



# Press Release

August 2, 2004

## USCIS ANNOUNCES CHANGE IN PHOTO STANDARD TO TAKE EFFECT AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2004

Washington, DC – In accordance with language specified in the Border Security Act of 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today announced a change in the photo requirements for all applicants from a three-quarter face position to a standard, full frontal face position to take effect **August 2, 2004**.

USCIS will accept both three-quarter and full color frontal photographs until **September 1, 2004** after which only full frontal color will be accepted.

The application process of customers who have already submitted materials that include color photos with the three-quarter standard **will not** be affected by this change.

All photos must be of just the applicant. Where more than one photo is required, all photos of the person must be identical. All photos must meet the specifications for full frontal/passport photos and must be no more than 30 days old when an application is filed.



For more information on photo standards visit the Department of State website at <http://travel.state.gov/passport/pptphotos/index.html> or contact the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283.

-USCIS-

## Composition Checklist

### 7 Steps to Successful Photos

Frame subject with [full face, front view, eyes open](#)

Make sure photo presents [full head](#) from top of hair to bottom of chin; height of head should measure 1 inch to 1-3/8 inches (25 mm to 35 mm)

[Center head](#) within frame (see Figure 2 below)

Make sure [eye height](#) is between 1-1/8 inches to 1-3/8 inches (28 mm and 35 mm) from bottom of photo

Photograph subject against a plain white or off-white [background](#)

[Position subject and lighting](#) so that there are no distracting shadows on the face or background

Encourage subject to have [natural expression](#)

Figure 2. Head Position & Placement

### Well-Composed Photos