

Highlights of the 2025–2026 Edition

The 2025–2026 Edition of *Steel on Immigration Law* includes discussion of:

- Updated and expanded summaries of guidance in the USCIS Policy Manual and the State Department Foreign Affairs Manual
- New or updated filing fees enacted in Pub. L. No. 119-21, 139 Stat. 72 (July 4, 2025)
- Laken Riley Act, Pub. L. No. 119-1, 139 Stat. 72 (Jan. 29, 2025), which mandates detention of noncitizens charged with, arrested for, convicted of, or admitting to having committed acts which constitute the essential elements of burglary, theft, larceny, shoplifting, or assault of a law enforcement officer of-fense or any crime that results in death or serious bodily injury to another person (Chapter 1)
- C-4 visas (Chapter 3)
- H-1B petitions, including new filing fees (Chapter 3)
- USCIS guidance on determining a beneficiary’s age for Child Status Protec-tion Act purposes (Chapter 5)
- ICE policy documentation relating to enforcement actions for individuals who are beneficiaries of victim-based benefits (Chapter 5)
- USCIS-issued guidance stating that there are only two sexes (male and female) (Chapter 5)
- Updated EB-2 criteria (Chapter 6)
- Changes to medical examinations for adjustment of status applicants, includ-ing 2025 changes to the validity period (Chapter 7)
- *Matter of K-E-S-G-*, 29 I. & N. Dec. 145, 2025 WL 2048658 (B.I.A. 2025), hold-ing that defining a particular social group based only on sex or sex and nationality, standing alone, is overbroad and not specific enough to constitute a particular social group (Chapter 8)
- *Matter of C-A-R-R-*, 29 I. & N. Dec. 13, 2025 WL 840536 (B.I.A. 2025), holding that a declaration is not part of an application for relief (Chapter 8)
- *Riley v. Bondi*, 145 S. Ct. 2190, 222 L. Ed. 2d 497 (2025), holding that the fil-ing deadline to challenge a final order of removal is not a jurisdictional require-ment (Chapter 8)
- Changes in TPS grants, including termination of several grants of TPS and the increased fees required of TPS beneficiaries (Chapter 8)
- Registration requirements for practically all persons age 14 or older who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents (Chapter 12)
- ICE policy memorandum of July 2025 requiring mandatory custody require-ments for noncitizens who have not who have not been inspected and admit-ted (Chapter 12)