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Use Form I-290-B, *Notice of Appeal or Motion*, at <https://www.uscis.gov/i-290b/jurisdiction>. For information about where the appeal or motion document(s) should be sent, see <https://www.uscis.gov/i-290b-addresses>.

Appeals of a denial of an I-600 are handled by the Administrative Appeals Office in a two step process:

Initial field review: The office that issued the unfavorable decision has 45 days to evaluate the appeal and determine whether to take favorable action on the appeal. If that office does not take favorable action, it will forward the appeal to the AAO and send the appellant a Notice of Transfer to the AAO.

AAO appellate review: The AAO strives to complete its appellate review within 180 days from the time it receives a complete case record after the initial field review. Some cases may take longer than 180 days due to factors beyond the AAO's control. For example, additional documentation may be needed to complete the record, or the case may be more complex and require additional review.

USCIS, *AAO Processing Times*, at

<https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/directorates-and-program-offices/administrative-appeals-office-aao/aao-processing-times>.

In general, the AAO issues non-precedent decisions, which are binding on the parties but do not create or modify agency practice or policy. However, some AAO decisions are designated as precedent decisions by the Secretary of Homeland Security, with the Attorney General's approval.

These precedent decisions must be followed by DHS employees except as modified or overruled by later precedent decisions, statutory changes, or regulatory changes. AAO precedent decisions may announce new legal interpretations or agency policy, or they may reinforce existing law and policy by demonstrating how it applies to a unique set of facts.

USCIS, *The Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)*, at

<https://www.uscis.gov/about-us/directorates-and-program-offices/administrative-appeals-office-aao>.

In addition, sometimes the USCIS will adopt a non-precedent decision "to provide policy guidance to USCIS employees in making determinations on applications and petitions for immigration benefits. Unlike precedent decisions, adopted decisions do not establish policy that must be followed by personnel outside of USCIS." USCIS, *AAO practice Manual*, at