

U Visa Certification Requests in Oregon During 2025

Per Senate Bill 597 (2023)

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The mission of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission is to improve the legitimacy, efficiency, and effectiveness of state and local criminal justice systems.

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1: Senate Bill 597 (2023) Requirements

The U nonimmigrant status (U Visa) was created by the United States Congress with the passage of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000¹. The U Visa is a nonimmigrant status for victims of qualifying crimes who are helpful to law enforcement or government officials in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity². An early step in applying for a U Visa is submitting a certification request to a certifying agency³ to verify that the applicant was/is helpful in the prosecution of the crime. In the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, the legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 597⁴. Prior U Visa certification request reporting requirements mandated by SB 962 (2019) sunset in 2023 with the final legislative report published covering the calendar year of 2021.

SB 597 (2023) stipulates the data law enforcement agencies shall submit to the CJC. Specifically, all certifying agencies that received certification requests must submit the total number of certification requests received; of those requests, agencies shall report the number granted, denied, and pending as of the date of submission. Additionally, any certifying agency that did not receive any certification requests during the previous calendar year must report to the CJC that the certifying agency received zero requests. For denied certification requests, certifying agencies report the number of times each of the following were the reason for the denial: (i) Lack of qualifying criminal activity; (ii) Lack of helpfulness; (iii) Lack of jurisdiction over certification request; (iv) Other circumstances for which a certifying official or agency may lawfully deny certification. According to SB 597, section 1, subsection 3(a), the CJC shall identify any certifying agency that did not submit a report as required.

Section 1 of SB 597 requires law enforcement agencies to submit data to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) on U Visa certification requests no later than June 1 of each year. Section 2 required certifying agencies to report certification request data for both calendar years 2022 and 2023, which is published in the first report under SB 597 in 2024⁵. The second annual report covered request data submitted for calendar year 2024⁶. This current report covers the third year of data, containing certification requests received by certifying agencies in Oregon during 2025. This is the final legislative report required by SB 597, as the bill will sunset on January 2, 2027.

2: 2025 Certification Requests in Oregon

The CJC received data from 144 certifying agencies in the state: 30 district attorney's offices, 113 law enforcement agencies, and one other certifying agency. Of the 144 agencies, 81, or 56 percent, reported that they received no certification requests in 2025. Law enforcement agencies reported the highest number of requests, with 575 total. Across all agency types, most of the reported certification requests were approved. Table 2.1. displays the reported data on 2025 certification requests by type of agency. Total requests received represents the number of U Visa certification

¹ See Victims of Trafficking and Violence Act of 2000 at <https://www.congress.gov/106/plaws/publ386/PLAW-106publ386.pdf>

² U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-of-human-trafficking-and-other-crimes/victims-of-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status>

³ According to ORS 147.620, as referenced in SB 597, "Certifying agency" means: (A) A state or local law enforcement agency; (B) A prosecutor's or district attorney's office; (C) The Judicial Department, with respect to a judge of a state court acting as a certifying official; (D) A judge other than a judge of a state court; or (E) Any other agency that has responsibility for the detection, investigation or prosecution of a qualifying criminal activity, including but not limited to a certifying agency as defined in 8 C.F.R. 214.14

⁴ 2023 Regular Legislative Session SB 597 [SB0597 \(oregonlegislature.gov\)](https://oregonlegislature.gov)

⁵ See https://www.oregon.gov/cjc/CJC%20Document%20Library/U_Visa_Report_Aug2024.pdf

⁶ See https://www.oregon.gov/cjc/CJC%20Document%20Library/U_Visa_Report_Aug2025.pdf

requests received by certifying agencies during the calendar year. Pending requests represents the number of requests that the agency has pending at the time of submitting their data to the CJC. Because there may be requests currently pending that were received in the prior calendar year, as well as requests that were received in the previous calendar year and resolved in 2025, there may be a difference between the sum of approved, denied, and pending requests and the total requests received for the calendar year.

