



Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR)

FY 2027 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2026 Enacted:	\$800.0 million (2,200 positions; 950 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$62.2 million
Program Changes:	+\$36.8 million
FY 2027 Budget Request:	\$899.0 million (2,700 positions; 1,080 attorneys)
Change From FY 2026 Enacted:	+\$99.0 million (+12.4%) (500 positions; 130 attorneys)

Mission:

The primary mission of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) is to adjudicate immigration cases by fairly, expeditiously, and uniformly interpreting and administering the Nation's immigration laws. Under delegated authority from the Attorney General, EOIR conducts immigration court proceedings, appellate reviews, and administrative hearings.

As the Department's primary office for applying and adjudicating immigration law, EOIR plays a critical role in immigration enforcement, border security, public safety and national security.

Organization:

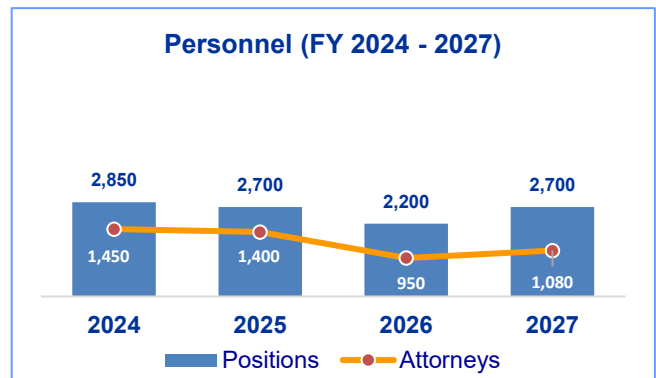
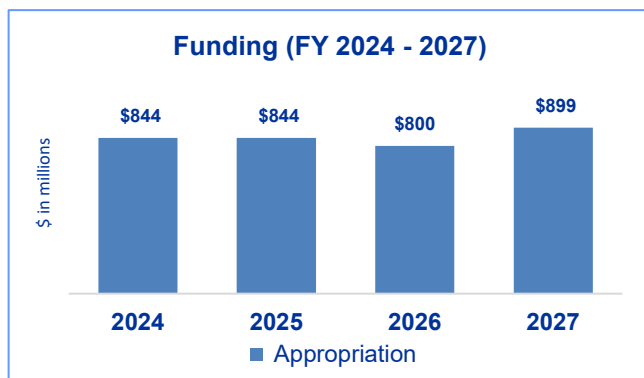
EOIR administers the Nation's immigration court system. EOIR principally decides whether aliens charged by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) with violating immigration law should be either ordered removed from the United States or granted relief or protection from removal. To make these critical determinations, EOIR's Office of the Chief Immigration Judge (OCIJ) conducts administrative court proceedings in 75 immigration courts and adjudication centers nationwide. EOIR's appellate component, the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), is the highest administrative body for interpreting and applying U.S. immigration law. EOIR's third adjudicative component, the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO), hears cases in employer sanctions and document fraud cases under the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. EOIR also has five Headquarters offices – Office of the Director, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Policy, Office of Administration, and Office of Information Technology – that provide mission support functions.

Resources:

The FY 2027 budget request for EOIR totals \$899.0 million, which is a 12.4 percent increase over the FY 2026 Enacted.

Personnel:

EOIR's direct authorized positions for FY 2027 total 2,700 positions, which are 500 more than the FY 2026 Enacted.



FY 2027 Strategy:

EOIR's immigration courts represent the Department's front-line presence in applying immigration law. Immigration cases typically begin when the DHS files a Notice to Appear (NTA), which charges an alien with a violation of Federal immigration law and seeks the removal of that alien from the United States. Between FY 2021 and FY 2024, receipts grew 630.3 percent, resulting in EOIR's pending caseload growing to nearly 4 million pending cases. That pending caseload remains the agency's most significant workload challenge. Even with the border more secure, EOIR is tracking over 560,000 receipts received in FY 2025 and on track to receive approximately 600,000 in FY 2026. EOIR hearings are currently scheduled out through FY 2030. Stopping illegal immigration is an Administration priority. It remains critically important that EOIR have sufficient resources to keep pace with DHS enforcement efforts.

