

**§96.108 Review of the withdrawal of temporary accreditation by the Secretary.**

(a) There is no administrative review of a decision by the Secretary to withdraw an agency's temporary accreditation.

(b) Section 204(d) of the IAA (42 U.S.C. 14924(d)) provides for judicial review of final actions by the Secretary. Withdrawal of temporary accreditation, which is analogous to cancellation of accreditation, is a final action subject to judicial review.

(c) An agency whose temporary accreditation has been withdrawn by the Secretary may petition the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, or the United States district court in the judicial district in which the agency is located, to set aside the action pursuant to section 204(d) of the IAA (42 U.S.C. 14924(d)).

**§96.109 Effect of the withdrawal of temporary accreditation by the accrediting entity or the Secretary.**

(a) If an agency's temporary accreditation is withdrawn, it must cease to provide adoption services in all Convention cases and must execute the plan required by §96.104(k) under the oversight of the accrediting entity, and transfer its Convention adoption cases and adoption records to an accredited agency, approved person, or a State archive, as appropriate.

(b) Where the agency is unable to transfer such Convention cases or adoption records in accordance with the plan or as otherwise agreed by the accrediting entity, the accrediting entity will so advise the Secretary who, with the assistance of the accrediting entity, will coordinate efforts to identify other accredited agencies or approved persons to assume responsibility for the cases, and to transfer the records to other accredited agencies or approved persons, or to public domestic authorities, as appropriate.

(c) When an agency's temporary accreditation is withdrawn or reinstated, the Secretary will, where appropriate, take steps to inform the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

(d) An agency whose temporary accreditation has been withdrawn may

continue to seek full accreditation or may withdraw its pending application and apply for full accreditation at a later time. Its application for full accreditation must be made to the same accrediting entity that granted its application for temporary accreditation. If that entity is no longer providing accreditation services, it may apply to any accrediting entity with jurisdiction over its application.

(e) If an agency continues to pursue its application for full accreditation or subsequently applies for full accreditation, the accrediting entity may take the circumstances of the withdrawal of its temporary accreditation into account when evaluating the agency for full accreditation.

**§96.110 Dissemination and reporting of information about temporarily accredited agencies.**

The accrediting entity must disseminate and report information about agencies it has temporarily accredited as if they were fully accredited agencies, in accordance with subpart M of this part.

**§96.111 Fees charged for temporary accreditation.**

(a) Any fees charged by an accrediting entity for temporary accreditation will include a non-refundable fee for temporary accreditation set forth in a schedule of fees approved by the Secretary as provided in §96.8(a). Such fees may not exceed the costs of temporary accreditation and must include the costs of all activities associated with the temporary accreditation cycle (including, but not limited to, costs for completing the temporary accreditation process, complaint review and investigation, routine oversight and enforcement, and other data collection and reporting activities). The temporary accreditation fee may not include the costs of site visit(s). The schedule of fees may provide, however, that, in the event that a site visit is required to determine whether to approve an application for temporary accreditation, to investigate a complaint or other information, or otherwise to monitor the agency, the accrediting entity may assess additional fees for actual costs incurred for travel and

maintenance of evaluators and for any additional administrative costs to the accrediting entity. In such a case, the accrediting entity may estimate the additional fees and may require that the estimated amount be paid in advance, subject to a refund of any overcharge. Temporary accreditation may be denied or withdrawn if the estimated fees are not paid.

(b) An accrediting entity must make its schedule of fees available to the public, including prospective applicants for temporary accreditation, upon request. At the time of application, the accrediting entity must specify the fees to be charged in a contract between the parties and must provide notice to the applicant that no portion of the fee will be refunded if the applicant fails to become temporarily accredited.

**PART 97—INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION—ISSUANCE OF HAGUE CONVENTION CERTIFICATES AND DECLARATIONS IN CONVENTION ADOPTION CASES [RESERVED]**

**PART 98—INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION—CONVENTION RECORD PRESERVATION**

Sec.

98.1 Definitions.

98.2 Preservation of Convention records.

**AUTHORITY:** Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (done at The Hague, May 29, 1993), S. Treaty Doc. 105-51 (1998); 1870 U.N.T.S. 167 (Reg. No. 31922 (1993)); Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000, 42 U.S.C. 14901-14954.

**SOURCE:** 71 FR 8164, Feb. 15, 2006, unless otherwise noted.

**§98.1 Definitions.**

As used in this part:

(a) Convention means the Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adop-

tion, done at The Hague on May 29, 1993.

(b) Convention record means any item, collection, or grouping of information contained in an electronic or physical document, an electronic collection of data (including the information contained in the Case Registry), a photograph, an audio or video tape, or any other information storage medium of any type whatever that contains information about a specific past, current, or prospective adoption covered by the Convention (regardless of whether the adoption was made final) that has been generated or received by the Secretary or the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Convention record includes a record, generated or received by the Secretary or DHS, about a specific adoption case involving two Convention countries other than the United States in connection with which the Secretary or DHS performs a Central Authority function.

(c) Such other terms as are defined in 22 CFR 96.2 shall have the meaning given to them therein.

**§98.2 Preservation of Convention records.**

Once the Convention has entered into force for the United States, the Secretary and DHS will preserve, or require the preservation of, Convention records for a period of not less than 75 years. For Convention records involving a child who is immigrating to the United States and Convention records involving a child who is emigrating from the United States, the 75-year period shall start on the date that the Secretary or DHS generates or receives the first Convention record related to the adoption of the child. For an intercountry adoption or placement for adoption involving two Convention countries other than the United States, the 75-year period shall start on the date that the Secretary or DHS generates or receives the first Convention record in connection with the performance of a Central Authority function.