

## Referral Training Exercise 4: Auditing a Certificate and Issuing Disposition Letters

Now that you have completed the online portion of training for Referral, it is time to log into the Training environment of USA Staffing to practice what you have learned. Use this step-by-step guide to help you practice this lesson. Retain your notes to assist you with other lessons.

This practice exercise will walk you through auditing a certificate and issuing disposition letters to applicants. Auditing a certificate requires you to have a certificate. If you already have certificate that can be audited, complete the information below. If not, you can access the entire practice training series on the USA Staffing Training Resources page at: [https://help.usastaffing.gov/ResourceCenter/index.php/USA\\_Staffing\\_Training\\_Resources](https://help.usastaffing.gov/ResourceCenter/index.php/USA_Staffing_Training_Resources). You will then need to complete the Request, Vacancy, Assessment, Announcement, and Referral (Exercises 1-3) exercises before proceeding with this exercise.

My Vacancy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- Go into your **Vacancy Number**. There are several ways to access a Vacancy Number:
  - If you know your number, you can type it directly in the **Go To** box at the top of the page and click **Enter**.
  - You can locate your request in the Requests tab of your dashboard. Once in your request, there is a direct access link under the **Vacancy Created** section.
  - If you have recently gone into this Vacancy Number, it will show up in your dashboard drop-down list
- Once in your Vacancy, navigate to the **Certificates** tab. If the Certificates tab does not automatically display, use the **+** to select Certificates.

The screenshot displays the USA Staffing interface for VACANCY 10140945. The top navigation bar includes tabs for Staffing, Classification, Recruit, Admin, Reports, and Search. The main header shows the vacancy number and a dropdown menu. Below this, there are tabs for Assessment Package, Announcement, Applicant Overview, Certificates (highlighted in red), and Reviews. A red box highlights the '+' icon next to the Certificates tab. The page content includes a section for Tasks (3) with a table of tasks, a Requests (1) section, and a large section for Applicant statistics showing 11 applicants, with 8 eligible, 1 eligible not referred, and 2 ineligible.

Task	Owner	Due Date
Issue Certificates	Mei-Ling Erickson	04/23/2022
Notify Applicants Of Referral	Mei-Ling Erickson	04/23/2022
Send Certificates	Mei-Ling Erickson	04/23/2022

Request Number	Status
20220422-84597	Active Recruitment

Applicant Statistics:

- 11 APPLICANTS
- 8 ELIGIBLE REFERRED
- 1 ELIGIBLE NOT REFERRED
- 2 INELIGIBLE

Image 1: Vacancy Case File page with the Certificate and the + tab highlighted. It is located near the top of the page.

3. Click the **Certificate Number** next to the certificate you want to audit.

USA Staffing®

VACANCY 10140945

USAJOBS Job Title: Program Analyst, Pay Plan-Series-Grade: GS-0343-9, Announcement Type: DE

Certificates (4)

Certificate Number	Certificate Type	Filters	Grade	Issued	Issued By	Reviews	Certificate Status	Audit Complete
20221007-NW-001	Category Rating	Series: 0343 Status (RSC): AA Certification Status: Eligibles Category Rating: Best Qualified (95) NOR Code: ELTE	9	10/7/2022	Mei-Ling Erickson	1 - Returned	Selection Made	No

Image 2: Certificates page with a certificate. To access the certificate, click on the Certificate Number.

4. If the certificate was returned from a Hiring Manager, some or all of the **Audit Codes** may be completed. Hiring Managers are not required to complete all **Audit Codes** before returning the certificate to HR.

