

**Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED)**

Are you a national or citizen of one of the countries listed below? (Currently, these are the only countries designated for TPS or DED.)

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

Country
El Salvador
Honduras
Liberia (DED)
Nicaragua
Somalia
Sudan
South Sudan
Haiti
Syria

[Read Disclaimer](#)

It appears that TPS is not right for you because the country of which you claim you are a citizen or national has not been designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security as a TPS recipient. [General information about TPS](#)

[Back to](#)

What information or benefit are you seeking? (Select one below)

[General Information about TPS \(What is TPS, What is DED, Travel with TPS, etc.\)](#)

[Information about Initial Registration for TPS \(Country has recently been designated or re-designated for TPS\)](#)

[Information about Late Initial Registration for TPS \(Person Did not Register During Initial Registration Period\)](#)

[Information about Re-Registration for TPS \(Person has TPS now and wishes to continue it under recently announced Extension of TPS by the Secretary\)](#)

[Information about Employment for TPS Registrants or DED-Covered Individuals](#)

[Changing Your Address with USCIS](#)

Note: [Click here for FAQs about both the re-designation and the extension of TPS for Haiti](#)

[Temporary Protected Status](#)**General Information about TPS (What is TPS, What is DED, Travel with TPS, etc.)****OVERVIEW**

The Secretary of Homeland Security has authority to designate a country for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 6 to 18 months if:

- There is an ongoing armed conflict within the country that would pose a serious threat to the personal safety of nationals of that country if they returned; or
- The country has suffered an environmental disaster resulting in a substantial, temporary disruption of living conditions and is therefore unable to adequately handle the return of its nationals and the foreign state has requested TPS; or
- Other extraordinary and temporary conditions in the country prevent nationals of that country from returning in safety, unless the Secretary finds that permitting such nationals to remain in the United States temporarily is contrary to U.S. national interest.

Frequently Asked Questions

- [What is TPS?](#)
- [What is Deferred Enforced Departure \(DED\)?](#)
- [How Can I Find Out if My Home Country Has been Designated as a TPS Country?](#)
- [When Can I Apply?](#)
- [How Do I Apply for TPS?](#)
- [Will I be Authorized to Work?](#)
- [Is There a Time Limit on TPS?](#)
- [Can I Get a Travel Document to Travel Outside the U.S. and Return?](#)
- [What is unlawful presence? If I violate the terms and conditions of my status or have been in the U.S. without lawful status and then leave the U.S. will I be able to come back?](#)
- [How does an application for TPS affect my application for Asylum or other immigration benefits?](#)
- [Where do I apply for TPS?](#)
- [Synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What is TPS?

The Secretary of Homeland Security can designate a country under the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) laws based on certain events, such as natural disasters or on-going armed conflicts. Other extraordinary and temporary conditions in the country may also result in a TPS designation. Nationals of a TPS-designated country, or persons having no nationality who last habitually resided in the country who can demonstrate that they have been continuously residing *and* continuously physically present in the U.S. since certain dates that are specified in the *Federal Register* notice announcing the Secretary's decision to designate the country for TPS, may be able to apply to stay temporarily and get work authorization until the Secretary determines that conditions have changed in their country, allowing them to return home safely. TPS is not asylum, not an amnesty, and it does not lead to permanent residence. The program is intended to assist people in crisis situations and designations are usually for twelve to eighteen months, although they are often extended following the Secretary's review of country conditions.

What is Deferred Enforced Departure (DED)

Although Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) is not a specific immigration status, individuals covered by DED are not subject to enforcement actions to remove them from the United States, usually for a designated period of time. The President has discretion to authorize DED under his constitutional authority to conduct foreign relations. When presidents have exercised their discretion to provide DED to a certain group of individuals, they generally direct the Executive Branch agencies, such as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to take steps to implement appropriate procedures to apply DED and related benefits, such as employment authorization, to those individuals. Only certain nationals of Liberia who previously had TPS as of September 30, 2007 are now covered by DED. To continue being covered by DED, such Liberians must meet the requirements of President Obama's last DED directive. **Note:** [Criteria for Liberian DED](#)

How Can I Find Out if My Home Country Has been Designated as a TPS Country?

When the decision is made to designate, re-designate, or extend a country under TPS, an announcement will be made in a government publication called the ***Federal Register***. Terminations of TPS designations are also announced in this publication. The ***Federal Register*** can be viewed at most public libraries or on the internet at www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index. Be sure to read the ***Federal Register*** notice very carefully.

TPS designations, extensions, terminations, and other related information will also be published on our web site at www.uscis.gov.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

When Can I Apply for TPS?

Note: Please refer to table below for the appropriate initial registration dates for the appropriate country. Individuals may also qualify as “Late Initial Filers” (LIFs) in certain circumstances and be able to apply after the registration dates below if they meet the LIF criteria.

<u>El Salvador</u>	<u>Honduras</u>	<u>Liberia</u>	<u>Nicaragua</u>	<u>Somalia</u>	<u>Sudan</u>	<u>South Sudan</u>	<u>Haiti</u>	<u>Syria</u>
Mar. 9, 2001 to Sept. 9, 2002	Jan. 5, 1999 to Aug. 20, 1999	Oct. 1, 2002 to April 1, 2003	Jan. 5, 1999 to Aug. 20, 1999	3 Different Initial Registration Periods Sept. 16, 1991 to Sept. 16, 1992 AND Sept. 4, 2001 to Sept. 17, 2002 AND May 1, 2012 to October 29, 2012 Under Extension May 1, 2012 to July 2, 1012	(3 Different Initial Registration Periods) Nov. 4, 1997 to Nov. 3, 1998 AND Nov. 9, 1999 to Nov. 2, 2000 AND Oct. 7, 2004 to April 5, 2005 Under Extension October 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012	Initial Oct. 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012	Initial – Jan. 21, 2010 to Jan. 18, 2011 Under Re- designation – May 19, 2011 to Nov. 15, 2011	Mar. 29, 2012 to Sept. 25, 2012

Continued on Next Page

If certain conditions applied to you during the initial registration period for your country (or during any of the several initial registration periods if your country had more than one such period), you may still file a Late Initial application for TPS. For example, if any of the following conditions applied to you during the initial registration period for your country, you can submit a late TPS application:

- You were in valid nonimmigrant status;
- You were granted voluntary departure by an immigration judge;
- You were a parolee or had a pending request for reparole;
- An immigration judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) granted you any form of relief from removal, such as adjustment of status, asylum, cancellation of removal, suspension of deportation, or withholding of removal. There are other forms of “relief from removal” that may also allow you to file late for TPS, but you should consult an immigration attorney or reputable immigration advisor for advice in your particular case if you think you may have been granted or had a pending application for relief from removal during the TPS registration period;
- You had a pending application for adjustment of status, change of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal, or your application for any of these benefits or forms of relief was subject to further review or appeal; or
- You were the spouse or child of another person who currently has TPS or is currently eligible for TPS.

If any of these conditions applied to you during the initial TPS registration period for your country **but** the condition has ended, you **must** file for TPS within 60 days after that condition ended. If the condition applied during the initial registration period and has not ended, then you can still file a late initial application for TPS.

Please remember that even if you can file late for TPS, you must still meet all of the eligibility requirements for TPS as if you had filed on time. For example, you must meet the nationality, continuous residence and continuous presence, and admissibility requirements for TPS even if you are the spouse of someone from that country who has TPS.

One important thing to remember is that if you currently have TPS, or are granted TPS, you will need to register again during each “re-registration” period announced by DHS as long as your country has a TPS designation, unless you decide you do not want to keep your TPS. You’ll need to do this each re-registration period in order to avoid losing your TPS status and the benefits you got through this status, such as employment authorization. Re-registration periods for each TPS country are typically announced approximately every 12 to 18 months.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

How Do I Apply for TPS?

Because each country designated for TPS has specific requirements, we ask that you review those country-specific requirements before filing. For more information about TPS, please see our website at www.uscis.gov/tps and select your country of interest from the list.

After reviewing the country-specific requirements, to apply for TPS, file Forms:

- 1) [I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status](#) and
- 2) [I-765, Application for Employment Authorization](#).

You must use the Form I-821 version dated 10/17/07 or later and the Form I-765 version dated 5/27/08 or later. Previous versions of these forms will be rejected. These forms are available on our website. ***Form I-765 must be submitted, even if you are not requesting permission to work.*** Please read all instructions carefully before filing your application(s). If you have questions after you read the instructions, please see our website at www.uscis.gov.

Note: Choose one of the topics from the list below for more information on TPS registration procedures if you want more information.

[Information about Initial Registration for TPS \(Country recently designated for TPS for the first time, or has recently been “re-designated” for TPS\)](#)

[Information about Late Initial Registration for TPS \(Person Did not Register During Initial Registration Period\)](#)

[Information about Re-Registration for TPS \(Person Has TPS and Wants to Re-register under Country’s TPS Extension\)](#)

Will I be Authorized to Work?

Form I-765, *Application for Employment Authorization*, **must be filed with** Form I-821, *Application for Temporary Protected Status*, whether you wish to obtain employment authorization or not. If you submit the proper filing fee with Form I-765 and your application is approved, you will be given an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). Under certain circumstances, you may be provided with the EAD while your TPS application is pending.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Is There a Time Limit on TPS?

The time periods and certain other requirements are specific to the country being designated or re-designated and will be outlined in the *Federal Register*. TPS designations, extensions, and other related information will also be published on our web site at www.uscis.gov. The maximum length of an extension period for TPS is 18 months, although the specific lengths of designation vary by country.

Can I Get a Travel Document to Travel Outside the U.S. and Return?

If you are granted TPS, you may apply for advance parole by filing [Form I-131, Application for Travel Document](#). If approved, you'll be given an advance parole document. An advance parole document allows you to depart the U.S. and re-enter as long as the advance parole document remains valid.

