

## **Information Sheet for Afghan Parolees Outside of the Safe Haven Process**

Welcome to the United States. Your health, safety and well-being are our top priorities as you travel to your new homes and settle into your communities.

### **Conditions of Parole**

You have been paroled into the United States for a period of 2 years. To maintain parole and remain in the United States during this time period, you must follow certain conditions:

#### **(1) You must receive certain vaccines and a tuberculosis (TB) test.**

If you are an Afghan parolee who received the Afghan Parole Information sheet from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) upon arrival, your parole is subject to certain medical conditions. If you did not complete a medical exam at a government-run safe haven on a military base, you **must** report your compliance with the medical conditions of your parole to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) at [uscis.gov/vaccination-status](https://uscis.gov/vaccination-status).

This requirement applies if:

- You did not go to a government-run safe haven when you arrived in the United States;
- You or a family member first arrived at a government-run safe haven but went elsewhere because you or a family member needed medical care;
- You are or were an unaccompanied child; or
- You independently departed the safe haven before completing the full resettlement process.

You must receive the first dose of the vaccinations listed below and undergo medical screening as a condition of parole, unless you have proof of prior vaccination or there has been a case-by-case determination that a vaccination is not medically appropriate for you.

#### **Required vaccines:**

- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) with broadened age limit (ages 6 months to 64 years)
- Polio vaccine with broadened age limit (ages 6 weeks and older)
- COVID-19 vaccine (ages 5 and above), 1 dose
- Other age-appropriate vaccines for Afghan parolees who arrived in the United States on or after Sept. 7, 2021, as determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (See [cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/civil-surgeons/vaccinations.html](https://cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth/civil-surgeons/vaccinations.html).)

#### **Required screening:**

- Tuberculosis screening. If the TB test is positive, you must take appropriate isolation and treatment measures.

You must report compliance with medical conditions by attesting at [uscis.gov/vaccination-status](https://uscis.gov/vaccination-status). Complete the attestation for each individual parolee.

### **Reporting Compliance with Conditions of Parole**

Regardless of when you were paroled, if you did not receive your medical screening and vaccinations at a safe haven or before you entered the United States, you must comply with the requirements on your own and must report compliance with medical conditions by attesting at [uscis.gov/vaccination-status](https://uscis.gov/vaccination-status). Keep records of your medical screening and vaccinations to provide to DHS if asked.

#### **(2) You must notify USCIS of address changes.**

You must notify USCIS of your new address and any time your address changes within 10 days of moving. You can notify USCIS of your address by filing [Form AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card](https://uscis.gov/egov/uscis/coa/displayCOAForm.do), by mail or online at [egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do](https://uscis.gov/egov/uscis/coa/displayCOAForm.do). If you have any issues or questions about an address change request, email [nbcafhancoa@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:nbcafhancoa@uscis.dhs.gov).

If you fail to comply with these conditions, USCIS may terminate your parole. If we terminate your parole, you may lose your benefits and the opportunity to become a lawful permanent resident (if you were otherwise eligible). You may even be detained and removed from the United States.

### **How Do I Contact U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)?**

You can call the USCIS Contact Center for assistance at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833), Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern. When you call, please identify yourself as a citizen or national of Afghanistan so the appropriate representative can help you.

### **Finding Legal Services**

For information on locating legal services, please visit [uscis.gov/avoid-scams/find-legal-services](https://uscis.gov/avoid-scams/find-legal-services).

### **Types of Long-Term Legal Status You May Be Eligible For:**

#### **Asylum**

Individuals in the United States may apply for asylum regardless of their country of nationality or current immigration status. If you have been persecuted or have a fear of future persecution in your country of origin because of race, nationality, religion, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, you may be eligible for asylum. For more information on asylum, visit [uscis.gov/asylum](https://uscis.gov/asylum). It is a general requirement that individuals applying for asylum must do so within 1 year of their arrival to the United States, with limited exceptions. If you have been granted parole status, and you maintain that status, you may be eligible for an “extraordinary circumstance” exception for failure to file timely under 9 CFR 208.4(a)(5)(iv). We recommend that if you intend to apply for asylum, you do so before your parole status expires. However, you may still be eligible for the exception if you file after your status ends, so long as it occurs within a “reasonable time period.” Information about applying for asylum with USCIS is available at [uscis.gov/i-589](https://uscis.gov/i-589). If you have already applied for asylum with USCIS, you can check your case status online at [uscis.gov/casestatus](https://uscis.gov/casestatus), using the receipt number we mailed to you after you applied.

