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USCIS Announces More Fees and Fee Increases

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Nearly 96% of the USCIS budget derives from fees. In our coverage of Congress, appropriations, continuing resolutions, and government shutdowns, we are reminded that USCIS is a fee-driven agency, as it does not depend on appropriations for its operations and, for example, remains open during government shutdowns over appropriations. We wrote <u>last week</u> about a \$10.00 fee for H-1B Registration.

On Nov. 8, USCIS published a notice of proposed rulemaking for an <u>adjustment of fees to meet operational needs</u>. Among the diversity and breadth of fees addressed in the Examinations Fee Accounts 300+ page posting, a few proposed fees have received a lot of public attention:

- DACA renewal fee from \$495 to \$765;
- \$50 dollar asylum application fee; and
- Citizenship application fee from \$640 to \$1170.00, among others.

As we enter public discourse on the current Continuing Resolution and related Congressional discussions, we remind readers that in all likelihood <u>USCIS will be fee-funded</u> and open for business!

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