Advance parole cannot be granted for longer than the period of time your country is designated for TPS.

What is unlawful presence? If I violate the terms and conditions of my status or have been in the U.S. without lawful status and then leave the U.S. will I be able to come back?

A person is unlawfully present in the United States if he or she remains in the U.S. after the expiration of their authorized period of stay as noted on their I-94 Arrival-Departure Document or if they entered the U.S. without being admitted or paroled at a Port of Entry.

Unlawful presence can affect your eligibility to reenter the United States. During the period that you have TPS, you will not accrue unlawful presence. However, if you had any time in the United States when you were not in lawful status before or after you held TPS, you may be barred from obtaining certain other immigration benefits later, such as adjustment of status to permanent resident, especially if you have departed the United States and triggered the unlawful presence inadmissibility bars.

How does an application for TPS affect my application for Asylum or other immigration benefits?

An application for TPS does not affect an application for asylum or any other immigration benefit and vice versa.

- Denial of an application for asylum or any other immigration benefit does not affect your ability to register for TPS, although the grounds of denial of that application may also lead to denial of TPS. For example, if you have been convicted of an aggravated felony you are not eligible for asylum or TPS.
- If you have a family or an employment-based petition approved on your behalf and a priority date that is current, you can only adjust status in the United States if you were inspected and admitted, or paroled, and have maintained lawful status while in the United States. If you entered the United States illegally or fell out of a legal status before or after having TPS, you may be ineligible to adjust status in the United States. For adjustment purposes, the time that a person is in TPS is considered as a period of lawful non-immigrant status, but merely having TPS does not "cure" all other periods of time before and after TPS when the person may not have had lawful status.

Temporary Protected Status

Information about Initial Registration for TPS

OVERVIEW

The Secretary of Homeland Security has authority to designate a country for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 6 to 18 months if:

- There is an ongoing armed conflict within the country that would pose a serious threat to the personal safety of nationals of that country if they returned; or
- The country has suffered an environmental disaster resulting in a substantial, temporary disruption of living conditions and is therefore unable to adequately handle the return of its nationals and the foreign state has requested TPS; or
- Other extraordinary and temporary conditions exist in a country that prevent nationals of that country from returning in safety, unless the Secretary has determined that permitting such individuals to remain in the United States is contrary to U.S. national interest.

What is initial registration?

Initial registration is the first time period made available for nationals from a specific country that has been designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or persons having no nationality who last habitually resided in that country to file the applications, with fees, to obtain TPS. This initial registration period will run for at least 180-days. Procedures for registering during this period are included in the ***Federal Register*** notice that DHS publishes announcing the Secretary’s decision to designate the particular country for TPS.

Sometimes the Secretary will “re-designate” a country for TPS, which is not the same as an “extension” of the existing TPS designation. Under a “re-designation,” there will be a new 180-day or longer registration period and certain nationals from the re-designated country may become eligible for TPS who were not previously eligible.

What is the date of initial registration for my country?

Each country designated for Temporary Protected Status has its own specific initial registration period. For a few countries, there has been more than one “initial registration” period because the Secretary has “re-designated” the country for TPS.

Note: Click on a country in the following table to see the dates for initial registration for that country.

<u>El Salvador</u>	<u>Honduras</u>	<u>Liberia(DED)</u>	<u>Nicaragua</u>	<u>Somalia</u>	<u>Sudan</u>	<u>South Sudan</u>	<u>Haiti</u>	<u>Syria</u>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

Note: [Click here for FAQs about both the re-designation and the extension of TPS for Haiti](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Information about Late Initial Registration for TPS (Did Not Register During Initial Registration Period)

General FAQs about Late Initial Registration

- [What is late initial registration?](#)
- [Am I eligible for late initial registration?](#)
- [What are the application procedures and fees for late initial registration?](#)
- [What might make me ineligible for TPS?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Am I eligible for late initial registration?

To be eligible to apply as a late initial filer (LIF), you must show that during the initial registration period for your designated TPS country, you met at least one of the following criteria:

1. You were in valid nonimmigrant status or had been granted voluntary departure or any relief from removal. Relief from removal may be asylum, withholding of removal, cancellation of removal, suspension of deportation, or certain other forms of relief. If an immigration judge found you were deportable but granted you an immigration benefit that prevented your removal, you should consult an immigration attorney or reputable immigration advisor to determine whether you can file for late TPS registration; or
2. You did an application for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal which was pending or subject to further review or appeal; or
3. You were a parolee or had a pending request for re-parole; or
4. You were the spouse or child of an alien who is currently eligible for TPS.

If the condition(s) existed during the initial registration period and they still exist, you may file a late TPS application. You must apply for late initial registration no later than 60 days immediately following the expiration or termination of the conditions.

Even if you can file a late initial application for TPS, you still must meet all of the individual eligibility criteria for TPS, including but not limited to:

1. Must be a national of your country of origin (Example: El Salvador) or a person who has no nationality but who last habitually resided in a designated country;
2. Must have continuously resided in the United States since a specific date - specific to the designated country (Click on country in table below to find specific date.)
3. Must have been continuously physically present in the United States since a specific date - specific to the designated country (Click on country in table below to find specific date.)
4. Must be admissible as an immigrant, except as provided under section 244(c)(2)(A) of the Act and in 8 CFR 244.3, and not ineligible under section 244(c)(2)(B)

Note: If you want more specific information about late initial registration based on the country’s designation, click on the country of choice below.

El Salvador	Honduras	Liberia	Nicaragua	Somalia	Sudan	South Sudan	Haiti – Not Applicable	Syria – Not Applicable
-----------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------------	--	--

Note: [FAQs about both the re-designation and the extension of TPS for Haiti](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What are the application procedures and fees for late initial registration?

To file for late initial registration, you must complete the following steps:

- Provide evidence that you are eligible to file for late initial registration, such as the Form I-94 showing your previous status as a nonimmigrant or parolee during the initial registration period for your TPS country, or evidence that you had a pending application for adjustment of status, change of status, asylum, or voluntary departure during the initial registration period, or evidence that your request for relief from removal was on appeal or subject to further review during the initial registration period.
 - If during the initial registration period, you were the spouse or the child of a person who is currently eligible for TPS, then you must provide evidence of that relationship.
- Complete Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, with filing fee or properly documented request for fee waiver.
 - Follow all instructions on the Form I-821, including any instructions regarding grounds of inadmissibility or other grounds of ineligibility that may apply to you.
- Complete Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization [Document] (EAD). Include filing fee, unless a properly documented fee waiver request is submitted, or you do not wish to obtain an employment authorization document.
- Submit a biometric service fee if you are age 14 or older, or submit a properly documented fee waiver request.
- Provide evidence of your identity and that you are a national of your country of origin, such as a passport, birth certificate, identity card or previously issued USCIS document. If you have no nationality (*i.e.*, you are “stateless”), then present evidence that you last habitually resided in the TPS country.
- If any of the conditions that permit you to file your TPS application late have expired, then you must also present evidence that you are filing your late application no later than 60 days after that condition expired.

Please refer to the latest Federal Register notice regarding TPS for your country, or to the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov for additional information on late initial filing.

What might make me ineligible for TPS?

Any one of the following conditions may make you ineligible for TPS:

- A person who has been convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States.
- A person subject to several other criminal and security-related bars to asylum.
- A person who does not meet the nationality, continuous residence and continuous presence requirements may also be ineligible.
- A person who is subject to certain non-waivable grounds of inadmissibility, or who is not granted a waiver for certain other applicable grounds of inadmissibility.
- A person who fails to file a timely application for TPS or who cannot meet the Late Initial Filing requirements.
- A person who fails to re-register properly after obtaining TPS.

What is late initial registration?

If you missed the initial registration period for your country, you may still be able to apply for TPS under late initial registration in certain circumstances.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Information about Re-Registration for TPS

OVERVIEW

Re-registration is the period following the extension of TPS status for a particular country during which an alien applies for an extension of TPS benefits. The Secretary of DHS reviews the need or status of TPS for a country and makes the determination whether or not the TPS should be extended. In some cases, the TPS designation is terminated. In some cases the country is re-designated (extended) for specific periods of time. In any case, the Secretary's determination is published in the Federal Register with very specific rules regarding employment authorization and periods of re-designation or termination.

FAQS about Re-Registration for TPS

- [What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration under TPS?](#)
- [Do I have to re-register for TPS if I currently have TPS?](#)
- [If I have an application for TPS pending, do I still re-register for TPS?](#)
- [Does this extension allow me to apply if I entered after the dates my country was designated?](#)
- [If I am currently registered for TPS, how do I re-register?](#)
- [Appointment notice information for nationals of El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua](#)
- [Where do I apply for TPS?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration under TPS?

Re-registration is limited to persons who have been granted Temporary Protected Status and currently hold that status. You must be a national of the country of origin, or if you have no nationality, you last habitually resided in the designated country. Each TPS designation is different. The requirements for registration or re-registration are also specific to the country that has been designated.

Select a country currently designated for TPS from the table below for country-specific eligibility requirements.

<u>El Salvador</u>	<u>Honduras</u>	<u>Liberia</u>	<u>Nicaragua</u>	<u>Somalia</u>	<u>Sudan</u>	<u>South Sudan</u>	<u>Haiti</u>	<u>Syria- Not Applicable</u>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------	--

Do I have to re-register for TPS if I currently have TPS?

Note: Pick your country from the table below and if the re-registration period is still current, please read the first message below and if the re-registration period has expired, read the second message below.

