



**U.S. Department of Justice
FY 2021 Budget Request**

**Enforce Immigration Laws
(Amount in \$000s)**

Component/Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	IJs	Amount
Executive Office for Immigration Review				
Immigration Judge and Support Staff	[600]	300	100	\$106,628
IT Modernization	0	0	0	28,400
Unified Immigration Portal	0	0	0	2,000
Subtotal, Executive Office for Immigration Review	[600]	300	100	\$137,028
Civil Division				
Immigration Enforcement	52	43	0	\$6,034
Subtotal, Civil Division	52	43	0	\$6,034
Total Program Enhancements	52	343	100	\$143,062

In 2019, the Department of Justice brought the immigration judge corps to its highest level in history with more than 465 immigration judges (IJ) on the bench. The FY 2021 President’s Budget strengthens America’s security through continued strong enforcement of the Nation’s immigration laws. The 2021 budget request includes an additional \$143.1 million in immigration-related program enhancements which will improve border security and immigration enforcement. These investments will also enhance our ability to conduct immigration hearings by expanding capacity, improving efficiency, and removing impediments to the timely administration of justice. This budget supports the Department’s ongoing efforts, along with our partners at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to fix our immigration system.

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)

Immigration Judges and Support: \$106.6 million and [600] positions (300 attorneys)

EOIR oversees the Nation’s immigration courts and the Board of Immigration Appeals. At the end of FY 2019, nearly one million cases were pending before immigration courts nationwide, a nearly 30 percent increase from October 2018. This is by far the largest ever pending caseload before the agency, after 13 consecutive years of a growing backlog. During FY 2019, EOIR received more than 500,000 new cases as DHS ramped up immigration enforcement, which represents a 60 percent increase in new case receipts over FY 2018.

To continue to improve the expediency and efficiency of immigration enforcement and adjudication programs, the Department requests \$106.6 million for 100 IJs and associated support staff. Support staff consists of attorneys, judicial law clerks, legal assistants, and administrative support staff, including interpreters.

This enhancement will bring EOIR’s total authorized IJ level to 734 by the end of FY 2021. FY 2021 current services are \$745.8 million.

U.S. Department of Justice FY 2021 Budget Request

IT Modernization: \$28.4 million and 0 positions

These resources will be used to improve immigration court business processes to increase efficiencies in immigration proceedings, thus reducing the time and effort required to process cases. This will be accomplished by modernizing business applications, including those for the Electronic Record of Proceeding and Electronic Filing applications, developing EOIR's Case Management System to replace the current CASE application, and improving the judicial tools suite and the EOIR data connector. FY 2021 current services are \$6.25 million.

Unified Immigration Portal: \$2.0 million and 0 positions

This funding will be used for EOIR's portion of a unified immigration portal across the U.S. Government to mitigate both the immediate and longer term challenges presented by the complex, compartmentalized immigration system. There are no current services for this initiative.

Civil Division (CIV)

Immigration Enforcement: \$6.0 million and 52 positions (43 attorneys)

CIV is the last line of defense in immigration enforcement and has experienced a rise in caseload as the Nation moves to strengthen its borders and to protect its citizens from terrorists and violent criminals. A commensurate increase in resources is necessary to address the surging caseload and increasing complexity in regards to these matters. The U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services increased its full-time equivalent staff responsible for denaturalization referrals from 13 to 70 and the 2021 budget includes the request for an additional 100 IJs, resulting in the potential for an estimated more than 8,500 petitions for review in FY 2021. This enhancement will bring the total authorized position level for this initiative to 497 positions (391 attorneys). FY 2021 current services are 445 positions (348 attorneys) and \$84.9 million.