A non-citizen who is forced into the international sex trade, prostitution, slavery and forced labor through coercion, threats of physical violence, psychological abuse, torture and imprisonment is a victim of severe forms of trafficking. People who are certified as trafficking victims are eligible for federal funding if they meet all other program requirements. Trafficking victims who do not meet an MA basis may be eligible for RMA for their first 8 months in the U.S. See §0907.21.13 (MA Basis: Refugee Medical Assistance-RMA).

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issues certification letters for adults who meet the requirements for certification as trafficking victims. The ORR issues similar confirmation letters for children under age 18. The letters include an initial eligibility date and an expiration date 8 months later. ORR will issue follow up certification letters for people who continue to meet the requirements for certification as victims of trafficking after the initial 8 month period.

Require the ORR letter as verification of trafficking victim status. Also call the trafficking verification line at 202-401-5510 to confirm the validity of the claim as shown on the letter. Do not require any other USCIS documentation.

If an applicant appears to meet the criteria for certification as a trafficking victim but does not have a letter from ORR, call the following numbers:

Adults:	202-401-4561 202-401-5702
Children under age 18:	202-420-4732

Or contact the DHS Refugee Services Section at 651-282-9817.

See the Combined Manual and TEMP TE02.05.88 (Trafficking Victims Q&A) for additional background.