USA Staffing®

VACANCY 10134311

Certificate Number: 20211018-NW-001, Issued: 10/18/2021 10:45 EDT, Issued By: Kasey Acres, Certificate Type: Merit Referral List, Status: Selection Made, Expiration Date: 12/31/2023

Applicant List (5)

Name	Rating	Vet Pref	Audit Code	Return Status	Documents	Eligibility	Notes	Request Number	Date Certified	Flags
Acres, Kona	EL	TP - 5-point preference based on active duty in the U.S Armed Forces	Selected		5	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	☑️ 📄 🚫 ⭐
Erickson, Murphy	EL	XP - 10-point preference for non-compensable disability or a Purple Heart	Alternate Selection 1		2	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	☑️ 📄 🚫 ⭐
Kelly, Grace	EL	NV - No Preference Claimed	Not Selected		2	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	☑️ 📄 🚫 ⭐
Smith, Sadie	EL	TP - 5-point preference based on active duty in the U.S Armed Forces	Not Selected		2	OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	☑️ 📄 🚫 ⭐
Vera, Oli	EL	CPS - 10-point preference based on a compensable service-connected disability of 30 percent or more.	Not Selected		2	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	☑️ 📄 🚫 ⭐


Image 3: A certificate returned from a Hiring Manager. All of the Audit Codes have been filled in but the Return Status column is blank for all applicants.

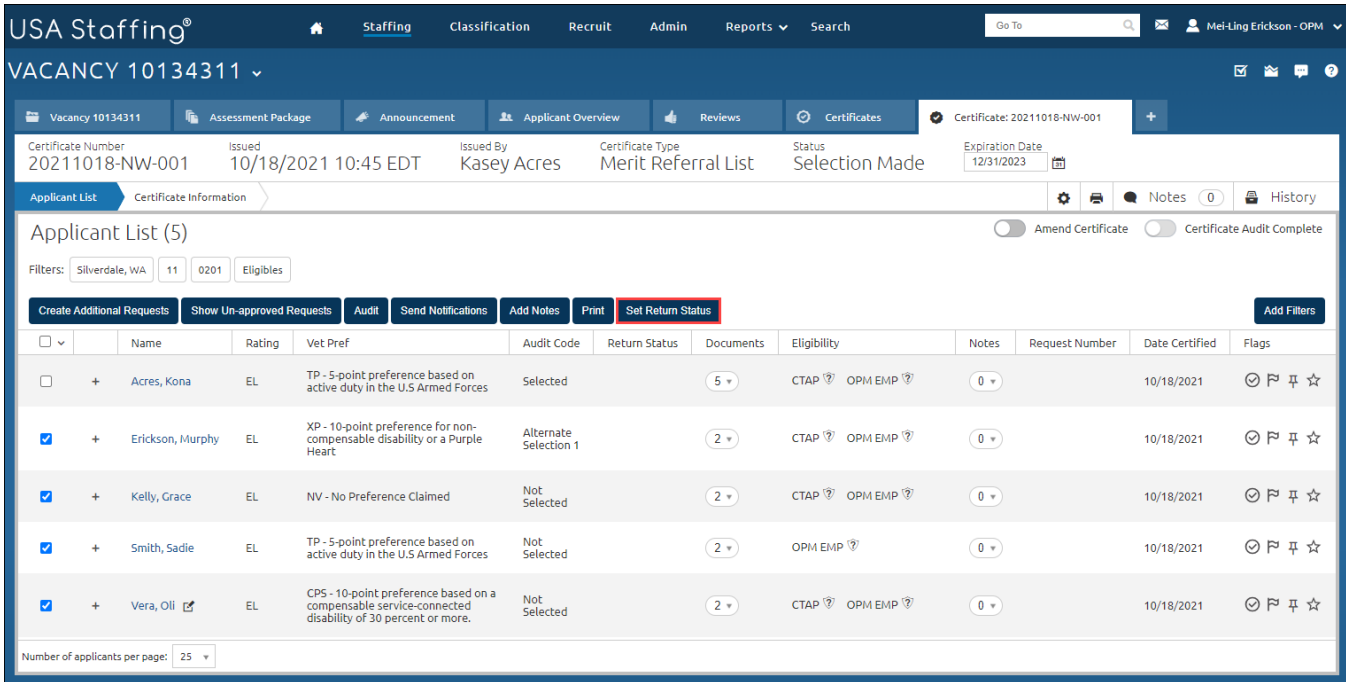
5. To complete the audit, ensure all applicants on the certificate have an **Audit Code** and **Return Status**.

