



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services \***



# REFUGEE AND ASYLUM CASES

Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

U.S. Department of Justice  
Executive Office for Immigration Review

OMB No. 1615-0067

## I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

### REFUGEE AND ASYLUM ELIGIBILITY

	YES	NO	EXPLANATION
1. ARE YOU FLEEING PERSECUTION DUE TO RACE, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, POLITICAL OPINION, OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF NO, sorry. Other reasons for leaving your home country do not make you eligible for refugee status or asylum.  IF YES, proceed to question 2.
2. CAN YOU PROVE THE SEVERITY OF YOUR PLIGHT?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF NO, sorry. You may not be admitted to the United States as a refugee, or may be refused asylum when you seek it here. (Asylum-seekers have come into the U.S. without documents and must apply for asylum within one year of entry or risk deportation. Refugees are interviewed and selected by the United Nations and given documents before they reach the United States.) Unfortunately, the decision about your ability to enter the U.S. or not is sometimes linked to U.S. political interests or foreign policy concerns.  IF YES, congratulations. If your situation is dire and the authorities believe your story, you may be one of the thousands of refugees admitted to the United States each year. The number admitted varies depending on the cap set annually by the President and Congress. In 2010, there were 74,500 refugees resettled in the U.S. However, you will probably wait 5 to 15 years, or even longer, in a refugee camp or other temporary location before this permission is granted.

\*This form is not produced or endorsed by the U.S. State Department. It is designed with the logo in order to replicate the forms immigrants encounter and is simply an educational tool for the *Church Between Borders* curriculum.