<u>El Salvador</u>	<u>Honduras</u>	<u>Liberia</u>	<u>Nicaragua</u>	<u>Somalia</u>	<u>Sudan</u>	<u>South Sudan</u>	<u>Haiti</u>	<u>Syria</u>
Jan. 9, 2012 – Mar. 12, 2012	Nov. 4, 2011 - Jan. 5, 2012	None- DED is automatic- no re-registration necessary for DED. (TPS no longer valid)	Nov. 4, 2011 - Jan. 5, 2012	Nov. 2, 2010 – Jan. 3, 2011	Oct. 13, 2011 – April 10, 2012	Oct. 13, 2011 – April 10, 2012	May 23, 2011 – Aug. 22, 2011	Not Applicable

(If Current)

Yes. You must re-register for TPS in order to maintain your benefits. You must re-register during this time period. TPS benefits include temporary protection against removal from the United States, as well as work authorization, during the TPS designation period and any extension.

(If Expired)

Yes, you must re-register for TPS in order to maintain your benefits. Individuals may re-register after the close of the re-registration period only if they demonstrate good cause for failing to file during the re-registration period. If you are late filing your TPS re-registration application, processing may be delayed and can lead to gaps in your work authorization.

Please note that failure to re-register during the re-registration period without good cause is a basis for withdrawal of TPS status.

If I have an application for TPS pending, do I still re-register for TPS?

Yes. You must re-register for the TPS during the re-registration period in order to be eligible for continued benefits under this extension.

Does this extension allow me to apply if I entered after the date my country was designated?

No. This is a notice of extension of the TPS designation for your country of origin, not a re-designation of the program. An extension of TPS does not change the required dates of continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States. This extension does not expand TPS availability to those who are not already TPS class members.

If I am currently registered for TPS, how do I re-register?

All persons who previously registered for TPS under the program for their country of nationality who wish to maintain such status must re-register during specific time periods when their country's TPS designation is extended. . Within the re-registration time period, as described in the Federal Register notice for your country's TPS extension, you will need to:

- Complete Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, without the filing fee;
- Complete Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, with the fee or a fee waiver request, if you are requesting an EAD. **If you are not requesting an EAD, you must still complete and submit Form I-765 without the fee for data collection purposes;**
- Applicants for re-registration who are age 14 and older will have a full set of biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, and a signature) collected at an Application Support Center (ASC). USCIS may, in its discretion, waive the collection of certain biometrics such as fingerprints and signatures.
- TPS applicants under 14 years of age who are not filing for an EAD are exempt from biometrics collection.

A note about fees: Checks and money orders must be made out to the Department of Homeland Security, except if you live in Guam or the U.S. Virgin Islands. If you live in Guam, the check or money order should be made out to "Treasurer, Guam." If you live in the U.S. Virgin Islands, make the check or money order payable to the "Commissioner of Finance of the Virgin Islands."

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Appointment notice information for nationals of El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua

TPS Re-Registrants, who are age 14 and older, after filing, will receive a notice that either

- Gives them an appointment at their nearest Application Support Center (ASC) to come in and have their photograph and fingerprints taken for their new EAD, or
- Indicates that their current **biometric information** on file can be reused (They will not need to come in to an ASC Office. They will receive their new card in the mail.)

In either case, applicants must pay the biometric service fee or file a properly documented fee waiver request. The fee or fee waiver request must be filed with the Form I-821 TPS application or the Lockbox will reject the application.

Where do I apply for TPS?

Where you send your application depends upon what country you are a citizen or national of or your country of last habitual residence. In the chart below, please select the country of your citizenship or nationality or the country of your last habitual residence from which you are claiming eligibility for TPS.

<u>El Salvador</u>	<u>Honduras</u>	<u>Liberia</u>	<u>Nicaragua</u>	<u>Somalia</u>	<u>Sudan</u>	<u>South Sudan</u>	<u>Haiti</u>	<u>Syria</u>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Information about Employment for TPS Registrants

OVERVIEW

TPS registrants may apply for employment authorization. This allows them to work within the United States lawfully during the period authorized on their employment authorization document. Employment authorization benefits usually expire at the time TPS expires and typically must be extended when re-registering. Regardless of whether the TPS applicant wants employment authorization or not, he/she must file a Form I-765 as an integral part of the registration packet. If the applicant wants employment authorization, he/she pays the fee for Form I-765. If he/she does not want employment authorization, the fee for the I-765 is not required.

FAQs Regarding TPS and Employment Authorization.

- [What do I do if I do not want Employment Authorization, when I register or re-register for TPS?](#)
- [What do I do if I want Employment Authorization, when I register or re-register for TPS?](#)
- [What do I do if I want Employment Authorization, after I have already registered or re-registered for TPS?](#)
- [Will USCIS grant an automatic extension of the EAD for TPS?](#)
- [Can I file my application \(Form I-765\) electronically?](#)

FAQ for Employers:

- [How do I determine which EAD has been automatically extended and acceptable for completion of the Form I-9?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What do I do if I do not want an Employment Authorization Document, when I register or re-register for TPS?

If you do not want an employment authorization document, you still need to submit Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, along with Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, when you file initially for TPS or re-register for TPS. However, you do not need to submit the fee for Form I-765, but you must still submit the form. These forms can be accessed from our website at www.uscis.gov.

What do I do if I want an Employment Authorization Document, when I register or re-register for TPS?

When you apply initially for TPS or re-register for TPS, you will need to submit Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, with the appropriate fee, if the fee is applicable to you, or fee waiver request, and submit it along with Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status. These forms can be accessed from our website at www.uscis.gov.

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

What do I do if I want an Employment Authorization Document, after I have already registered or re-registered for TPS?

If you have already registered or re-registered for TPS, you will need to submit Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, with the appropriate fee, if applicable, or a fee waiver request, along with your most recent receipt notice or approval notice for Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status. These forms can be accessed from our website at www.uscis.gov.

Will USCIS grant an automatic extension of an expiring EAD for TPS?

Note: Click on a country in the following table to see more about extensions of employment authorization.

El Salvador	Honduras	Liberia	Nicaragua	Somalia	Sudan	South Sudan	Haiti	Syria – Not Applicable
-----------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------	--

Can I file my application (Form I-765) electronically?

Yes. Electronic filing is available for Form I-765. Please visit our website www.uscis.gov and select [Instructions for Electronically Filing Form I-765](#) to check if you qualify to file electronically.

FOR EMPLOYERS:

How do I determine which EAD has been automatically extended and acceptable for completion of Form I-9?

Check the Federal Register for the country of the employee’s origin. If an automatic extension of employment authorization has been granted, the employee needs to show you his/her expired or expiring EAD and a copy of that Federal Register notice. As an employer, you must accept this as

evidence of continuing eligibility until the date the automatic extension expires as indicated in the Federal Register notice.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for El Salvadoran TPS Registrants

DHS automatically extended the validity of current Employment Authorization Documents (EADS) for Salvadorans who re-registered for TPS during the re-registration period from January 9, 2012 to March 12, 2012. These EADS are now valid until September 9, 2012. This allows sufficient time for TPS beneficiaries to receive their new EADS without any lapse in employment authorization. The new EADS will have an expiration date of September 9, 2013.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for Honduran TPS Registrants

DHS automatically extended the validity of current Employment Authorization Documents (EADS) for Hondurans who re-registered for TPS during the re-registration period from November 4, 2011 to January 5, 2012. These EADS are now valid until July 5, 2012. This allows sufficient time for TPS beneficiaries to receive their new EADS without any lapse in employment authorization.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for Nicaraguan TPS Registrants

DHS automatically extended the validity of current Employment Authorization Documents (EADS) for Nicaraguans who re-registered for TPS during the re-registration period from November 4, 2011 to January 5, 2012. These EADS are now valid until July 5, 2012. This allows sufficient time for TPS beneficiaries to receive their new EADS without any lapse in employment authorization.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for Liberian DED Registrants

Liberian TPS was terminated on October 1, 2007. Persons who were in valid Liberian TPS status on September 30, 2007 and who meet other criteria specified in former President Bush's order for Liberian DED (and extensions of that order) were covered by DED. (DED). Although DED was scheduled to end for Liberian nationals on September 30, 2011, President Obama determined that there are compelling foreign policy reasons to continue to defer enforced departure from the United States for eligible Liberian nationals presently living in the United States under the existing DED provisions for 18 months, through March 31, 2013.

A six-month automatic extension of employment authorization documents for Liberians who are eligible for DED is effective on October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012. This six-month automatic extension of employment authorization permits eligible Liberians to continue working while they file their applications for new EADs that will cover the full extended period of DED through March 31, 2013. If you wish to have work authorization valid through March 31, 2013, you should file Form I-765 starting August 25, 2011.

If a Liberian wishes to work during this DED period, he or she should apply for an EAD by filing Form I-765 with the required fee, or a fee waiver request, if the individual was:

- in valid TPS Status on September 30, 2007;
- meets the additional criteria for Liberian DED coverage as specified in President Obama's directive of August 16, 2011 extending DED. (The President's memorandum is on the USCIS web page at www.uscis.gov).
- never applied for an I-765 Employment Authorization Document (EAD); or
- lost his or her EAD; or
- has a previously expired edition.

[Additional information related to DED for Liberia](#)

[Back to](#)

[Employment Authorization and TPS](#)

[TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for Sudanese TPS Registrants

DHS automatically extended the validity of current Employment Authorization Documents (EADS) for Sudanese who re-registered for TPS during the re-registration period from October 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012. These EADS are now valid through May 2, 2012. This allows sufficient time for TPS beneficiaries to receive their new EADS without any lapse in employment authorization.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for South Sudanese TPS Registrants

DHS automatically extended the validity of current Employment Authorization Documents (EADS) for South Sudanese who register for TPS during the registration period from October 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012. These EADS are now valid through May 2, 2012. This allows sufficient time for TPS beneficiaries to receive their new EADS without any lapse in employment authorization.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Extensions of Employment Authorization for Somali TPS Registrants

Your current EAD will not be extended automatically. The Department of Homeland Security has announced the extension of TPS designation of Somalia and established the re-registration period (May 1, 2012 through July 2, 2012) at an early enough date to allow sufficient time for USCIS to process EAD requests prior to the September 17, 2012 expiration date of your current EAD.