- Designate any not selected applicants as a Return Status of **Available**.

- b. Any decline applicants should have their status set based on the conditions of the declination. For example, if the applicant **Declined Location** and the announcement had only 1 location, the applicant should be **Unavailable**. If there were multiple locations, the applicant would be **Available**.
- c. Any **Selected** applicants should be marked as **Hired**.

You can assign Audit Codes and Return Status two ways:

- a. Click the **Edit** icon (  ) next to a name.
- b. Check the box next to the name(s) and use the **Set Return Status** button.



The screenshot shows the USA Staffing application interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: Staffing, Classification, Recruit, Admin, Reports, and Search. Below this, a header bar displays 'VACANCY 10134311' and a 'Certificate: 20211018-NW-001' dropdown. The main content area is titled 'Applicant List (5)' and includes a table of applicants. The 'Set Return Status' button is highlighted in red. The table has columns for Name, Rating, Vet Pref, Audit Code, Return Status, Documents, Eligibility, Notes, Request Number, Date Certified, and Flags. Five applicants are listed, with the first three having their 'Return Status' set to 'Selected' and the last two to 'Not Selected'. The 'Set Return Status' button is located at the bottom right of the table.

Name	Rating	Vet Pref	Audit Code	Return Status	Documents	Eligibility	Notes	Request Number	Date Certified	Flags
Acres, Kona	EL	TP - 5-point preference based on active duty in the U.S Armed Forces	Selected		5	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	🕒 📄 🗑️ ⭐
Erickson, Murphy	EL	XP - 10-point preference for non-compensable disability or a Purple Heart	Alternate Selection 1		2	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	🕒 📄 🗑️ ⭐
Kelly, Grace	EL	NV - No Preference Claimed	Not Selected		2	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	🕒 📄 🗑️ ⭐
Smith, Sadie	EL	TP - 5-point preference based on active duty in the U.S Armed Forces	Not Selected		2	OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	🕒 📄 🗑️ ⭐
Vera, Oli	EL	CPS - 10-point preference based on a compensable service-connected disability of 30 percent or more.	Not Selected		2	CTAP ? OPM EMP ?	0		10/18/2021	🕒 📄 🗑️ ⭐

Image 4: Several applicants with the box next to their name checked and the **Set Return Status** highlighted.

6. Once you complete the audit for any Selected, Hired applicants and designate the Request Number, Location, and other required information for that applicant.
  - a. After completing the required fields, select **Save and Close**.

**Audit Application**

Applicants  
O'Neil, Astrid

Audit Code: Selected      Return Status: Hired

Customer: User Support Team      Request Number: 20220422-84597      Location: Boulder, Boulder County, Colorado

Review Name: Program Analyst GS-9 DE      Reviewer: Mei-Ling Erickson      Decision Date/Time: 4/27/2022 17:01 EDT

Workflow: Onboarding Demo Workflow      Position Description Number: 123testME      Series: Management And Program Analysis

Save      Save and Close      Cancel

Image 5a: Audit Application pop up for a Selected, Hired applicant.

- b. The system will display a **Save Audit Create New Hire Process** pop-up. If you don't see that pop-up, image 5a below, it means you did not complete all fields in the Audit Application screen.
- c. A green check-mark will display as the system completes each item.

**Save Audit Create New Hire Process**

New Hire Created	✓
Global Questions Assigned	✓
Global Questions Pre-populated	✓
Tasks Assigned	✓
New Hire Number Created	✓
Audit Saved	✓

Image 5b: The Save Audit Create New Hire Process box with completed icons for some of the tasks.