Table 2.1. 2025 Certification Requests by Agency Type

Type of Agency	Reporting Agencies	Agencies with No 2025 Requests	Requests Received			
			Approved	Denied	Pending	2025 Total
District Attorney's Office	30	13	235	78	8	316
Law Enforcement Agency	113	68	446	125	4	575
Other Certifying Agency	1	0	6	0	0	6
Total	144	81	687	203	12	897

The number of denied certification requests by reporting agency type are broken down into categories that explain the reason for denial, as stipulated in SB 597 (2023). Table 2.2. shows denial reasons as reported to the CJC in 2025. The one “other certifying agency” that reported to the CJC was the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI). BOLI had not denied any of the requests received in 2025 as of the time of their data submission. For the calendar year of 2025, the most common denial reason reported overall was a lack of qualifying criminal activity. Agencies may submit multiple reasons for denial, meaning the sum of reasons given for denial may not match the total number of requests denied. Additionally, some law enforcement agencies may deny a request citing a lack of jurisdiction because they are rerouting the request through the district attorney’s office in their county. Tables A.1. and A.2. in Appendix A display the detailed certification requests received for the 2025 calendar year for participating district attorney’s offices and law enforcement agencies.

Table 2.2. 2025 Denial Reasons by Agency Type

Type of Agency	Denial Reasons				Total Denial Reasons
	Lack of Qualifying Criminal Activity	Lack of Helpfulness	Lack of Jurisdiction	Other Lawful Reason	
District Attorney's Office	44	6	22	6	78
Law Enforcement Agency	57	14	38	22	131
Total	101	20	60	28	209

3: Data Not Reported

Per legislative mandate, the official data submission window for the 2025 calendar year closed on June 1, 2026. Data submission forms were open until June 30, 2026. At that time, the CJC began following up with agencies that submitted incomplete or inconsistent data. According to SB 597, section 1, subsection 3(a), the CJC shall identify any certifying agency that did not submit a report as required. Tables B.1. and B.2. in Appendix B display the district attorney's offices and law enforcement agencies from which the CJC did not receive data. CJC directly contacted the agencies listed in Tables B.1. and B.2. and were unable to confirm whether these agencies received zero or more certification requests for the corresponding calendar year. Appendix B does not list other agencies that have responsibility for the detection, investigation, or prosecution of a qualifying criminal activity, including but not limited to a certifying agency as defined in 8 C.F.R. 214.14. Certifying agencies that fall into this category would have been required to report to the CJC if they received certification requests in 2025. This is currently the last planned report of its nature, as SB 597 is set to sunset on January 2, 2027.

Appendix A. Certification Requests Data Received

Table A.1. 2025 Certification Requests Data Received, District Attorney's Offices

District Attorney's Office	Requests Received				Denial Reasons			
	Total	Approved	Denied	Pending	Lack of Qualifying Criminal Activity	Lack of Helpfulness	Lack of Jurisdiction	Other Lawful Reason
Baker County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Benton County	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clackamas County	22	11	8	3	2	0	4	2
Clatsop County	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Columbia County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crook County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deschutes County	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gilliam County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harney County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson County	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jefferson County	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Josephine County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Klamath County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lane County	14	12	1	1	0	0	1	0
Lincoln County	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Linn County	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malheur County	5	4	1	0	1	0	0	0
Marion County	38	29	9	0	2	2	4	1
Multnomah County	55	43	12	0	8	1	3	0
Polk County	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherman County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tillamook County	4	3	1	0	1	0	0	0
Umatilla County	11	5	3	3	1	1	1	0
Union County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wallowa County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington County	120	85	39	1	25	2	9	3
Wheeler County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yamhill County	11	7	4	0	4	0	0	0
Total	316	235	78	8	44	6	22	6

Table A.2. 2025 Certification Requests Data Received from Law Enforcement Agencies

