

§ 1965.61 General loan servicing requirements.

(a) *Payments.* Payments will be handled in accordance with subpart A of part 1951 of this chapter, and subparts D and E of part 1944 of this chapter.

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PART 1980—GENERAL

■ 43. The authority citation for part 1980 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1989.

Subpart E—Business and Industrial Loan Program**§ 1980.461 [Removed and Reserved]**

■ 44. Section 1980.461 is removed and reserved.

PART 2045—GENERAL

■ 45. The authority citation for part 2045 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1989; 42 U.S.C. 1480.

Subpart JJ—Rural Development—Utilization of Gratuitous Services

■ 46. The last sentence of section 2045.1754(c) is revised to read as follows:

§ 2045.1754 Scope of gratuitous services performed.

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(c) * * * Such persons, except Construction Inspectors may, when under direct supervision of County Supervisors, act as Collection Officers and be allowed to use receipt books.

Dated: October 16, 2003.

Thomas C. Dorr,

Under Secretary, Rural Development.

Dated: October 10, 2003.

J.B. Penn,

Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 03-27046 Filed 10-27-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XT-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**8 CFR Part 316**

[CIS No. 2131-03]

RIN 1615-AA72

Adding and Removing Institutions to and From the List of Recognized American Institutions of Research

AGENCY: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: Section 316 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (Act) generally requires that in order for lawful permanent resident aliens to be eligible for naturalization, they must reside continuously within the United States for at least 5 years immediately preceding their application for naturalization. However, under certain circumstances resident aliens and their dependents who expect to be continuously absent from the United States for one year or more because of work at one of the American institutions of research recognized as such under the provisions of the Act may be given permission to be absent without interrupting the continuous residence requirement for naturalization. This rule amends the Department of Homeland Security regulations by adding Rutgers University, Indiana University, and Harvard University to the list of American institutions of research, recognized for the purpose of preserving residence in the United States for naturalization eligibility. This rule also removes the dissolved Harvard Institute for International Development from the same list.

DATES: This final rule is effective October 28, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gerard Casale, Adjudications Officer, Business Process and Reengineering Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536; telephone (202) 514-0788.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Prior to the transfer of the functions of the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (Service) to the Department of Homeland Security in March 2003, district directors and regional commissioners of the Service made decisions on requests for recognition as an American Institution of Research. (1) Based on the findings of the former Newark District Director, the Acting Regional Director of the Eastern Region determined and ordered on September 30, 1999, that Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey, is an American institution of research for the purpose of preserving residence in the United States for naturalization. (2) Based on the findings of the former Chicago District Director, the Regional Director of the Central Region determined and ordered on January 4, 2001, that Indiana University is an American institution of research for the purpose of preserving residence in the United States for naturalization. (3)

Based on the findings of the former Boston District Director, the Regional Director of the Eastern Region determined and ordered on March 1, 2001, that Harvard University is an American institution of research for the purpose of preserving residence in the United States for naturalization.

Accordingly, the regulations are amended by adding those institutions to the list of recognized American institutions of research, thus making their qualified employees eligible to apply for the continuity of residence exemption benefits of section 316(b) of the Act.

In addition, based on the findings of the former Boston District Director, the Regional Director of the Eastern Region determined and ordered on March 1, 2001, that the Harvard Institute for International Development (HIID) is no longer an American institution of research for the purpose of preserving residence in the United States for naturalization, since Harvard University had dissolved the HIID on June 30th, 2000. Employees who had been conducting research under the HIID were absorbed into other programs within Harvard University. Accordingly, the regulations are amended by removing this institution from the list of recognized American institutions of research.

Good Cause Exception

This rule is being promulgated as a final rule. The Department has determined that good cause exists under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) to make this rule effective on the date of publication in the **Federal Register** because prior notice and comment in this case is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. The Department believes it is unnecessary because this rule consists of an update of an existing list in 8 CFR 316.20 of organizations that have already been designated by agency determinations made pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act. The updating of the list is a purely technical publication action that does not fundamentally impact any public right. Previous updates of this list have not elicited public comment, nor would any comment, if submitted, affect the composition of the list. For that reason updates of the list in 8 CFR 316.20 have always been and should continue to be published as a final rule.

To delay publication of the list as a final rule would be contrary to the public interest. Prospective applicants for naturalization whose eligibility depends on an up-to-date listing of recognized American institutions of research are in urgent need of relief