7. Once all applicants have an Audit Code and Return Status, the system will ask you if you want to toggle the Certificate Audit Complete button. Completing the audit will lock the certificate so you won't be able to add or remove any applicants from the certificate. Click on the **Complete Audit** button.

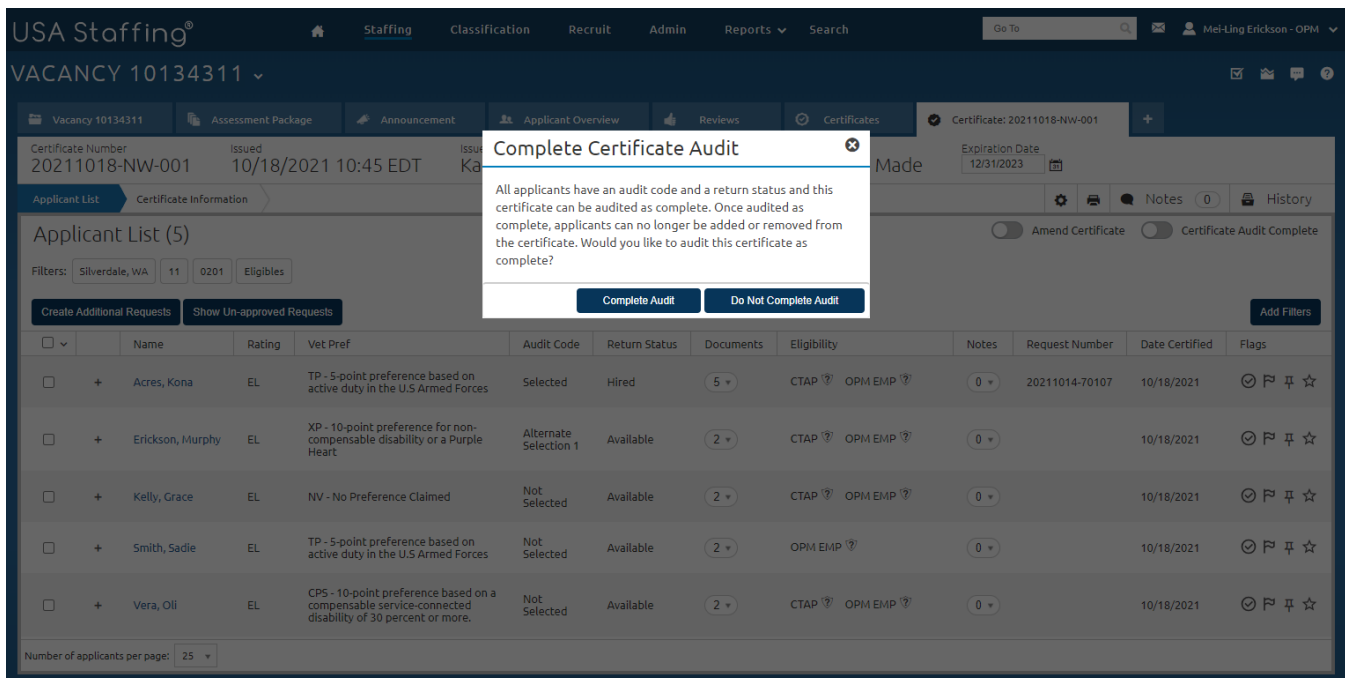


Image 6: The Complete Audit/ Do Not Complete Audit box.

8. You will return to the certificate and the **Certificate Audit Complete** toggle will be selected. If you need to make a change to any audit codes, you will need to un-toggle the **Certificate Audit Complete** first.

