

I-360 & I-485 Interview Guidance

General Info: The interviews take place at 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco. Meet your client outside the building so you can enter together. Arrive 20 minutes early as lines are often long to get into the building. You will need to present the interview notice to gain access along with your ID and Bar card. It is recommended that your client bring a form of ID (e.g., school ID, passport; consular ID) to gain access to the building and to present at the interview. If your client does not have ID, explain to officer at door that you are entering together with your client (your client may need to wait outside while you check-in and let the officer know to escort her up) The building is secure and you will pass through a metal detector. Interviews typically last about 15-30 minutes (shorter if stand-alone I-360, longer if combined I-360 and I-485).

Practice Tip: Discuss what to wear with your client in advance. If possible, clients should wear dress pants and collared shirts/ blouses. Clothing to avoid: baggy pants, red or blue colors. Inform your client that the building has security and everyone will go through metal detectors. No weapons, scissors, food allowed.

Practice Tip: Please meet with your client and the interpreter (if necessary) in advance of your interview to prepare. Review the interview notice (and any additional items requested), applications and supporting documents, and practice for the interview. It is strongly recommended that you practice with an interpreter, if one will be needed at the interview. See sample questions, below.

Interview Process: The officer will enter the waiting room and call your client's name. The officer will have your client and the interpreter stand, and will swear each of them in. He/ she will request IDs from both the interpreter and your client and will make copies of such documents. Your client should be prepared to furnish any ID she has and the officer will make a copy.

Sample Questions:

1. What is your full and complete name? Have you used any other different names?
Practice Tip: If your client has used a different name to cross the border, discuss ways to
2. Do you know why you are here today? *Practice Tip: Discuss in advance with your client. Answers can be simple - e.g., to be able to stay here; for a special visa for youth; because one/both of my parents couldn't take care of me. The Officer may follow up this question with: "Because you're petitioning as a juvenile, you will not be able to petition your Mom or Dad." Talk to your client about this so it does not come as a surprise.*
3. What is your daytime phone number?
4. Do you still want your mail sent to your attorney's office?
5. What is your address?
6. Who do you live with?
7. When is your birthday? How old are you?
8. What city were you born in? Are you a national of X country?
9. When did you come to the U.S.? When was your last entry into the US? What year? What month?
10. How many times have you entered the US?
11. How did you enter the US? *e.g., via border on foot, etc.*
12. Did you walk and cross the border by yourself? Did you come with any people you knew? If yes, who?
13. What was the nearest U.S. city from where you entered?

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14. When did you come into contact with Border Patrol? How did you come into contact with Border Patrol? What happened after you came into contact with them? *Practice tip: Prepare your client to explain in detail how she traveled to the US and what happened once apprehended – e.g., how she was apprehended, how long in ICE custody, what happened next)*
15. What happened after you were apprehended by Border Patrol? *Practice Tip: If your client was subsequently transferred to ORR custody, prepare your client to explain where to ORR placement was located, how long she stayed there, why she was released and to whom she was released).*
16. Have you traveled outside the US since your last entry to the US?
17. Are you working?
18. Do you go to school?
19. What is your mother's first name?
20. What is your father's first name?
21. When was the last time you saw your parents?
22. How many siblings do you have? *The officer may have youth write down names of brothers, including half siblings and indicate whether half siblings share a mother or father. (Going through each sibling) Are you related by both mother and father? Mother? Father? Practice tip: Prepare list in advance to submit. Assure your client that it is okay if she doesn't know the last names of all of her siblings.*
23. Do you have a social security number?
24. Have you applied for residence before this application?
25. Do you have any children anywhere in the world? Any deceased children?

I-485 Questions: The questions below are sample questions that pertain to the I-485 Adjustment of Status application. Please review each question on the application with your client and contact your mentor attorney if you are unsure how to answer a particular question.

26. Have you ever received public assistance in the US?
27. Have you committed a crime for which you have not been arrested? *Practice Tip: Consult your mentor attorney if your client has potential inadmissibility issues e.g., disclosed drug use, mental health issues, juvenile justice involvement.*
28. Have you ever been arrested, cited or convicted of any crime anywhere in the world? *The officer may note that the I-485 indicates "no" and may amend to include that client was detained for an immigration violation when she entered.*
29. Have you ever sold or smuggled drugs?
30. Have you ever been involved in illegal drugs or gambling?
31. Have you ever been a prostitute?
32. Have you ever been involved in violent or terrorist activities? Have you ever given support to a person or group who was involved in violent or terrorist activities?
33. Do you belong to any groups or organizations?
34. Have you ever been a member of the military, police rebel or anti-government group?
35. Have you received military or weapons-type training?
36. Have you ever been a member of a group that used a weapon to threaten other people?
37. Have you ever been involved in selling or transporting weapons to be used against people?

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38. Have you ever been ordered removed or deported from the United States? You were in deportation proceedings, correct? *Practice Tip: Make sure your client understands that proceedings were terminated if she was in fact previously in removal proceedings.*
39. Have you ever helped someone come to the US illegally?
40. Have you ever used fraudulent documents?
41. Have you ever lied or misrepresented any fact to obtain an immigration benefit?
42. Have you ever had any type of visa for entry to the US?

Conclusion of Interview: At the conclusion of the interview, the Officer will review any handwritten changes she made on the application with the client. You will also have an opportunity to review her changes before your client signs the application. Either you or the officer will review the list of siblings your client provided with your client.

The officer will provide your client with a Notice of Interview Results which typically state that the application is being “held for review” as decisions are not given at the end of the interview. In general, expect to receive a written decision within 1-4 weeks after the interview.