

INS opens new Anchorage office to assist illegal aliens in Alaska

Beginning this month, people who have resided illegally in the United States will be able to file applications for legal status.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service in Anchorage opened its new office at 620 East 10th Ave., Suite 102, on May 5.

Applicants may apply in person or mail their application, after which they will receive an interview appointment. Applications may be obtained by calling 258-2838 or writing to the office.

Aliens who have resided illegally since Jan. 1, 1982, or who have been employed as an agricultural worker prior to May 1, 1986, may qualify for

legalization. However, applications under the agriculture provision may not be submitted until June 1.

The legalization program will not be used as an enforcement tool to locate illegal aliens, according to officials. Except for attempts to obtain legal status fraudulently, the information on the applications will be used only to determine eligibility for legalization.

The new office employs 13 people, and the program will last from two to four years.

INS also will process applications in other Alaska cities at locations and dates yet to be announced.