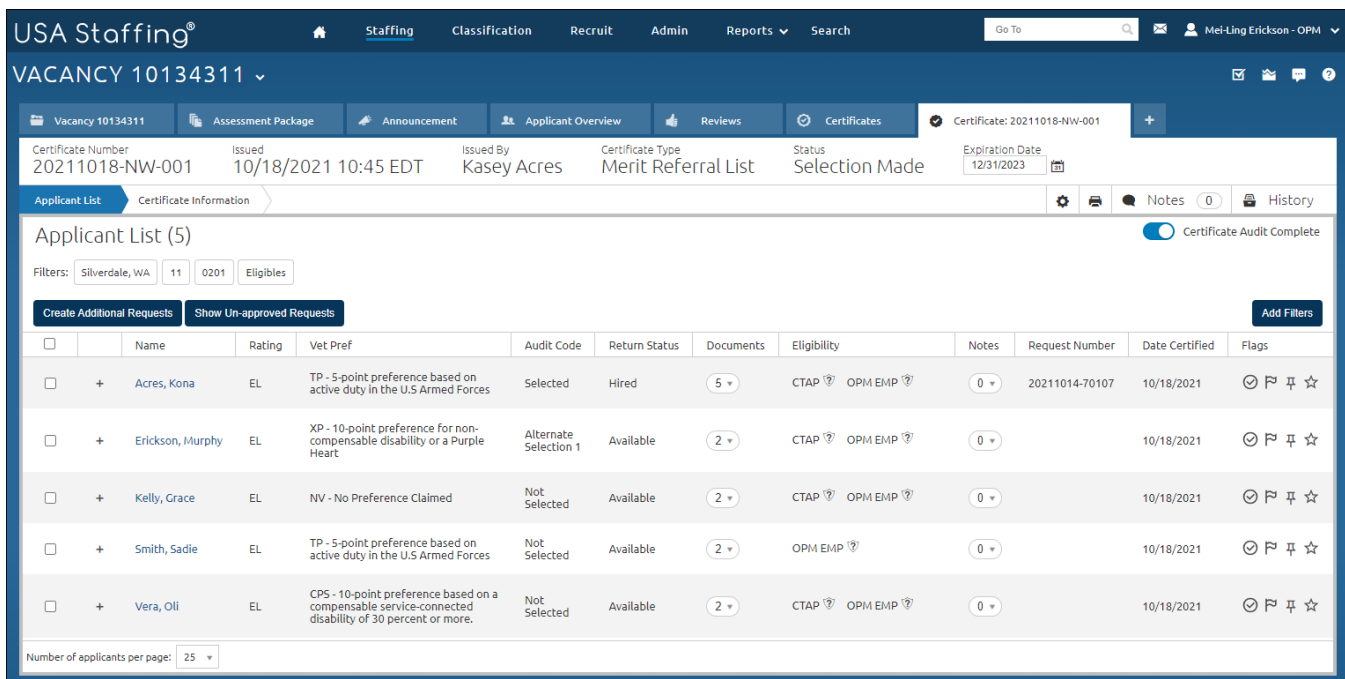


Image 7: A certificate with all Audit Codes and Return Status (codes) completed. The Certificate Audit Complete is checked. The Certificate Audit Complete toggle is located in the upper-right quadrant of the screen.

**Your certificate has now been successfully audited.**

9. To issue Disposition Letters, return to the **Applicant Overview** tab. Press the **Send Remaining** button in the Final Disposition section.

USA Staffing®

VACANCY 10140945

Applicant Overview

USAJOBS Job Title: Program Analyst, Pay Plan-Series-Grade: GS-0343-9, Announcement Type: DE

Applicants (11)

Filter by Name/Email: [Search], Flagged/Reviewed: All, RSC: All, Clear

Name	Email	RSC - Applicant Status			
Acris, Kona		IN	✓	🚩	🔗
Ashley, Amber A		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
Doe, John		IN	✓	🚩	🔗
Erickson, Kali		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
Erickson, Murphy		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
Jackson, Janet		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
Knight, Brandon		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
O'Neil, Astrid		HH	✓	🚩	🔗
Palmer, Kylie		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
Smith, David		AA	✓	🚩	🔗
Vera, Oli		AA	✓	🚩	🔗