[Back to](#) [Employment Authorization and TPS](#) [TPS](#)

Employment Authorization for Haitian TPS Registrants

DHS automatically extended the validity of current Employment Authorization Documents (EADS) for Haitians who re-registered for TPS during the 90-day re-registration period from May 23, 2011 through August 22, 2011. These EADS are now valid until January 22, 2012. This allows sufficient time for TPS beneficiaries to receive their new EADS without any lapse in employment authorization.

[Back to](#)

[Employment Authorization and TPS](#)

[TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

El Salvador

OVERVIEW

El Salvador was designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on March 9, 2001, for a period of 18 months, due to severe earthquakes that struck the area. As a result, living conditions were deemed too unsafe for nationals of El Salvador in the United States to be required to return their homeland. TPS has been extended several times. The latest extension will last through September 9, 2013.

What is the date of initial registration for El Salvador?

- El Salvador's initial registration period began March 9, 2001 and lasted for 18 months, through September 9, 2002. The initial registration period has already passed for El Salvador; however, you may qualify to file for [late initial registration](#).
- Each TPS applicant must meet all of the individual eligibility requirements for TPS El Salvador.
- You must have completed a separate application package for each applicant. (Example: family of five would file five packages)

I understand I had to continuously reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?

Nationals from El Salvador must have continuously resided in the U.S. since February 13, 2001 and been continuously physically present in the U.S. since March 9, 2001. There is an exception for certain brief, casual and innocent absences from the United States, but you will need to demonstrate that your departure meets the regulatory requirements in 8 CFR 244.1 for such departures in order to fall under the exception.

What are the criteria for the “brief, casual and innocent absence” exception to the “continuous residence” and “continuous physical presence” requirements for TPS?

A brief, casual and innocent absence means a departure from the United States that a) was of short duration and reasonably calculated to accomplish the purpose(s) for the absence; (b) the absence was **not** the result of an order of deportation, voluntary departure, or an administrative grant of voluntary departure; and c) the purposes for the absence from the United States or actions while outside of the United States were not contrary to law.

If you left the United States with specific, approved authorization of DHS – for example, on an Advance Parole document – and returned within the time period authorized on that document, you should inform USCIS of that fact when you apply for or re-register for TPS. It may be a significant factor in deciding whether you still meet the “continuous residence” and “continuous presence” requirements for TPS.

[Back to](#)

[TPS](#)

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?

You Must:

Have Continuously Resided in United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Have Applied and been approved for TPS...	Apply to Re-Register...
February 13, 2001	March 9, 2001	During the initial registration period or as a late initial registrant, and have been approved during each subsequent re-registration period.	Between January 9, 2012 and March 12, 2012. If you failed to re-register during this time period, you must satisfactorily demonstrate that your failure to re-register on time was due to good cause.

[Information on the various ASC Biometric Notices](#)

How do I apply to re-register?

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?

IF...	Mail to...
<p>You are applying for re-registration and you live in the following states/territories: Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia.</p>	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS Attn: TPS El Salvador P.O. Box 8635 Chicago, IL 60680 - 8635 Non-U.S. Postal Delivery Service: USCIS Attn: TPS El Salvador 131 S. Dearborn—3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60603 - 5517</p>
<p>You are applying for re-registration and you live in the following states/territories: Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arkansas, Colorado, Guan, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Northern Marian Islands, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virgin Islands, Wisconsin, Wyoming.</p>	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS Attn: TPS El Salvador P.O. Box 660864 Dallas, TX 75266. Non-U.S. Postal Delivery Service: USCIS 2501 S. State Highway, 121 Business Suite 400 Lewisville, TX 75067.</p>
<p>You are applying for re-registration and you live in the following states/territories: Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington.</p>	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS Attn: TPS El Salvador P.O. Box 21800 Phoenix, AZ 85036. Non-U.S. Postal Delivery Service: USCIS 1820 E. Skyharbor, Circle S, Suite 100 Phoenix, AZ 85034.</p>
<p>You are applying for the first time as a late initial registrant.</p>	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS Attn: TPS El Salvador P.O. Box 8670 Chicago, IL 60680 - 8670 Non-U.S. Postal Delivery Service: USCIS Attn: TPS El Salvador 131 S. Dearborn—3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60603 - 5517</p>

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

Continued on next page.

If you were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge (IJ) or the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and you wish to request an EAD or are re-registering for the first time following a grant by the IJ or BIA, please mail your application to the proper address for TPS re-registration based on the state/territory where you live.

If you are re-registering for TPS during the re-registration period and you do not need to submit any supporting documents or evidence, you are eligible to file your applications electronically. For more information on e-filing, please visit the USCIS E-Filing Reference Guide at the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov.

Note:

E-filing for the online application Form I-821 does not close at midnight of the 60th day because it is not intended to serve one specific country. The e-filing system is programmed to serve all qualified beneficiaries of the TPS program, and it can only be used if a TPS country is designated for re-registration. However, any Form- I-821 application received through e-filing past midnight on the 60th day may be rejected by the Service Center that has jurisdiction over the application if the applicant does not meet the exception.

Individuals may re-register after the close of the re-registration period only if they demonstrate good cause for failing to file during the re-registration period. To re-register based on the good cause exception, please mail your application to the proper address for TPS re-registration based on the state/territory where you live and please include a letter explaining why they feel they have good cause for failing to re-register during the re-registration period, along with any evidence they may have to substantiate this explanation. USCIS will consider requests filed after the re-registration period has closed on a case-by-case basis.

[Back to](#)

[TPS](#)

[Main Menu](#)

Have you continuously resided in the U.S. since February 13, 2001?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you been continuously physically present in the United States since March 9, 2001?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial TPS registration period for El Salvador, March 9, 2001 through Sept. 9, 2002, (September 9, 2002); were you in a valid nonimmigrant status or granted voluntary departure or other relief from removal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#)

[TPS](#)

During the period of initial registration for El Salvador TPS (March 9, 2001 through September 9, 2002), did you have an application pending for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal that is pending further review or appeal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial TPS registration period for El Salvador (March 9, 2001 through September 9, 2002), were you a parolee or did you have a pending request for re-parole?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial period of TPS registration for El Salvador (March 9, 2001 through September 9, 2002), were you the spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been 60 days or less since your valid nonimmigrant status, voluntary departure, or other relief from removal expired?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been 60 days or less since your pending adjustment, asylum, change of status, or voluntary departure application was decided (approved or denied) or since all appeals or further review have been decided?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been 60 days or less since your parolee status expired or your application for re-parole was decided (approved or denied)?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

From the responses you have provided, it appears you may wish to file for late initial registration. If you choose to file, you'll need both Form I-821 and Form I-765. These forms are available on our website at www.uscis.gov.

Note: Late initial registration is not available for Liberian nationals anymore since TPS has expired for Liberia. Certain Liberians who held TPS as of September 3, 2007 may still be covered by Deferred Enforced Departure. [More detailed information about the Liberian DED Program.](#)

[What are the application procedures and fees for late initial registration?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

From the responses you have provided, it appears that late initial registration is not right for you. If you believe this determination is incorrect and decide to file, please be aware that your application may be denied.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Honduras

OVERVIEW

Honduras was designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on January 5, 1999, for a period of 18 months, due to severe widespread damage caused by Hurricane Mitch. As a result, living conditions were deemed unsafe for nationals from Honduras to return to their homeland. TPS has been extended several times. The latest extension will last through July 5, 2013.

What is the date of initial registration for Honduras?

- Honduras' initial registration period was from January 5th, 1999 through August 20th, 1999. The initial registration period has already passed for Honduras; however, you may qualify to file [for late initial registration](#).
- Each applicant must meet all the individual eligibility requirements for TPS Honduras.
- You must have completed a separate application package for each applicant. (Example: family of five would file five packages)

I understand I had to reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?

Nationals from Honduras must have continuously resided in the U.S. since December 30, 1998 and been continuously physically present in the U.S. since January 5, 1999.

What are the criteria for the “brief, casual and innocent absence” exception to the “continuous residence” and “continuous physical presence” requirements for TPS?

A brief, casual and innocent absence means a departure from the United States that a) was of short duration and reasonably calculated to accomplish the purpose(s) for the absence; (b) the absence was **not** the result of an order of deportation, voluntary departure, or an administrative grant of voluntary departure; and c) the purposes for the absence from the United States or actions while outside of the United States were not contrary to law.

If you left the United States with specific, approved authorization of DHS – for example, on an Advance Parole document – and returned within the time period authorized on that document, you should inform USCIS of that fact when you apply for or re-register for TPS. It may be a significant factor in deciding whether you still meet the “continuous residence” and “continuous presence” requirements for TPS.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?

You must:

Have Continuously Resided in United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Have Applied and been approved for TPS...	Apply to Re-Register...
December 30, 1998	January 5, 1999	During the initial registration period or as a late initial registrant, and have been approved during each subsequent re-registration period.	Between November 4, 2011 and January 5, 2012.

[How do I apply to re-register?](#)

[Information on the various ASC Biometric Notices.](#)

[EAD extension dates and a synopsis of benefits for countries currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?

