DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

[1651–0006]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Application and Approval To Manipulate, Examine, Sample or Transfer Goods


ACTION: 60-Day notice and request for comments; extension of an existing collection of information.

SUMMARY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act: Application and Approval to Manipulate, Examine, Sample or Transfer Goods (Form 3499).

CBP is proposing that this information collection be extended without change to the burden hours or to the collection of information. The comments that are submitted will become a matter of public record. In this document, CBP is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

Title: Lien Notice.

OMB Number: 1651–0012.

Form Number: 3485.

Abstract: Section 564, Tariff Act of 19, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1564) provides that the claimant of a lien for freight can notify CBP in writing of the existence of a lien, and CBP shall not permit delivery of the merchandise from a public store or a bonded warehouse until the lien is satisfied or discharged. The claimant shall file the notification of a lien on CBP Form 3485, Lien Notice. This form is usually prepared and submitted to CBP by carriers, cartmen and similar persons or firms. The data collected on this form is used by CBP to ensure that liens have been satisfied or discharged before delivery of the freight from public stores or bonded warehouses, and to ensure that proceeds from public auction sales are distributed to the lienholder. CBP Form 3485 is provided for by 19 CFR 141.112, and is accessible at http://forms.cbp.gov/pdf/CBP_Form_3485.pdf.

Current Actions: This submission is being made to extend the expiration date with no change to the burden hours. There are no changes to the information collected or to Form 3485.

Type of Review: Extension (without change).

Affected Public: Businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 112,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 28,000.

Dated: September 2, 2016.

Seth Renkema,
Branch Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

[FPR Doc: 2016–21677 Filed 9–8–16; 8:45 am]
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Extension of and Addition to Employment Authorization for Syrian F–1 Nonimmigrant Students Experiencing Severe Economic Hardship as a Direct Result of Civil Unrest in Syria Since March 2011

AGENCY: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), DHS.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the extension of and addition to an earlier notice, which suspended certain requirements for F–1 nonimmigrant students whose country of citizenship is Syria and who are experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the civil unrest in Syria. This notice extends the effective date of the original notice and expands the applicability of certain requirements for students whose country of citizenship is Syria and who lawfully obtained F–1 nonimmigrant student status between the date of the original notice and September 9, 2016. The original notice was effective from April 3, 2012 until October 3, 2013. A subsequent notice provided for an 18-month extension from October 3, 2013, through March 31, 2015. See 78 FR 36211 (June 17, 2013). A third notice provided another 18-month extension from March 31, 2015, through September 30, 2016. See 80 FR 232 (January 5, 2015). Effective with this publication, suspension of the employment limitations is extended for 18 months from September 30, 2016, until March 31, 2018. This publication also suspends the applicability of the same regulatory requirements for students whose country of citizenship is Syria and who lawfully obtained F–1 nonimmigrant student status between the date of the original notice and September 9, 2016.

F–1 nonimmigrant students granted employment authorization through the notice will continue to be deemed to be engaged in a “full course of study” for the duration of their employment authorization, provided they satisfy the minimum course load requirement described in 77 FR 20038. See 8 CFR 214.2(f)(9) for students who meet the requirements contained in the notice below as of September 9, 2016.

Who is covered under this action?

This notice applies exclusively to F–1 nonimmigrant students whose country of citizenship is Syria and who were lawfully present in the United States in F–1 nonimmigrant status on or after April 3, 2012, through September 9, 2016 under section 101(a)(15)(F)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)(i); and are—

(1) Enrolled in an institution that is Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified for enrollment of F–1 students,

(2) Currently maintaining F–1 status, and

(3) Experiencing severe economic hardship as a direct result of the ongoing civil unrest in Syria since March 2011.

ICE records show that as of August 2016, there are approximately 700 Syrian F–1 Visa holders in active status who would be covered by this notice. This notice applies to both undergraduate and graduate students, as well as elementary school, middle school, and high school students. The notice, however, applies differently to elementary school, middle school, and high school students (see the discussion published at 77 FR 20040, available at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-04-03/pdf/2012-7960.pdf, in the question, “Does this notice apply to elementary school, middle school, and high school students in F–1 status?”). F–1 students covered by this notice who transfer to other academic institutions that are SEVP-certified for enrollment of F–1 students remain eligible for the relief provided by means of this notice.

Why is DHS taking this action?

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) took action to provide temporary relief to F–1 nonimmigrant students whose country of citizenship is Syria and who experienced severe economic hardship because of the civil unrest in Syria since March 2011. See 77 FR 20038 (April 3, 2012). It enabled these F–1 students to obtain employment authorization, work an increased number of hours while school was in session, and reduce their course load, while continuing to maintain their F–1 student status. In June 2013 and again in January 2015, DHS acknowledged that the civil unrest in Syria continued to affect Syria’s citizens, with many people still displaced as a result. DHS extended the application of the original April 3, 2012, notice through September 30, 2016, to continue to provide temporary relief to Syrian F–1 students who experienced severe economic hardship as a result of the conflict. Despite DHS’s determination that the civil conflict in Syria continued well beyond the October 3, 2013 expiration date of the original notice, previous extensions of the original notice did not make temporary relief available to Syrian F–1 students who became lawfully present in the United States in F–1 nonimmigrant status after April 3, 2012.

The conflict in Syria continues to affect the physical and economic security of its citizens. Syria is experiencing ongoing civil unrest, resulting in the continuing displacement of massive numbers of its citizens. As of October 2015, a United Nations report indicated that approximately 6.5 million Syrians were internally displaced. A number of violent extremist groups have factored prominently in the conflict and pose a danger to civilians. Various radical Islamist organizations have been actively engaged in armed resistance in