Law Enforcement Agency	Requests Received				Denial Reasons			
	Total	Approved	Denied	Pending	Lack of Qualifying Criminal Activity	Lack of Helpfulness	Lack of Jurisdiction	Other Lawful Reason
Albany Police Department	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ashland Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aumsville Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baker County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beaverton Police Department	19	5	14	0	4	1	11	0
Benton County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Butte Ranch Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boardman Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brookings Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burns Paiute Tribe Police	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burns Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canby Police Department	3	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
Cannon Beach Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carlton Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central Point Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Bend Police Department	10	8	2	0	1	0	0	1
City of Sherwood Police Department	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Umatilla Police Department	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Clackamas County Sheriff's Office	30	22	8	0	7	0	1	0
Clatsop County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coburg Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Columbia County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corvallis Police Department	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Crook County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dallas Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eugene Police Department	10	8	2	0	2	0	0	0
Florence Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gilliam County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gladstone Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gold Beach Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Grants Pass Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gresham Police Department	49	36	13	0	10	0	0	3
Hermiston Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hillsboro Police Department	28	6	22	0	5	2	15	0
Hines Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hood River Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hubbard-Donald Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Independence Police Department	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Josephine County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Junction City Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Keizer Police Department	12	9	3	0	1	0	2	0
Klamath County Sheriff's Office	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	1
La Grande Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Oswego Police Department	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Lane County Sheriff's Office	3	0	3	0	2	0	1	0
Lebanon Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln City Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Linn County Sheriff's Office	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manzanita Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marion County Sheriff's Office	26	23	3	0	1	1	1	0
McMinnville Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medford Police Department	5	4	1	0	1	0	0	0
Milton-Freewater Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Milwaukie Police Department	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Molalla Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monmouth Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morrow County Sheriff's Office	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mt. Angel Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Myrtle Creek Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Myrtle Point Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newberg Dundee Police Department	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newport Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nyssa Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ontario City Police Department	4	1	3	0	2	1	0	0
Oregon City Police Department	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	1
Oregon State Police	8	6	2	0	0	0	2	0

Oregon State University Department of Public Safety	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Philomath Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phoenix Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pilot Rock Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Polk County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Port Orford Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portland Fire & Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portland Police Bureau	207	192	15	0	5	4	0	8
Portland State University Campus Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Powers Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prineville Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rainier Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Redmond Police Department	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Reedsport Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rogue River Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Roseburg Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salem Police Department	44	39	5	0	4	0	1	0
Sandy Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seaside Police Department	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherman County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Silverton Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Springfield Police Department	7	6	1	0	0	0	0	1
Stayton Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sunriver Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sutherlin Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sweet Home Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Talent Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Dalles Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Scappoose Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tigard Police Department	9	6	3	0	0	3	0	0
Tillamook County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tillamook Police Department	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toledo Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tualatin Police Department	3	0	2	1	0	0	1	2
Turner Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Umatilla County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Union Pacific Railroad Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
University of Oregon Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warrenton Police Department	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wasco County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington County Sheriff's Office	15	4	8	3	7	0	0	1
Wheeler County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woodburn Police Department	34	32	2	0	1	1	0	0
Yamhill County Sheriff's Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yamhill Police Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	575	446	125	4	57	14	38	22

Appendix B. Non-Reporting Agencies

Table B.1. 2025 Non-Reporting District Attorney's Offices

Coos County	Hood River County
Curry County	Morrow County
Douglas County	Wasco County

Table B.2. 2025 Non-Reporting Law Enforcement Agencies

Astoria Police Department	Jacksonville Police Department
Baker City Police Department	Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
Bandon Police Department	King City Police Department
Butte Falls Police Department	Klamath Falls Police Department
Columbia City Police Department	Lake County Sheriff's Office
Coos Bay Police Department	Madras Police Department
Coos County Sheriff's Office	Malheur County Sheriff's Office
Coquille Police Department	Malin Police Department
Cottage Grove Police Department	Merrill Police Department
Curry County Sheriff's Office	North Bend Police Department
Deschutes County Sheriff's Office	Oakridge Police Department
Douglas County Sheriff's Office	OHSU Police Department
Eagle Point Police Department	Pendleton Police Department
Enterprise Police Department	Port of Portland Police Department
Forest Grove Police Department	St. Helens Police Department
Gearhart County Sheriff's Office	Stanfield Police Department
Gervais Police Department	Union County Sheriff's Office
Grant County Sheriff's Office	Vernonia Police Department
Harney County Sheriff's Office	Wallowa County Sheriff's Office
Hood River County Sheriff's Office	West Linn Police Department
Jackson County Sheriff's Office	Winston Police Department