TOUCHPOINT NOTIFICATIONS SENT

100% APPLICATION RECEIVED, 100% NOTICE OF RESULTS, 100% NOTICE OF REFERRAL, 0% FINAL DISPOSITION

SEND REMAINING

USAJOBS JOB STATUS: Reviewing applications, MARK HIRING COMPLETE

CLAIMED VETERANS' PREFERENCE: CP: 1, CPS: 2, SSP: 1, TP: 2, XP: 1

Image 8: Applicant Overview page with the Send Remaining button highlighted for the Final Disposition notifications. The Touchpoint Notifications show 0% for Final Disposition. This button is located on the middle, right side of the page.

10. The Choose Notification Template pop-up will display a list of all Notification templates for that touchpoint. In this scenario the type is defaulted to Disposition since we selected **Send Remaining** from Final Disposition. If you do not have any options or the options that you have are not what you need, you will need someone with adequate permissions in Training to create a template. For detailed instructions for creating a notification template see: [https://help.usastaffing.gov/USAS/index.php?title=Creating\\_a\\_notification\\_template](https://help.usastaffing.gov/USAS/index.php?title=Creating_a_notification_template). Remember, when creating a notification template the Notification Type will control which touchpoint the template is associated with.

Choose Notification Template

Notification Templates (1)

Disposition [Tags] [Template Name or Template Description]

Template Name	Type	Template Description
Disposition Letter Selection Made Publications	Disposition	Disposition Letter for certificates with a selection

Image 9: The Choose Notification Template page with the notification type of Disposition selected.

11. Select the template you want to use by clicking on the **Template Name**.

Template Name	Type	Template Description
Disposition Letter Selection Made Publications	Disposition	Disposition Letter for certificates with a selection

Image 10: Choose Notification Template page with the Template Name highlighted. Clicking on the name of the template selects that template.

12. The Preview Notification page will display a preview of the notifications. You can use the navigation buttons on the lower-right side of the screen to navigate to applicant previews.

**Note:** If the text of the notifications is not correct or not what you want to send, you, or someone with sufficient permissions in the Training environment, can modify the text of the templates in Admin. Here are instructions: [https://help.usastaffing.gov/USAS/index.php?title=Editing\\_a\\_notification\\_template](https://help.usastaffing.gov/USAS/index.php?title=Editing_a_notification_template)

Dear Brandon Knight,

The following is your referral status for the position or positions to which you applied:

- Applicants have not been referred to the hiring manager at this time for position GS-0343-9 in Fairfax County, Virginia
- You have been referred to the hiring manager for position GS-0343-9 in Boulder, Colorado

We regret to inform you that you were not selected for the position of:

- GS-0343-9 in Boulder, Colorado

Thank you for applying to this position with the IRS. We regret to inform you that you were not selected for this position.

A Human Resources Specialist will assess your qualifications based upon the responses you provided, as well as any other documents you submitted. You will receive correspondence regarding your application status during the recruitment process.

Previewing notification for applicant Knight, Brandon

5 - 5 of 7

Send Notification

Image 11: Sample Preview Notification page for Disposition Letters.

13. When ready, click the **Send Notification** button.

**Important Note:** Before sending the notifications make sure that all e-mail addresses in your applicant list are appropriate to send notifications to. The system will send the notification letter when you press the **Send Notification** button with any text in it. You will not be able to recall these messages. It would not be appropriate to send letters to any real applicants or agency employees not involved in testing this site. Make sure any e-mail addresses that receive a notice are aware that this is for practice only. If in doubt, skip this step. You will still understand how this process works by setting it up to this point.

**Preview Notification**

**To:** All Applicants on list

**Reply To:** John.Miller1900e@yahoo.com

**Subject:** Disposition Letter for 10004363 -

1900 E Street NW

Dear Jackson,

This letter is to inform you that another applicant was selected for DEST-10004363-16-RB.