- Applications for re-registration or you who were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals and you are requesting an EAD or are re-registering for the first time following a grant by the Immigration Judge or Board of Immigration Appeals, you must use this address:

USCIS
Attn: TPS-Honduras
P.O. Box 6943
Chicago, IL 60680-6943

Or, for non-United States Postal Service (USPS) deliveries:
USCIS
Attn: TPS-Honduras
131 S. Dearborn, 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

- If you are applying for the first time as a late initial registrant, you must use this address:

USCIS
Attn: TPS-Honduras
P.O. Box 8631
Chicago, IL 60680-8631

Or, for non-United States Postal Service (USPS) deliveries:
USCIS
Attn: TPS-Honduras
131 S. Dearborn, 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

E-FILING YOUR APPLICATION: Applications for re-registration that do not require the submission of additional documentation during the re-registration period, from November 4, 2011 to January 5, 2012, and that are not an initial or late application, are strongly encouraged to be E-Filed. Aliens re-registering for TPS under this designation may file Forms I-821 and I-765, and associated fees, electronically by using E-Filing at the USCIS Internet site, www.uscis.gov. In order to properly re-register using E-Filing, aliens must begin the E-Filing process by completing form I-821 online. After the Form I-821 is completed, the system will then link the alien to Form I-765. E-Filing will not be available after the end of this registration period.

Continued on the next page

If you were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge of the Board of Immigration Appeals you **must** submit evidence of the grant of TPS (such as an order from the Immigration Judge) with your application. In addition, when you receive your receipt notice (Form I-797) you will need to send an email to Tpsijgrant.vsc@dhs.gov that includes the following information:

Your name
Your date of birth
The receipt number for your re-registration
Your A-number
The date you were granted TPS

Note: The email address provided above is solely for re-registration applicants who were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals to notify USCIS of their grant of TPS. It is not for individual case status inquiries.

- Individuals may re-register after the close of the re-registration period only if they demonstrate good cause for failing to file during the re-registration period. To re-register based on the good cause exception, individuals must submit their applications to the address listed in the November 4, 2011 *Federal Register* notice for the extension of their country's designation for TPS and must include a letter explaining why they feel they have good cause for failing to re-register during the re-registration period, along with any evidence they may have to substantiate this explanation. USCIS will consider requests filed after the re-registration period has closed on a case-by-case basis.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you continuously resided in the U.S. since December 30, 1998?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you been continuously physically present in the United States since January 5, 1999?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial registration period for Honduras, Jan. 5, 1999 through August 20, 1999, were you in a valid nonimmigrant status or granted voluntary departure or other relief from removal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial registration period for Honduras, Jan. 5, 1999 through Aug. 20, 1999, , did you have an application pending for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal which was pending further review or appeal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial registration period for Honduras from Jan. 5, 1999 through August 20, 1999, were you a parolee or did you have a pending request for re-parole?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the initial registration period for Honduran TPS, Jan. 5, 1999 through Aug. 20, 1999, were you the spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been 60 days or less since your valid nonimmigrant status, voluntary departure, or other relief from removal expired?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been 60 days or less since your asylum, adjustment, change of status or voluntary departure application was decided (approved or denied) or all appeals decided?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been 60 days or less since your parolee status expired or your application for re-parole was decided (approved or denied)?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

The following additional questions apply to every country listed under Late Initial Registration Filing

Are you still in a valid non-immigrant status that you had during the initial registration period for TPS [name of country]?

[Yes](#)

You may file late for TPS; the 60 day deadline doesn't apply since there has been no expiration of the condition that lets him/her file late

[No](#)

Continue to Next Question Below

Is your application for adjustment of status, change of status, voluntary departure, re-parole or any form of relief from removal that was pending during the initial registration period for TPS [name of country] still pending?

[Yes](#)

You may file late for TPS; the 60 day deadline doesn't apply since there has been no expiration of the condition that lets him/her file late

[No](#)

Continue to Next Question Below

If there were any pending appeals or further review of your applications or request for relief from removal pending during the initial TPS registration period for your country, are they still pending?

[Yes](#)

You may file late for TPS; the 60 day deadline doesn't apply since there has been no expiration of the condition that lets him/her file late

[No](#)

You may not be eligible to file late for TPS.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status
Nicaragua

OVERVIEW

Nicaragua was designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on January 5, 1999 for a period of 18 months, due to severe widespread damage caused by Hurricane Mitch. As a result, living conditions were deemed unsafe for nationals of Nicaragua in the United States to return to their homeland. TPS has been extended several times. The latest extension will last through July 5, 2013.

What is the date of initial registration for Nicaragua?

- Nicaragua's initial registration period was from January 5th, 1999 through August 20th, 1999. The initial registration period has already passed for Nicaragua; however, you may qualify to file for [late initial registration](#).
- Each TPS applicant must meet the individual eligibility criteria for TPS Nicaragua.
- You must have completed a separate application package for each applicant. (Example: family of five would file five packages)

I understand I had to reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?

Nationals from Nicaragua must have continuously resided in the U.S. since December 30, 1998 and been continuously physically present in the U.S. since January 5, 1999.

What are the criteria for the “brief, casual and innocent absence” exception to the “continuous residence” and “continuous physical presence” requirements for TPS?

A brief, casual and innocent absence means a departure from the United States that a) was of short duration and reasonably calculated to accomplish the purpose(s) for the absence; (b) the absence was **not** the result of an order of deportation, voluntary departure, or an administrative grant of voluntary departure; and c) the purposes for the absence from the United States or actions while outside of the United States were not contrary to law.

If you left the United States with specific, approved authorization of DHS – for example, on an Advance Parole document – and returned within the time period authorized on that document, you should inform USCIS of that fact when you apply for or re-register for TPS. It may be a significant factor in deciding whether you still meet the “continuous residence” and “continuous presence” requirements for TPS.

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?

You Must:

Have Continuously Resided in United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Have Applied and been approved for TPS...	Apply to Re-Register...
December 30, 1998	January 5, 1999	During the initial registration period or as a late initial registrant, and have been approved during each subsequent re-registration period.	Between November 4, 2011 and January 5, 2012.

[How do I apply to re-register?](#)

[Information about the various ASC Biometric Notices](#)

[EAD extension dates and a Synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?

- Applications for re-registration or you who were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals and you are requesting an EAD or are re-registering for the first time following a grant by the Immigration Judge or Board of Immigration Appeals, you must use this address:

USCIS
Attn: TPS-Nicaragua
P.O. Box 6943
Chicago, IL 60680-6943

Or, for non-United States Postal Service (USPS) deliveries:

USCIS
Attn: TPS-Nicaragua
131 S. Dearborn, 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

- If you are applying for the first time as a late initial registrant, you must use this address:

USCIS
Attn: TPS-Nicaragua
P.O. Box 8631
Chicago, IL 60680-8631

Or, for non-United States Postal Service (USPS) deliveries:

USCIS
Attn: TPS-Nicaragua
131 S. Dearborn, 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

E-FILING YOUR APPLICATION: Applications for re-registration that do not require the submission of additional documentation during the re-registration period, from November 4, 2011 to January 5, 2012, and that are not an initial or late application, are strongly encouraged to be E-Filed. Aliens re-registering for TPS under this designation may file Forms I-821 and I-765, and associated fees, electronically by using E-Filing at the USCIS Internet site, www.uscis.gov. In order to properly re-register using E-Filing, aliens must begin the E-Filing process by completing form I-821 online. After the Form I-821 is completed, the system will then link the alien to Form I-765. E-Filing will not be available after the end of this registration period.

Continued on the next page

If you were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge of the Board of Immigration Appeals you must submit evidence of the grant of TPS (such as an order from the Immigration Judge) with your application. In addition, when you receive your receipt notice (Form I-797) you will need to send an email to Tpsijgrant.vsc@dhs.gov that includes the following information:

- Your name
- Your date of birth
- The receipt number for your re-registration
- Your A-number
- The date you were granted TPS

Note: The email address provided above is solely for re-registration applicants who were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals to notify USCIS of their grant of TPS. It is not for individual case status inquiries.

- Individuals may re-register after the close of the re-registration period only if they demonstrate good cause for failing to file during the re-registration period. To re-register based on the good cause exception, individuals must submit their applications to the address listed in the November 4, 2011 *Federal Register* notice for the extension of their country's designation for TPS and must include a letter explaining why they feel they have good cause for failing to re-register during the re-registration period, along with any evidence they may have to substantiate this explanation. USCIS will consider requests filed after the re-registration period has closed on a case-by-case basis.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you continuously resided in the U.S. since December 30, 1998?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you been continuously physically present in the United States since January 5, 1999?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (August 20, 1999), were you in a valid nonimmigrant status or granted voluntary departure or other relief from removal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (August 20, 1999), did you have an application pending for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal or change of status pending further review or appeal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (August 20, 1999), were you a parolee or did you have a pending request for re-parole?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (August 20, 1999), were you the spouse or dependant of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS recipient?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your valid nonimmigrant status, voluntary departure, or other relief from removal expired?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your application was decided (approved or denied) or all appeals decided?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your parolee status expired or your application for re-parole was decided (approved or denied)?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure

Liberia

OVERVIEW

Nationals from Liberia qualified for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on October 1, 2002, for a period of 12 months, due to ongoing armed conflict in Liberia. As a result, personal safety was deemed inadequate for nationals from Liberia. For a short period, TPS was lifted for Liberia. However, after reviewing damage caused by the civil war, TPS was reinstated until October 1, 2007. **TPS for Liberia was terminated on October 1, 2007.**

Although Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) was scheduled to end for Liberian nationals on September 30, 2011, **President Obama determined that there were compelling foreign policy reasons to continue to defer enforced departure from the United States for eligible Liberian nationals presently living in the United States under the existing grant of DED for 18 months, through March 31, 2013.**

What information are you seeking?

- [Information about DED Registration and Filing Process](#)
- [Information about DED Coverage and documentation to prove coverage](#)
- [Information about Employment Authorization and Form I-765](#)
- [Information about Application Support Center Biometric Appointments](#)
- [Information about Travel while on DED](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Information about DED Registration and Filing Process

FAQs

- [What is the date of initial registration for Liberia?](#)
- [What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What is the date of initial registration for Liberia?