#### *Form & Fee Information:*

- To apply for asylum, file [Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal](https://uscis.gov/i-589). This form is available on the USCIS website, and there is no fee to file it.

#### **Family-Based Immigration Petitions**

If you have family (spouse, parents, children, siblings) who are U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, or principal refugees or asylees, they may be eligible to file a petition on your behalf. You may also be eligible to apply to adjust your status to lawful permanent resident (get a Green Card) once we have approved the petition. For more information, see [uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories](https://uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories). For more information on individuals who may petition for a relative of a refugee or asylee and procedures, please see [uscis.gov/family/family-of-refugees-and-asylees](https://uscis.gov/family/family-of-refugees-and-asylees).

To check on pending petitions for family-based immigration (Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, and Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition) and applications for adjustment of status (Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status), petitioners, beneficiaries, or attorneys of record with a Form G-28 on file may call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833), Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern. USCIS is expediting pending family-based petitions for petitioners and beneficiaries from Afghanistan.

#### *Form & Filing Information:*

- Form I-130, visit [uscis.gov/i-130](https://uscis.gov/i-130)
- Form I-730, visit [uscis.gov/i-730](https://uscis.gov/i-730)
- Form I-485, visit [uscis.gov/i-485](https://uscis.gov/i-485)

#### **Special Immigrant Visa Program**

If you believe you are eligible for the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program or you have already started the SIV application process, you will need to complete all of the steps in the following process:

1. Apply for Chief of Mission (COM) approval with the Department of State. For more information,

see [travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/special-immig-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/special-immig-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html) or [travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/siv-iraqi-afghan-translators-interpreters.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/siv-iraqi-afghan-translators-interpreters.html). If you have already received COM approval, proceed to step 2.

2. File a Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant, with USCIS. Follow the instructions at [uscis.gov/i-360](http://uscis.gov/i-360). You may scan and email your petition with the required documents (preferably in .pdf format) to [mnsi360sivapp@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:mnsi360sivapp@uscis.dhs.gov). Please include the email address where you would like USCIS to send your electronic receipt. Be sure to sign your form according to the form instructions. If you have an approved Form I-360, proceed to step 3.

3. If you have an approved Form I-360 petition, you may apply for lawful permanent resident status (a Green Card) by submitting a Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status. Follow the instructions at [uscis.gov/green-card-for-an-afghan-employed-behalf-us-government](http://uscis.gov/green-card-for-an-afghan-employed-behalf-us-government). We must approve your Form I-360 petition before you may apply for a Green Card with Form I-485.

4. After you have filed Form I-485, USCIS may schedule you for an interview at your local field office. Follow all instructions provided by USCIS. If we approve your Form I-485, we will mail your Green Card to you.

Petitioners, beneficiaries, or attorneys of record with questions about a pending Form I-360 for Afghan Special Immigrants may call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833). The Contact Center hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern. From outside the United States, call 212-620-3418 or check the case status online at [egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do](http://egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do).

For questions about a pending COM application or SIV, please visit the Department of State Special Immigrant Visa webpage ([travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/specialimmig-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/specialimmig-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html)) for contact information.

### **Working in the United States**

For parolees, USCIS must approve your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, before you can legally work in the United States.