Thank you for your interest in positions with ASMB User Publications.

*Previewing notification for applicant Brown, Jackson*

1 - 1 of 4

**Send Notification**

Image 12: Preview Notification page with Send Notification button highlighted.

14. Now that the Disposition Letters have been sent, the Touchpoint Notifications Sent has updated to 100%.

**USA Staffing®**

VACANCY 10140945

Staffing Classification Recruit Admin Reports Search

Vacancy 10140945 Assessment Package Announcement Applicant Overview Certificates Reviews Certificate: 20220422-NW-001

USAJOBS Job Title: Program Analyst Pay Plan-Series-Grade: GS-0343-9 Announcement Type: DE

Overview Saved Lists Stored Lists Manage Assignments Merged Applicants History

**Applicants (11)**

Filter by Name/Email: Flagged/Reviewed: All RSC: All Clear

Search

Name	Email	RSC - Applicant Status			
Acres, Kona		IN	✓	🚩	⚡
Ashley, Amber A		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
Doe, John		IN	✓	🚩	⚡
Erickson, Kali		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
Erickson, Murphy		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
Jackson, Janet		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
Knight, Brandon		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
O'Neil, Astrid		HH	✓	🚩	⚡
Palmer, Kylie		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
Smith, David		AA	✓	🚩	⚡
Vera, Oli		AA	✓	🚩	⚡

**TOUCHPOINT NOTIFICATIONS SENT**

**100%** APPLICATION RECEIVED **100%** NOTICE OF RESULTS **100%** NOTICE OF REFERRAL **100%** FINAL DISPOSITION

**USAJOBS JOB STATUS**

Reviewing applications

**MARK HIRING COMPLETE**

**CLAIMED VETERANS' PREFERENCE**

CP: 1  
CPS: 2  
SSP: 1  
TP: 2  
XP: 1

Image 13: Applicant Overview page with 100% for the Final Disposition touchpoint notification.

**This completes this lesson. Your vacancy is now complete!**



If at any time, in the site, you have questions:

Click the help icon in the upper corner to launch online help. It will open in a separate tab.

