

ASYLUM APPLICATION AT IMMIGRATION COURT (KNOWN AS DEFENSIVE ASYLUM): BASIC OVERVIEW FOR APPLICANTS IN NEW YORK CITY



01 Everyone should first check if they are in the immigration court system:

- Check if you are in the system here: <https://acis.eoir.justice.gov/en/>
- If you are in the system, it will tell you the date/address of your next hearing at the court
- If you are not in the system it will tell you CASE NOT FOUND
- **Important: even if you have an NTA (NOTICE TO APPEAR) and a date to appear at immigration court, you may not be in the system, that is why it is important to check if you are in the system.**

02 For those who are not in the system, or did not get an NTA:

- You need to send a copy of your asylum application (I-589) to the UCIS office in Chicago. See [Option 2 Here: https://shorturl.at/GLY34](#)
- After a few weeks check if you are in the system <https://acis.eoir.justice.gov/en/>, as USCIS should have sent your application to the immigration court and to ICE/OPLA

03 If you are in the system you can mail your asylum application:

- In New York City, you have the option to mail your asylum application (I-589)
- You will need to mail one copy of your I-589 to the immigration court location of your next hearing and one copy to the ICE/OPLA office, please follow the instructions in [Option 3 Here: https://shorturl.at/GLY34](#)
- If you are not in New York City check the immigration link: <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/find-immigration-court-and-access-internet-based-hearings> and OPLA link: <https://www.ice.gov/contact/field-offices>

04 After submitting your application, you must request a Biometrics appointment:

- You must request to schedule a biometric appointment because it will not be sent to you automatically after submitting your application. To make a biometric appointment please follow the instructions: <https://rifnyc.org/how-to-request-biometrics>

05 Find out how many days you have on your asylum clock:

- Once your application has been registered at the immigration court, you can find out how many days are on your clock. Once you have 150 days on your clock, you can apply for a work permit.
- You need to call the immigration court to find out how many days you have (You cannot find out online). Please follow these instructions: <https://www.rifnyc.org/how-do-i-check-my-uscis-asylum-clock>