#### *Applying for Employment Authorization*

Complete the following steps to submit your Form I-765:

- Complete Form I-765. Select “Initial Permission to Accept Employment” in Part 1 on Form I-765. Type or write your eligibility category in Part 2, Item Number 27. The category number for parolees is “(c)(11).” Sign your form in Part 3.
- Locate a copy of your Form I-94, passport, or other travel document showing you were paroled into the United States for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit under INA 212(d)(5). For more information on obtaining a Form I-94, please see [i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94](http://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94).
  - If you do not have a passport, you can use your A-Number to retrieve your Form I-94 online. Enter your A-Number in the Passport Number field and enter:
    - “AFG” in the Passport Country of Issuance field; or
    - “USA” in the Passport Country of Issuance field.
- Mail your Form I-765 with a copy of your Form I-94, passport, or other travel document showing you were paroled into the United States for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit under INA 212(d)(5) to:

USCIS WESTERN FORMS CENTER  
ATTN: OAW I-765  
10 Application Way  
Montclair, CA 91763-1350

- For more information, see [uscis.gov/humanitarian/information-for-afghans](http://uscis.gov/humanitarian/information-for-afghans). Click the Afghan Parolees – Working in the United States section.

- USCIS may require you to appear for an interview or submit biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, or signature) at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), before making a decision on your Form I-765. After we receive your Form I-765 and verify that it is complete, we will inform you in writing if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If you do, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS application support center and the date and time of your appointment. If you do not attend your biometric services appointment, USCIS may deny your application.

Once USCIS has approved your Form I-765, we will mail your Employment Authorization Document (EAD) to you at your address on record.

### *Fee Information*

Afghan nationals paroled into the United States due to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan do not have to pay the filing fee for the initial Form I-765.

*Please Note:* Federal law requires that every employer who recruits, refers for a fee, or hires an individual for employment in the United States complete the Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification. Additional information about the Form I-9 and your rights as an employee can be found at [uscis.gov/i-9-central](https://uscis.gov/i-9-central).

### **Social Security Number and Card**

You will need a Social Security number to get a job, collect Social Security benefits, and receive other government services. If you completed Form I-765 at a safe haven, we have given information to the Social Security Administration (SSA) so they can assign you a Social Security number and mail a Social Security card to the address on record. If you did not complete Form I-765 at a safe haven, you can apply for a Social Security number using the instructions at [ssa.gov/ssnumber](https://ssa.gov/ssnumber).

### **Resources for Victims of Abuse, Violence, or Exploitation**

There are many forms of abuse and exploitation, including domestic violence, forced marriage and human trafficking. In the United States, there are laws that may help you avoid or escape an abusive situation or forced marriage..

- **Domestic Violence** is a pattern of behavior in a relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner, parent, or child. Domestic abuse can involve physical, sexual, emotional, financial, or psychological harm or threats of harm.
- **Forced Marriage** is a marriage that takes place without the consent of one or both people in the marriage. Consent means that you have given your full, free, and informed agreement to marry your intended spouse and to the timing of the marriage. Forced marriage may occur when family members or others use physical or emotional abuse, threats, or deception to force you to marry without your consent. For additional information on forced marriage, please visit [uscis.gov/humanitarian/forced-marriage](https://uscis.gov/humanitarian/forced-marriage).
- **Human Trafficking** involves exploiting someone to compel a commercial sex act or forced labor. Generally, this exploitation must involve force, fraud, or coercion to be considered human trafficking. However, if someone under 18 years old is induced to perform a commercial sex act, that is considered human trafficking even if there is no force, fraud, or coercion. For additional information on immigration relief and other resources USCIS provides for victims of human trafficking, see [uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-of-human-trafficking-and-other-crimes](https://uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-of-human-trafficking-and-other-crimes).

If you have experienced forced marriage, domestic violence, human trafficking, or other abuse, please contact the resources below to receive free help in your language:

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline:** 800-799-7233, 800-787-3224 (TTY), [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)
- **National Sexual Assault Hotline of the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN):** 800-656-4673, [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)
- **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children:** 800-843-5678, [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)
- **The National Center for Victims of Crime:** 800-394-2255, 800-211-7996 (TTY), [www.ncvc.org](http://www.ncvc.org)

- **National Human Trafficking Hotline:** 888-373-7888, **Text:** 233733.

### **Information for Unaccompanied Children**

An unaccompanied child is a person under the age of 18 who does not have lawful immigration status in the United States and who does not have a parent or legal guardian in the United States who can provide care and physical custody.

For more information, contact the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Hotline for Unaccompanied Children and Sponsors: 800-203-7001, [information@ORRNCC.com](mailto:information@ORRNCC.com).