Liberia's last initial TPS registration period was from October 1st, 2002 to April 1st, 2003, but TPS for Liberians ended on October 1, 2007 so there is no more TPS registration available. [More detailed information about Liberian DED.](#)

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?

TPS Re-registration is not available for Liberian nationals due to the termination of TPS for Liberia.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Information about DED Coverage and documentation to prove coverage

FAQs

- [How do I know if I am covered by the extension of DED?](#)
- [How do I determine if I am not covered by DED?](#)
- [If I am covered by DED, how long will this extension of DED allow me to remain in the United States?](#)
- [What documents may I show to my employer as proof of employment authorization and identity when completing Form I-9?](#)
- [If I am covered by Liberian DED and a federal, state or local government official asks me to present proof of authorization to remain in the United States, what evidence should I present?](#)
- [If I do not have an EAD to indicate such eligibility, how can I prevent unnecessary removal from the United States?](#)
- [Will I accrue “unlawful presence” for purposes of adjustment of status or other immigration benefits for which I may be applying if I am covered by DED?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

How do I know if I am covered by the extension of DED?

With certain exceptions, you are eligible for an extension of DED if you are present in the United States and are covered under DED as of September 30, 2011. Generally, if you held Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as of Sept. 30, 2007, then you are covered by Liberian DED and the 18-month extension applies to you.

How do I determine if I am not covered by DED?

You are not eligible for DED under the president's determination if: (1) you are ineligible for TPS for the reasons provided in section 244(c)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; (2) your removal is determined to be in the interest of the United States; (3) the Secretary of State has reasonable grounds to believe your presence or activities in the United States would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States; (4) you have voluntarily returned to Liberia or your last habitual residence outside the United States; (5) you were deported, excluded, or removed prior to the current extension of DED; or (6) you are subject to extradition.

If I am covered by DED, how long will this extension of DED allow me to remain in the United States?

Under this extension, you will continue to be covered by DED for 18 months through March 31, 2013.

What documents may I show to my employer as proof of employment authorization and identity when completing Form I-9?

Throughout the duration of the six-month automatic employment authorization extension, you may present your prior TPS- or DED-based EAD to your employers as proof of identity and employment authorization through March 31, 2012. To minimize confusion over this extension at the time of hire or re-verification, you may also present a copy of the *Federal Register Notice* regarding the automatic extension of employment authorization documentation through March 31, 2012.

In the alternative, you may present any legally acceptable document or combination of documents listed in List A, List B, or List C of the Form I-9.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

If I am covered by Liberian DED and a federal, state or local government official asks me to present proof of authorization to remain in the United States, what evidence should I present?

You may present your automatically extended TPS- or DED-based EAD and a copy of the *Federal Register Notice* dated August 25, 2011. You may present your DED-based EAD with an expiration date of September 30, 2011, and a copy of the *Federal Register Notice* as evidence of permission to remain in the United States through March 31, 2013. If you do not have a TPS- or DED-based EAD, you may present a copy of Form I-797, Notice of Action, showing that you were a TPS beneficiary as of Sept. 30, 2007, a photo ID, and a copy of the *Federal Register Notice*.

If I do not have an EAD to indicate such eligibility, how can I prevent unnecessary removal from the United States?

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will issue guidance to its attorneys, officers, and agents to ensure that eligible Liberians or persons without nationality who last habitually resided in Liberia are not removed in violation of the President's DED memorandum. The guidance will be consistent with the USCIS *Federal Register Notice*.

Will I accrue "unlawful presence" for purposes of adjustment of status or other immigration benefits for which I may be applying if I am covered by DED?

No. You do not accrue "unlawful presence" for the purposes of adjustment of status or other immigration benefits for which you may be applying during the period of time you are covered by DED.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Information about Employment Authorization and Form I-765

FAQs

[Where do I submit Form I-765?](#)

[What do I need to submit with Form I-765?](#)

[Can I file Form I-765 electronically?](#)

[What if my address changes after I file Form I-765?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Where do I submit Form I-765?

Please submit Form I-765 and supporting documentation to:

USCIS
Attn: DED
P.O. Box 8677
Chicago, IL 60680-8677

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

What do I need to submit with Form I-765?

On Form I-765, you must indicate that you are eligible for DED. As the previous presidential order of DED only covered Liberians who were TPS beneficiaries as of Sept. 30, 2007, you must include a copy of your last Form I-797, Notice of Action, showing that you were approved for TPS as of Sept. 30, 2007.

Can I file Form I-765 electronically?

No. Electronic filing is not available for Form I-765 based on DED.

What if my address changes after I file Form I-765?

If your address changes after you file your application, you must complete and submit Form AR-11 by mail or electronically. The mailing address is:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Change of Address
P.O. Box 7134
London, KY 40742-7134

Form AR-11 can also be filed electronically by following the directions on the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Information about Application Support Center Biometric Appointments

FAQs

[How will I know if I have to report to a USCIS Application Support Center \(ASC\) to submit biometrics?](#)

[What documents should I bring to my ASC appointment?](#)

[What will happen if I do not appear at the ASC?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

How will I know if I have to report to a USCIS Application Support Center (ASC) to submit biometrics?

USCIS will mail you a notice with instructions detailing whether you are required to appear at a USCIS ASC for biometrics collection.

What documents should I bring to my ASC appointment?

When you report to an ASC, you must bring the following documents:

- An identity document with photograph;
- Your receipt notice for your application;
- Your ASC appointment notice; and
- Your current EAD if you have been issued one.

What will happen if I do not appear at the ASC?

Failure to appear at an ASC for a required appointment will result in denial of your case due to abandonment unless you submit, and USCIS has received, an address change notification or a rescheduling request before your appointment, and USCIS excuses your failure to appear.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Information about Travel while on DED

You may leave the United States and legally reenter if you file for and obtain advance parole before departing the United States. You must file [Form I-131, Application for Travel Document](#), with the appropriate fee, to request advance parole. You must provide a copy of your last TPS- or DED-based Employment Authorization Document (EAD), or, if you do not have a TPS- or DED-based EAD, submit a copy of your last Form I-797, *Notice of Action*, stating that you had received a grant of TPS as of Sept. 30, 2007. If you leave the United States without first requesting and obtaining advance parole, you are no longer eligible for DED. You may not be permitted to re-enter the United States. Also, if you seek advance parole in order to go to Liberia, or your last habitual residence outside the United States, you may risk being found ineligible to re-enter the United States under DED.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Liberian Deferred Enforcement Departure (DED) Program, October 1, 2011 until March 31, 2013:

Liberian TPS was terminated on October 1, 2007. Persons who were in valid Liberian TPS status on September 30, 2007 and who met other criteria specified in President Bush's directive for DED were covered by 18 months of Deferred Enforced Departure (DED). Although DED was last scheduled to end for Liberian nationals on September 30, 2011, President Obama determined that there are compelling foreign policy reasons to continue to defer enforced departure from the United States for eligible Liberian nationals presently living in the United States under the existing grant of DED for 18 months, through March 31, 2013.

If a Liberian wishes to work during this DED period, he or she may apply for an EAD by filing Form I-765 with the required fee if the individual was:

- in valid TPS Status on September 30, 2007;
- meets all the requirements for Liberian DED described in President Obama's August 16, 2011 order extending DED. This memorandum is available on the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.
- never applied for an I-765 Employment Authorization Document (EAD); or
- lost his or her EAD; or
- has a previously expired edition.

If a current Liberian under DED has a valid EAD Card with an expiration date of September 30, 2011, in category "A-11", then this EAD will be considered automatically extended until March 31, 2012.

Liberians under DED who wish to travel must first apply for Advance Parole by filing Form I-131 with the required fee and wait for permission to be granted before traveling.

List of people ineligible for DED:

- individuals who are ineligible for TPS for reasons stated in section 244(c)(2)(B); 8 U.S.C. 1254 a (c) (2) (B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA);
- individuals whose removal is determined to be in the best interest of the U. S.;
- individuals whose presence or activities in the U.S. the Secretary of State has reasonable grounds to believe would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the U.S.;
- individuals who voluntarily returned to Liberia or his or her country of last habitual residence outside the U.S.;
- individuals who have been deported, excluded, or removed prior to the date in the Federal Register notice; or
- individuals who are subject to extradition.

For more information about the Liberian DED Program, please see the August 25, 2011 edition of the Federal Register, or visit www.uscis.gov.

Temporary Protected Status
Sudan

OVERVIEW

Sudan was first designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on November 4, 1997, for a period of 12 months, due to ongoing armed conflicts in the country. As a result, living conditions were deemed unsafe for nationals from Sudan in the United States to be required to return to their homeland. Sudan has been “re-designated” for TPS several times, with the last “re-designation” occurring on October 7, 2004. Since 2004, TPS has been extended several times. The latest extension is effective November 3, 2011 through May 2, 2013.

What is the date of initial registration for Sudan?

Sudan’s has had several “initial registration periods” after each designation or “re-designation.” The first initial registration was from **November 4, 1997 to November 3, 1998**. The second “initial registration” ran from **Nov. 9, 1999 through Nov. 2, 2000**. The third “initial registration” period ran from **October 7, 2004 through April 5, 2005**. These initial registration periods have already passed for Sudan; however, if you did not file during any of those periods, you may still qualify to file for [late initial registration](#).

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?

You Must:

Have Continuously Resided in the United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Have Applied and been approved for TPS...	Apply to Re-Register...
October 7, 2004	October 7, 2004	During any of the three initial registration periods, or as a late initial registrant, and have been approved during each subsequent extension period.	Between October 13, 2011 and April 10, 2012.

