

.06 Verification of Lag Quarters

A lag quarter is current or preceding years' earnings that do not display on QCIN. Consider the following:

- Determine whether Lag Quarters in combination with verified Quarters of Coverage equals 40 or more.

When it does equal 40 or more quarters, verify earnings in one of the following ways:

- Through HOSC.
- From the applicant.
- Refer the applicant to SSA.

(See [40 Quarters - Approval Pending](#))

When it does not equal 40 or more quarters, the following applies:

- For CA, the sponsor's income and resources may count toward the qualified noncitizen. (See [Sponsored Noncitizens - Eligibility Requirements](#))
- For NA, the citizen does not meet the [qualified noncitizen criteria](#).
- When Lag Quarter verification is received, determine whether 40 Quarters of Coverage criteria is met. (See [Determining Quarter Earnings](#))
- Determine the number of Lag Quarters in a year by dividing the noncitizen's annual income by the amount given for the year listed in the [Quarterly Earnings Table](#). This is the number of Quarters of Coverage. No more than four quarters may count in a year. Do not use future quarters. (See Example [Lag Quarters](#))

When determining quarters after December 1996, see [Accumulating Quarters after December 1996](#).

Use the following sources to verify Lag Quarters:

- Applicant's copy of a Federal or State tax return
- Applicant's personal records and statements
- Employer prepared earnings statement
- IRS copy of the employee's tax return

- Pay envelopes, vouchers, and similar unsigned employer earnings statement to the employee, a state, or federal agency
- Records of state UI agencies (HOSC)
- Statement of earnings signed by the custodian of the employer's records
- Timely filed self-employment tax forms
- Union records
- W2 or W2c forms
- Referral for Benefits (FA-009) (See [Approval Pending Verification of 40 quarters](#))