

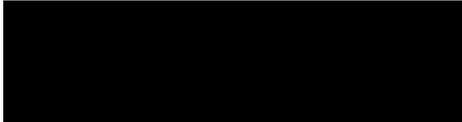
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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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Washington, DC 20529



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



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FILE: [REDACTED] Office: VERMONT SERVICE CENTER Date: [REDACTED]
[EAC 03 208 51120]

IN RE: Applicant: [REDACTED]

APPLICATION: Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT: SELF-REPRESENTED

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.


for Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, Vermont Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is stated to be a citizen of Honduras who is seeking Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254.

The director denied the application because the applicant failed to establish he was eligible for late registration.

On appeal, the applicant provides a brief statement and additional documentation.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an applicant who is a national of a foreign state designated by the Attorney General is eligible for temporary protected status only if such alien establishes that he or she:

- (a) Is a national, as defined in section 101(a)(21) of the Act, of a foreign state designated under section 244(b) of the Act;
- (b) Has been continuously physically present in the United States since the effective date of the most recent designation of that foreign state;
- (c) Has continuously resided in the United States since such date as the Attorney General may designate;
- (d) Is admissible as an immigrant except as provided under section 244.3;
- (e) Is not ineligible under 8 C.F.R. § 244.4; and
- (f) (1) Registers for TPS during the initial registration period announced by public notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, or
(2) During any subsequent extension of such designation if at the time of the initial registration period:
 - (i) The applicant is a nonimmigrant or has been granted voluntary departure status or any relief from removal;
 - (ii) The applicant has an application for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal which is pending or subject to further review or appeal;
 - (iii) The applicant is a parolee or has a pending request for reparole; or

- (iv) The applicant is a spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant.
- (g) Has filed an application for late registration with the appropriate Service director within a 60-day period immediately following the expiration or termination of conditions described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

The issue raised by the director to be addressed in this proceeding is whether the applicant is eligible for late registration.

Persons applying for TPS offered to Hondurans must demonstrate that they have continuously resided in the United States since December 30, 1998, and that they have been continuously physically present in the United States since January 5, 1999. On May 11, 2000, the Attorney General announced an extension of the TPS designation until July 5, 2001. Subsequent extensions of the TPS designation have been granted with the latest extension valid until July 5, 2006, upon the applicant's re-registration during the requisite time period.

As stated in 8 C.F.R. § 244.1 "register" means "to properly file, with the director, a completed application with proper fee, for Temporary Protected Status during the registration period designated under section 244(b) of the Act."

The initial registration period for Hondurans was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record reflects that the applicant filed his initial application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), on June 28, 2003. It is noted that the record indicates that the applicant entered the United States on October 19, 2002.

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that he or she meets the above requirements. Applicants shall submit all documentation as required in the instructions or requested by CIS. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a). The sufficiency of all evidence will be judged according to its relevancy, consistency, credibility, and probative value. To meet his or her burden of proof the applicant must provide supporting documentary evidence of eligibility apart from his or her own statements. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(b).

The record of proceeding confirms that the applicant filed his application for TPS on June 28 2003, after the initial registration period had closed. To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, he was either in a valid immigration status, had an application pending for relief from removal, was a parolee, or was the spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant, and he had filed an application for late registration within 60 days of the expiration or termination of the conditions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

In a notice of intent to deny, dated August 8, 2003, the applicant was requested to submit evidence establishing his eligibility for late registration as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). The applicant was also requested to establish his continuous residence in the United States since December 30, 1998, and his continuous physical presence in the United States since January 5, 1999. The applicant failed to respond to the notice of intent to deny.

The director determined that the applicant had not established his eligibility for late registration. The director denied the application on October 13, 2002. It is noted that the director's decision merely states that the applicant failed to establish his eligibility for TPS under the late initial filing provisions. The director's decision did not cite the additional grounds in the notice of intent to deny, which were the applicant's failure to establish his continuous residence and his continuous physical presence in the United States during the requisite timeframes. These issues will be addressed beyond the decision of the director.

On appeal, the applicant states that he is eligible for TPS, because his father is currently eligible as a TPS registrant. The applicant provided a copy of his father's employment authorization card, which indicates that the applicant's father, [REDACTED] has an approved TPS application.

While regulations may allow the child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant to file an application after the initial registration period had closed, these regulations do not relax the other requirements for eligibility for TPS. The applicant's TPS application indicates that he did not enter the United States until October 19, 2002, almost three years after the initial registration period. The applicant is not eligible for late registration under 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2), as he arrived in the United States subsequent to the eligibility period. Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for temporary protected status on this ground will be affirmed.

Beyond the decision of the director, the applicant can not establish that he has been continuously residing in the United States since December 30, 1998, and that he has been continuously physically present in the United States since January 5, 1999, as the applicant did not enter the United States until October 19, 2002, almost three years after the onset of the requisite timeframes. Therefore, the application must also be denied for these reasons.

An alien applying for temporary protected status has the burden of proving that he or she meets the requirements enumerated above and is otherwise eligible under the provisions of section 244 of the Act. The applicant has failed to meet this burden.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.