[How do I apply to re-register?](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?

- **Re-registration during the Registration Period (10/13/11 - 04/10/12) or as a late initial registrant or if you were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge or the Board of Immigration Appeals:** Submit your application to the USCIS Lockbox at:

USCIS
Attn: TPS Sudan
PO Box 8677
Chicago, IL 60680-8677

Or, for non-United States Postal Service deliveries:
USCIS
Attn: TPS Sudan
131 S. Dearborn 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

E-Filing your TPS Application: You cannot electronically file your application when re-registering or applying for late initial registration for Sudan TPS. Please mail your application to the mailing address listed above.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you resided continuously in the U.S. since October 7, 2004?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Were you continuously physically present in the United States since October 7, 2004?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the period of initial registration (from November 4, 1997 to November 3, 1998), were you in a valid nonimmigrant status or granted voluntary departure or other relief from removal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the period of initial registration (from November 4, 1997 to November 3, 1998), did you have an application pending for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal or change of status pending further review or appeal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the period of initial registration (from November 4, 1997 to November 3, 1998), were you a parolee or did you have a pending request for re-parole?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During the period of initial registration (from November 4, 1997 to November 3, 1998), were you the spouse or dependant of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS recipient?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your valid nonimmigrant status, voluntary departure, or other relief from removal expired?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your application was decided (approved or denied) or all appeals decided?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your parolee status expired or your application for re-parole was decided (approved or denied)?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Somalia

OVERVIEW

Somalia was initially designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on September 16, 1991 for a period of 12 months, due to ongoing armed conflicts in the country. As a result, living conditions were deemed unsafe for nationals from Somalia in the United State to be required to return to their homeland. Somalia was also “re-designated” for TPS in 2001. Since 2001, TPS for Somalia has been extended several times. Most recently TPS has been both extended and redesignated for 18 months from September 18, 2012 through March 17, 2014.

TPS for Somalia has been both extended and redesignated for 18 months from September 18, 2012 through March 17, 2014.

Frequently Asked Questions

- [What is the date of initial registration for Somalia?](#)
- [I understand I had to reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?](#)
- [What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?](#)
- [Where do I apply for TPS?](#)
- [What is the difference between the Extension of TPS and the Redesignation of TPS and what are the dates to apply for each?](#)

[EAD extension dates and a synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

[How do I apply to re-register?](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

What is the date of initial registration for Somalia?

Somalia’s first initial registration period was from September 16th, 1991 through September 16th, 1992. The second period of initial registration following the 2001 “re-designation” of Somalia ran from September 4, 2001 through September 17, 2001. The third period of initial registration following the 2012 redesignation is from May 1, 2012 through October 29, 2012. If you missed registering during the initial registration periods, you may qualify to file for [late initial registration](#).

I understand I had to reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?

To register under the current redesignation of TPS, nationals from Somalia must have continuously resided in the U.S. since May1, 2012 and been continuously physically present in the U.S. since September 18, 2012.

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?

You must:

Have Continuously Resided in United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Have Applied and been approved for TPS...	Apply to Re-Register...
September 4, 2001	September 4, 2001	During either of the two initial registration periods for Somalia, or as a late initial registrant, and have been approved during each subsequent extension period.	Between May 1, 2012 and July 2, 2012.

Where do I apply for TPS?

If you are applying for a re-registration or applying for an initial registration, please send your application to the following address:

For U.S. Postal Service:

USCIS
Attn: TPS Somalia
P.O. Box 6943
Chicago, IL 60680-6943

Or, for Non-U.S. Postal Service deliveries:

USCIS
Attn: TPS Somalia
131 S. Dearborn - 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

If you were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge (IJ) or the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and you wish to request an EAD or are re-registering for the first time following a grant by the IJ or BIA, please send your application to the address above. Upon receiving a Receipt Notice from USCIS, please send an email to TPSijgrant.vsc@uscis.dhs.gov with the receipt number and stating that you submitted a re-registration and/or request for an EAD based on an IJ/BIA grant of TPS. You can find detailed information on what further information you need to email and email addresses on the USCIS TPS Web page at www.uscis.gov/tps.

E-Filing – You cannot e-file your application when registering or re-registering for Somalia TPS. Please send your application to the address above.

All applicants should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope to the address above. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

What is the difference between the Extension of TPS and the Redesignation of TPS and what are the dates to apply for each?

Extension - USCIS has extended TPS for another 18 months, effective September 18, 2012 through March 17, 2014. Therefore, individuals who have already been granted TPS under the Somalia designation may re-register for TPS during the 60-day registration period from May 1, 2012 through July 2, 2012.

Re-designation - The original designation of TPS for Somalia has been redesignated. The re-designation of TPS is effective September 18, 2012 through March 17, 2014. Individuals who currently do not have TPS may apply for TPS from May 1, 2012 through October 29, 2012. Individuals applying under the redesignation must have continuously resided in the United States since May 1, 2012 and must have been continuously physically present in the United States since September 18, 2012.

Have you continuously resided in the U.S. since September 4, 2001?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Have you been continuously physically present in the United States since September 4, 2001?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

During either of the initial registration periods for Somalia TPS (September 16, 1991 – September 16, 1992 OR Sept. 4, 2001 – September 17, 2001), were you in a valid nonimmigrant status or granted voluntary departure or other relief from removal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (September 16, 1992), did you have an application pending for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal or change of status pending further review or appeal?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (September 16, 1992), were you a parolee or did you have a pending request for re-parole?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

On the date the period of initial registration ended (September 16, 1992), were you the spouse or dependant of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS recipient?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your valid nonimmigrant status, voluntary departure, or other relief from removal expired?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your application was decided (approved or denied) or all appeals decided?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Has it been less than 60 days since your parolee status expired or your application for re-parole was decided (approved or denied)?

[Yes](#)

[No](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Haiti

OVERVIEW

Nationals from Haiti qualified for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on January 21, 2010 for a period of 18 months or until July 22, 2011, due the devastating earthquake which struck the region. Nationals from Haiti can apply for apply for TPS, as well as apply for employment authorization documentation. Due to the continuing conditions in Haiti, DHS has announced both the extension and re-designation of TPS for Haiti. The extension and re-designation are effective July 23, 2011 through January 22, 2013.

Frequently Asked Questions

- [What is the difference between the Extension of TPS for Haiti and the Re-designation of TPS for Haiti and what are the dates to register for each?](#)
- [What is the date of initial registration for Haiti?](#)
- [I understand I had to reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?](#)
- [What is the period to time to register for the extension of TPS for Haiti?](#)
- [What is the period to time to register for the re-designation of TPS for Haiti?](#)
- [How do I know whether I should wait until May 23, 2011, to apply for re-registration under the extension of TPS or whether I should file an initial TPS application now under the re-designation of Haiti?](#)
- [Where do I apply for TPS?](#)
- [What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?](#)
- [EAD extension dates and a synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

[Back to](#)

[TPS](#)

What is the difference between the Extension of TPS for Haiti and the Re-designation of TPS for Haiti and what are the dates to register for each?

Extension - Haiti was originally granted TPS January 21, 2010 following the devastating earthquake in Haiti. This original designation was from January 21, 2010 through July 22, 2011. To have qualified to apply under this original designation, applicants had to have continuously resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2010. USCIS is extending this original designation for another 18 months, effective July 23, 2011 through January 22, 2013. Therefore, applicants who were granted TPS under this original designation may apply for the extension of TPS during the 90-day registration period from May 23, 2011 through August 22, 2011.

Re-designation - The original designation of TPS for Haiti has also been re-designated. This re-designation of TPS allows for additional Haitians who arrived in the U.S. after the original designation to apply for TPS. Haitians who have continuously resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2011 and have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since July 23, 2011 may apply for TPS under the re-designation. The re-designation of TPS for Haiti is effective July 23, 2011 through January 22, 2013. The initial registration period to apply under the re-designation will run from May 19, 2011 through November 15, 2011.

What is the date of initial registration for Haiti?

Under the original designation of TPS for Haiti, the date of initial registration began on January 21, 2010 and was extended until January 18, 2011. Under the re-designation of TPS for Haiti the dates for initial registration are from May 19, 2011 through November 15, 2011.

I understand I had to reside and be continuously physically present in the United States since certain dates. What are those dates?

Under the original designation of TPS for Haiti, nationals from Haiti must have resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2010 and must have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since January 21, 2010.

Under the re-designation of TPS for Haiti, nationals from Haiti must have resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2011 and must have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since July 23, 2011.

What is the period of time to register for the extension of TPS for Haiti?

There is a 90-day period of time to register for the extension of TPS for Haiti from May 23, 2011 through August 22, 2011.

What is the period of time to register for the re-designation of TPS for Haiti?

The period of time to register for the re-designation of TPS for Haiti is from May 19, 2011 through November 15, 2011.

What are the eligibility requirements for re-registration?**You must:**

Have Resided in United States since...	Have been Physically Present in the United States since...	Have Applied and been approved for TPS...	Apply to Re-Register...
January 12, 2010	January 12, 2010	During the initial registration period and were granted TPS by May 19, 2011.	Between May 23, 2011 and August 22, 2011.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?

Electronic filing is not available for initial TPS registrations.

Mail your applications for TPS (Form I-821) and Employment Authorization (Form I-765) to the following applicable address:

Residence	Filing Location
If you live in Florida	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS P.O. Box 4464 Chicago, IL 60680-4464</p> <p>Express Mail and Courier Deliveries: USCIS Attn: Haiti TPS 131 South Dearborn, 3rd Floor Chicago, IL 60603-5520</p>
If you live in New York	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS P.O. Box 660167 Dallas, TX 75266-0167</p> <p>Express Mail and Courier Deliveries: USCIS Attn: Haiti TPS 2501 S. State Hwy. 121 Business, Suite 400 Lewisville, TX 75067</p>
All other	<p>U.S. Postal Service: USCIS P.O. Box 24047 Phoenix, AZ 85074-4047</p> <p>Express Mail and Courier Deliveries: USCIS Attn: Haiti TPS 1820 E. Skyharbor Circle S, Suite 100 Phoenix, AZ 85034</p>

Continue on next page.

