


---

## General Information Memorandum

---

**ISD-GI 14-53**

**TO:** ISD Employees  
**FROM:**  Marilyn Martinez, Acting Director, Income Support Division  
**RE:** Alien Registration Number  
**DATE:** September 23, 2014

This GI serves as a reminder to staff that the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Alien Registration Number is the same as the “A-number”.

Most noncitizens who come into contact with the Department of Homeland Security are given an “alien” (or “A”) number. To keep track of an individual’s immigration file, the INS uses this number, along with the person’s name and date of birth. Most immigration documents include a reference to the individual’s “A” number.

The Alien Registration Number is the unique seven-, eight- or nine- digit number assigned to a noncitizen by the Department of Homeland Security. This A-Number is the letter “A” followed by seven, eight or nine numbers (such as **A012345678**).

The A-Number is identified as the Registration Number on the client’s visa stamp. If the client’s A-Number is fewer than nine digits, insert a zero after the “A” and before the first digit to create a nine-digit number. For example, “A12345678” would become “A012345678”.

Examples of an A-Number are shown below:



## Reading the Back of the Card:



### First line:

- 1–2: C1 or C2. C1 = Resident within the United States C2= Permanent Resident commuter (Living in Canada or Mexico)
- 3–5: USA (issuing country, United States)
- 6–14: 9-digit number (A#, alien number)
- 15: application receipt number
- 16–30: immigrant case number that resulted in the approved green card. The "<" symbol represents a blank space

Additional information about the “A-Number” may be found at:  
<http://www.uscis.gov/uscis-elis/immigrant-fee-payment-tips-finding-your-number-and-dos-case-id>

If you have questions regarding this GI, please contact Debra Hendricks at [DebraD.Hendricks@state.nm.us](mailto:DebraD.Hendricks@state.nm.us) or 505-827-7268.