment authorization while TPS re-registration applications are processed. The February 2006 extension will be made available to eligible TPS re-registrants at the time biometrics are obtained at an USCIS Application Support Center (ASC). In order to obtain an appointment at the ASC, you must file a re-registration package (including I-821, I-765 and required fees). **All re-registrants must bring their current EAD to the ASC.** For further information on re-registration procedures, see www.uscis.gov. Please note that USCIS district offices will **not** be providing EAD extensions. This benefit will be available only at an USCIS ASC.

Employers with questions on how to verify an employee's work authorization may also consult the USCIS web site at <http://uscis.gov/graphics/services/employerinfo/index.htm> or call the USCIS Office of Business Liaison Employer Hotline at 1-800-357-2099 to speak to a USCIS representative. Also, employers may call the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) Employer Hotline at 1-800-255-8155 or 1-800-362-2735 (TDD). Employees or applicants may call the OSC Employee Hotline at 1-800-255-7688 or 1-800-237-2515 (TDD) for information regarding the automatic extension. Assistance with Spanish and other languages is available through the OSC Employer Hotline and OSC Employee Hotline. Additional information is available on the OSC web site at <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc/index.html>.

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On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) became one of three former INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.