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

How do I know whether I should wait until May 23, 2011, to apply for re-registration under the extension of TPS or whether I should file an initial TPS application now under the re-designation of Haiti?

If...	And...	Then...
You filed a TPS application under the initial designation of Haiti during the registration period January 21, 2010 through January 18, 2011, or filed after January 18 under the fee waiver cure.	Your application was approved by May 19, 2011.	You need to re-register under the extension by filing Form I-821 and Form I-765 during the re-registration period May 23, 2011 through August 22, 2011.
You filed a TPS application under the initial designation of Haiti during the registration period January 21, 2010 through January 18, 2011, or filed after January 18 under the fee waiver cure	Your application is still pending as of May 19, 2011.	You do not yet have TPS and your pending Form I-821 will be treated as an initial application under the re-designation. You do not need to file a new Form I-821.
You filed a TPS application under the initial designation of Haiti during the registration period January 21, 2010 through January 18, 2011, or filed after January 18 under the fee waiver cure	Your application was denied before May 19, 2011, and you believe you may be eligible for TPS under the re-designation.	You may be covered under the re-designation and you need to file an initial application during the registration period May 19, 2011 through November 15, 2011.
You never filed a TPS application under the initial designation of Haiti.	You believe you may be eligible for TPS under the re-designation.	You may be covered under the re-designation and you need to file an initial application during the registration period May 19, 2011 through November 15, 2011.

Temporary Protected Status
South Sudan

OVERVIEW

South Sudan was first designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on November 3, 2011, for a period of 18 months, due to ongoing armed conflicts and other conditions in the country. As a result, living conditions were deemed unsafe for nationals from South Sudan in the United States to be required to return to their homeland.

What is the date of initial registration for South Sudan?

South Sudan’s initial registration period is from **October 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012**. However, if you did not file during this period, you may still qualify to file for [late initial registration](#).

What are the eligibility requirements for initial registration for TPS?

You Must:

Have Continuously Resided in the United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Apply to Register. . .
October 7, 2004	November 3, 2011	Between October 13, 2011 and April 10, 2012

How do I apply to register for TPS?

The forms used to register for TPS are Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, and Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. The forms are available on our Website at www.uscis.gov.

[EAD extension dates and a Synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?**Registration for TPS for South Sudan:** Send your application to:

For U.S. Postal Service, please mail to:

USCIS

PO Box 8677

Chicago, IL 60680-8677

Or, for non-U.S. Postal Service delivery:

USCIS

131 S. Dearborn 3rd Floor

Chicago, IL 60603-5517

Applicants applying for an extension of Temporary Protected Status under the current re-registration should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 in the same envelope at the designated lockbox. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

E-Filing your TPS Application: You cannot electronically file your application when applying for initial registration for TPS. Please mail your application to the mailing address listed above.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status
Syria

OVERVIEW

Syria was first designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) on March 29, 2012, for a period of 18 months until September 30, 2013. This designation of TPS for Syria is due to the ongoing armed conflict in the country. As a result of this armed conflict, living conditions were deemed unsafe for nationals of Syria to return to their homeland.

What is the date of initial registration for Syria?

Syria's initial registration period is from **March 29, 2012 to September 25, 2012**. However, if you did not file during this period, you may still qualify to file for [late initial registration](#).

What are the eligibility requirements for initial registration for TPS?

You Must:

Have Continuously Resided in the United States since...	Have been Continuously Physically Present in the United States since...	Apply to Register. . .
March 29, 2012	March 29, 2012	Between March 29, 2012 and September 25, 2012

How do I apply to register for TPS?

The forms used to register for TPS are Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status, and Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. The forms are available on our Website at www.uscis.gov.

[EAD extension dates and a Synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS Program](#)

Where do I apply for TPS?

Registration for TPS for Syria: Send your application to:

For U.S. Postal Service, please mail to:
USCIS
PO Box 6943
Chicago, IL 60680-6943

Or for Non-U.S. Postal Service delivery:
USCIS
Attn: Syria TPS
131 S. Dearborn 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517

Applicants applying for Temporary Protected Status should submit the required Form I-821 and Form I-765 together in the same envelope. Applicants that submit the applications in separate envelopes may experience a significant processing delay.

E-Filing your TPS Application: You cannot electronically file your application when applying for initial registration for TPS. Please mail your application to the mailing address listed above.

If you were granted TPS by an Immigration Judge (IJ) or the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and you wish to request and EAD, please mail your application to the address above. Upon receiving a Receipt Notice from USCIS, please send an email to TPSijgrant.vsc@uscis.dhs.gov with the receipt number stating that you submitted a request for an EAD based on an IJ or BIA grant of TPS. You can find more detailed information on our website at www.uscis.gov/tps.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Synopsis of benefits for countries that are currently designated under the TPS or DED Program:

Country:	Current Expiration:	TPS Re-Registration Period:	EAD automatic extension valid through:
<i>El Salvador</i>	<i>September 9, 2013</i>	<i>January 9, 2012 to March 12, 2012</i>	<i>September 9, 2012 - auto extension after filing for re-registration and visiting ASC, if requested</i>
<i>Honduras</i>	<i>July 5, 2013</i>	<i>November 4, 2011 to January 5, 2012</i>	<i>July 5, 2012 - auto extension after filing for re-registration and visiting ASC, if requested</i>
<i>Liberia</i>	<i>March 31, 2013 under DED</i>	<i>TPS not applicable. No re-registration period applies. DED valid from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2013. DED-covered individuals should apply for new EADs.</i>	<i>March 31, 2012— auto extension under DED if current EAD was valid on September 30, 2011.</i>
<i>Nicaragua</i>	<i>July 5, 2013</i>	<i>November 4, 2011 to January 5, 2012</i>	<i>July 5, 2012 - auto extension after filing for re-registration and visiting ASC, if requested</i>
<i>Somalia</i>	<i>March 17, 2014</i>	<i>For Extension – May 1, 2012 to July 2, 2012 For Re-designation – May 1, 2012 to October 29, 2012</i>	<i>No Automatic Extension</i>
<i>Sudan</i>	<i>May 2, 2013</i>	<i>October 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012</i>	<i>May 2, 2012 - auto extension after filing for re-registration and visiting ASC, if requested</i>
<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>May 2, 2013</i>	<i>N/A - Initial registration period is October 13, 2011 to April 10, 2012</i>	<i>May 2, 2012 - auto extension after filing for initial registration for TPS if previously covered under TPS for Sudan</i>
<i>Haiti</i>	<i>January 22, 2013</i>	<i>For Extension – May 23, 2011 to August 22, 2011 For Re-designation – May 19, 2011 to November 15, 2011</i>	<i>January 22, 2012— auto extension after filing for re-registration and visiting ASC, if requested.</i>
<i>Syria</i>	<i>September 30, 2013</i>	<i>March 29, 2012 to September 25, 2012</i>	<i>Not Applicable</i>

Disclaimer

The information contained here is a basic guide to help you become generally familiar with many of our rules and procedures. Immigration law can be complex, and it is impossible to describe every aspect of every process. After using this guide, the conclusion reached, based on your information, may not take certain factors such as arrests, convictions, deportations, removals or inadmissibility into consideration.

If you have any such issue, the answer we provide may not fully address your need and may cause the full and correct answer to be significantly different.

We cannot provide legal advice. If you believe you may have an issue such as any described above, it may be beneficial to consider seeking legal advice from a reputable immigration practitioner such as a licensed attorney or nonprofit agency accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals before seeking this or any immigration benefit.

For more information about immigration law and regulations, please see our website at www.uscis.gov.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)

Temporary Protected Status

Changing Your Address with USCIS

If You do Not Have a Case Pending with USCIS

Most non-United States (U.S.) citizens who are in the U.S. are *required* by law to notify us of any change of address within 10 days after moving to a new address. To notify us of your change of address, you must file a Form AR-11, *Change of Address*. Form AR-11 can now be completed electronically on our website at www.uscis.gov.

If You Do Have a Pending Case

Even though it is not required by law, if you have filed any application or petition with us and it is still pending a decision, you will want to keep us informed of any change of address so you can get any notices or decisions from us. To notify us of your change of address you can call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or you can file the Form AR-11, *Change of Address*. Form AR-11 can now be completed electronically on our website at www.uscis.gov.

ASC Appointment Notice Information

Initial TPS applicants and re-registrants who are age 14 and older, after filing, will receive a notice either giving them an appointment at their nearest Application Support Center (ASC) to come in and have their photograph and fingerprints taken for their new EAD, or if their biometric information on file can be reused, they will receive a notice informing them that it will be unnecessary for them to come in to an ASC Office. In either case, however, they will still need to pay the biometric service fee or be granted a fee waiver following an appropriately documented request. (The processing centers also ask that a TPS applicant or re-registrant allow a minimum of four months from filing before checking on the status of their application.)

The “Notice to Form I-821 Applicants” will have a ‘Code’ field, or box, in the center top third line of the notice, which will indicate ‘NA’. This will mean the applicant’s biometrics on file can be re-used, and that he or she is not required to appear at an ASC for photographing and fingerprinting. The “ASC Appointment Notice” will have a ‘Code’ field, or box, in the right top second line of the Notice with a 1 through 3, in this field, which will mean that the applicant is required to appear at an ASC for photos and fingerprinting. In all cases, this information will also be explained in the lower body of each Notice.

[Back to](#) [TPS](#)