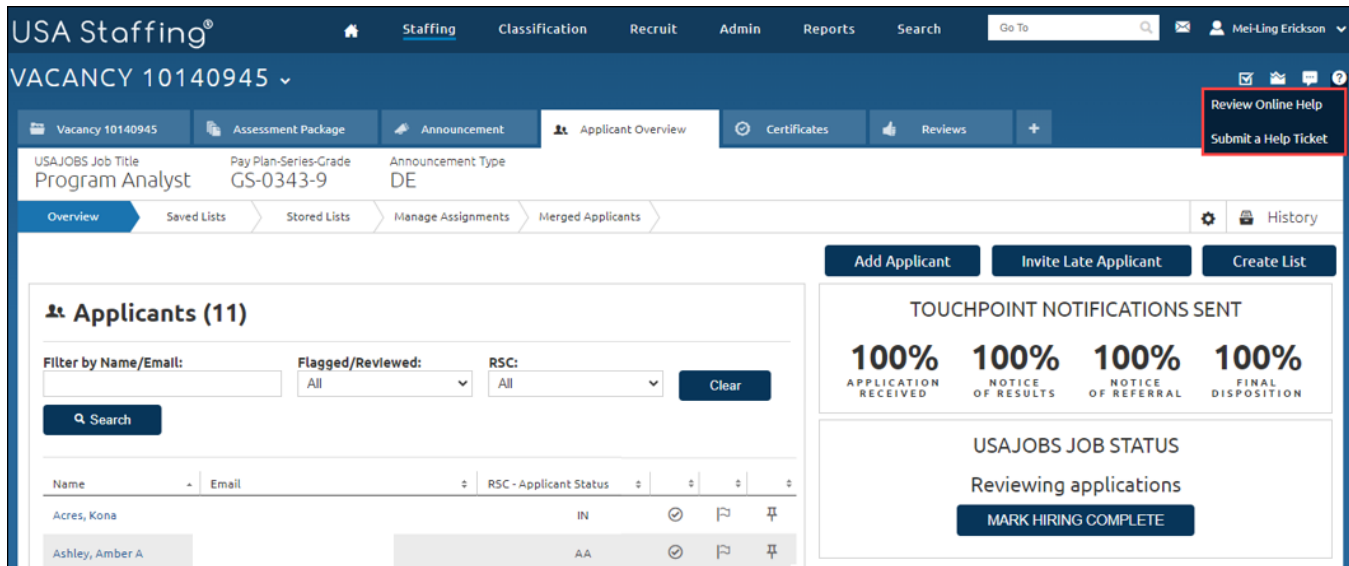


Image 14: Applicant Overview page with the help icon expanded. The two options listed are Review Online Help and Submit a Help Ticket. This is located in the upper-right quadrant of the page.

If you need additional help, click the **Home** button on online help. Then select **Help for USA Staffing HR Users**.

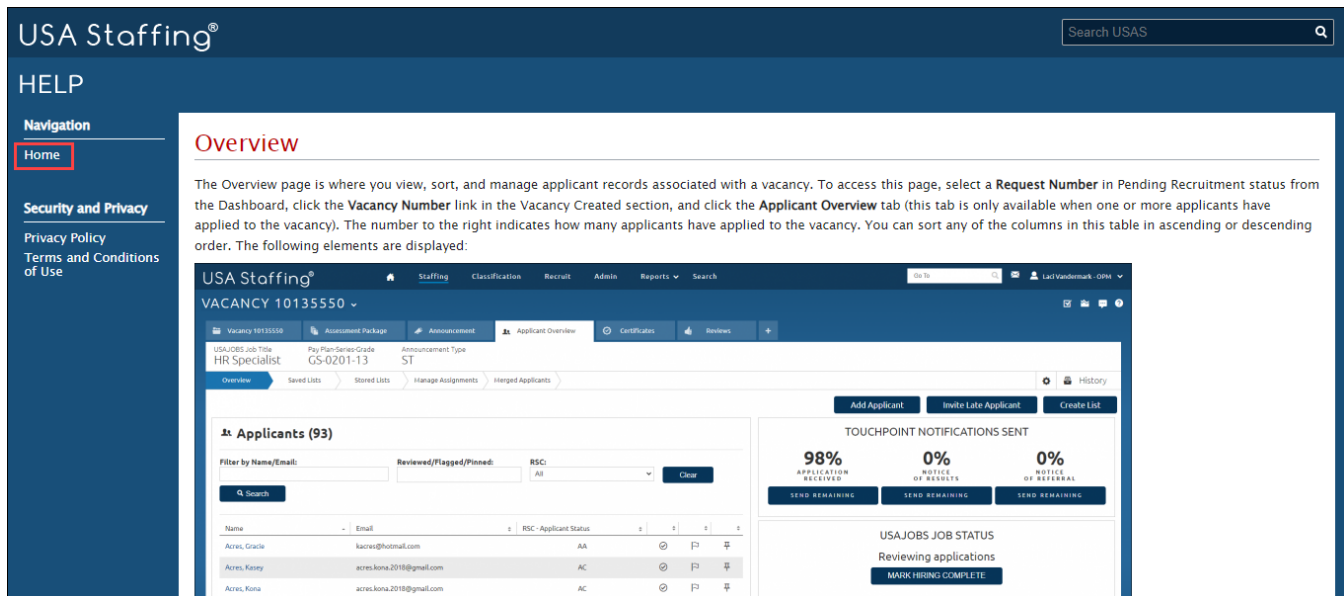


Image 15: Applicant Overview page of Online Help. The Home button is highlighted. Home is located in the upper-left quadrant of the page.