Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) Accreditation for Volunteers

Volunteers can apply for BIA accreditation by following the same application process as regular paid staff. In order to receive BIA accreditation, volunteers must have adequate training and experience. These trainings can be a combination of in-person trainings, e-learning trainings and webinars.

In order to have a well-developed base of knowledge, CLINIC recommends that volunteers have training in the following areas:

- Introduction to Immigration Law*
- Introduction to Family-based Law
- Bars and Waivers
- Naturalization/Citizenship
- Legal Skills
- Consequences of Crimes

*A new regulation requires that first-time BIA accreditation applicants take an overview course in the fundamentals of immigration law.

An applicant applying for accreditation in an agency that is already recognized must include:

- a cover letter
- a table of contents
- a resume
- letters of recommendation
- certificates and agendas of trainings attended
- evidence of advocacy and research skills (for full accreditation only)
- copies of prior denials and approvals by the BIA.

Please click below to find the following resources:

- [Step-by-Step Guide for BIA Accreditation and Recognition](#) - World Relief and CLINIC
- [Checklist for BIA Recognition and Accreditation Process](#)
- [Sample Application for BIA Agency Recognition and Staff Accreditation](#)
- [Sample Application Cover Letter for BIA Staff Accreditation](#)