EOIR's primary strategic focus is a rapid reduction of the pending caseload backlog. In FY 2025 EOIR completed more immigration cases than ever before and the total pending caseload decreased by over 200,000 cases.

To that end, the FY 2027 President's Budget requests \$899.0 million. This is critical funding that, coupled with the resources provided by the Working Families Tax Cut Act, will enable EOIR to sustain its new adjudicators and support staff, as well as modernize legacy IT systems. IT modernization is critical to minimize system risks, improve efficiencies, and, along with additional staff, will ultimately result in the ability to process additional cases, thus significantly reducing the current immigration case backlog.

The FY 2027 President's Budget also removes the statutory language that currently requires EOIR to spend \$27.5 million on the Legal Orientation Program (LOP). The LOP provides various inefficient and wasteful services to aliens and is directly contrary to the President's policies. Previous studies¹ provide evidence that the LOP program duplicated the efforts of the immigration judges (IJs) during the initial master hearings and generally led to increased processing times and no increase in representation when compared to non-LOP participants. The LOP program costs taxpayers tens of millions of dollars each year with no return on investment. Removing the required LOP funding levels allows EOIR to better manage its limited resources and increase capacity to help address the backlog.

FY 2027 Program Changes:

IT Modernization: +\$36.8 million and 0 positions

EOIR IT Modernization is necessary to improve overall programmatic efficiency in immigration proceedings, mitigate growing enterprise risks due to aging technology, and ensure that EOIR systems remain resilient and responsive to current and future business needs, taskings, and opportunities. Furthermore, EOIR sees significant opportunity to leverage and incorporate Artificial Intelligence (AI) as part of this modernization effort to automate certain business processes, reduce program costs, and ultimately achieve higher levels of overall mission attainment. Specifically, EOIR seeks to focus modernization efforts in the following four areas:

1. AI Transcription of Immigration Proceedings
2. Modernizing EOIR's Case Management System (CMS)
3. Improving EOIR's Applications: Electronic Record of Proceedings (eROP), eFiling, Judicial Tools, EOIR Data Connector, and Digital Audio Recording (DAR)
4. Digitizing EOIR Records

¹ <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/statistics-and-reports>

Executive Office for Immigration Review
(Dollars in Thousands)

	Executive Office for Immigration Review		
	Pos	FTE	Amount
2025 Enacted*	2,700	2,595	844,000
2026 Enacted	2,200	2,095	800,000
2027 Request	2,700	2,651	899,000
Change 2027 from 2026 Enacted	500	556	99,000
Technical Adjustments			
FY 2026 Rebaseline Adjustment	500	556	44,000
DHS Immigration Examination Fees – EOIR	0	0	-10,000
Total Technical Adjustments	500	556	34,000
Base Adjustments			
ATB Transfers	0	0	10,000
Pay & Benefits	0	0	1,423
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	60
Other Adjustments	0	0	16,717
Total Base Adjustments	0	0	28,200
2027 Current Services	2,700	2,651	862,200
Program Changes			
Increases:			
IT Modernization	0	0	36,800
Subtotal, Program Increases	0	0	36,800
Decreases:			
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	0
Total Program Changes	0	0	36,800
2027 Request	2,700	2,651	899,000

* FTE is actual.

Executive Office for Immigration Review
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2026 Enacted			2027 Current Services		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Executive Office for Immigration Review	2,200	2,095	800,000	2,700	2,651	862,200
Total	2,200	2,095	800,000	2,700	2,651	862,200

Comparison by activity and program	2027 Total Program Changes			2027 Request		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
Executive Office for Immigration Review	0	0	36,800	2,700	2,651	899,000
Total	0	0	36,800	2,700	2,651	899,000