



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

November 1, 2012

RE: Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record; Upcoming Changes to the Technical Instructions for the Examination of Aliens in Regards to the Assessment of Hansen's Disease and Syphilis

Dear Civil Surgeon:

This letter is providing information on the Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record, and upcoming changes to the Technical Instructions for the Medical Examination of Aliens in regards to the assessment of Hansen's Disease and Syphilis.

I. Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record: Expiration date and use of the new Form I-693

The Form I-693 that is available on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website bears an edition date of October 11, 2011, and an expiration date of October 31, 2012. This expiration date simply requires USCIS to ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to review the use of the form again to ensure compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. USCIS has submitted the Form I-693 for review. Since USCIS has done so, USCIS can continue to require the use of the Form I-693, despite the expiration date, while OMB is conducting its review.

USCIS always posts the most updated version of a form on its website. Therefore, please continue to use the 10/11/2011 version of the Form I-693, available on USCIS' website, even though that version may bear an expiration date of October 31, 2012 and you are printing it from the website after October 31, 2012.

Once the request is approved by OMB, USCIS will post the new Form I-693 on its website at www.uscis.gov/forms for public use. At that time, the prior October 11, /2011 version of the Form I-693 (expiration date October 31, 2012) will no longer be available on the USCIS website.

To ease the transition between the two forms, USCIS will continue to accept medical examinations that are completed and documented on the prior October 11, 2011 version of Form I-693 (expiration date October 31, 2012) even after the new form is posted.¹ We recommend, however, that you used the most updated version on USCIS' website once it is posted.

¹ You can see whether a prior version of a form is acceptable to USCIS by looking at the lower left-hand corner of the form. You will either see a "Y" or a "N." If there is a "Y" then, the prior version of a form continues to be acceptable. If there is an "N" then, you must use that version of the form and the prior one is not acceptable. The proposed form that is currently reviewed by OMB bears an annotation of "Y" in that area. Once the form is published, USCIS will also have information on the use of the previous version of the form on the Form I-693's entry page on USCIS.gov.

II. Proposed Changes to the Form I-693

As indicated above, OMB is currently reviewing USCIS' renewal request for the Form I-693. You can look at USCIS' request at www.regulations.gov under the docket number USCIS-2006-0074. The website displays a draft copy of the new form (USCIS-2006-0074-0034) and its instructions (USCIS-2006-0074-0033).

The proposed form and its instructions that we submitted for approval contain several proposed changes to the current version of the Form I-693. Please note, however, that OMB may not approve these changes or may require additional changes. Therefore, these changes may not be reflected in the final form. Once the new form is approved, please ensure that you review it closely before completing the form. The proposed revisions are as follows:

- The Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and USCIS agreed to ask OMB to permit USCIS to eliminate the requirement that the X-ray report be attached to Form I-693. Any text referring to this requirement has been removed.
- The revised form proposes that the applicant can sign the Form I-693 prior to the examination, instead of having to wait until after the examination (you will still be required to verify the applicant's identity in every case).
- In light of upcoming revisions to the Technical Instructions (TIs) for the Examination of Aliens in the United States in the areas of Hansen's disease and Syphilis, USCIS and CDC proposed revising the parts of the form addressing these diseases.

III. Proposed changes to the Technical Instructions for the Examination of Aliens in the United States in regards to Hansen's Disease and Syphilis

Currently, CDC is in the process of revising the parts of the TIs that address Hansen's Disease (Leprosy) and Syphilis. When the proposed revisions to the TIs are completed by CDC, they will be posted on CDC's website at <http://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/exams/ti/civil/technical-instructions-civil-surgeons.html>.

Please check the website frequently for any updates. Also, civil surgeons are required to follow all parts of the TIs and updates to it when completing Form I-693. A medical examination and Form I-693 that is not completed in accordance with the TIs and its updates, as in effect on the date of the examination, may be rejected by USCIS.

Because USCIS does not envision that the TI changes impact an alien's inadmissibility determination in regards to Hansen's Disease or Syphilis, CDC agreed to the continued use of both the Form I-693 that expires on October 31, 2012 and the new Form I-693 (once approved by OMB), as described above. If you have any questions in regards to the medical aspects of the exam, please do not hesitate to contact CDC via email at cdcqap@cdc.gov.

We appreciate the service you provide to the immigrant community and your ongoing efforts to stay informed of all medical exam requirements and your responsibilities as a civil surgeon.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local civil surgeon coordinator.

Sincerely,

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services