#### How to Create a USCIS Online Account

#### Videos available in **Dari** and **Pashto**

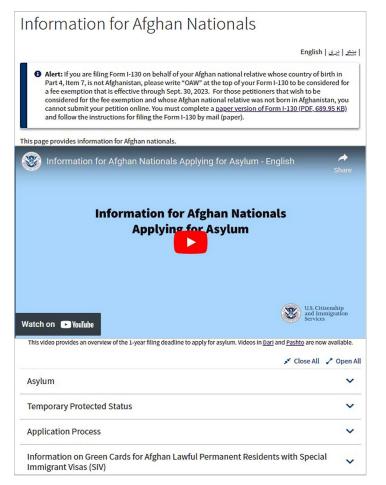




Pre-event slide. Click on the image to play video.

## **Information for Afghan Nationals**





## Find helpful information for Afghan nationals at <u>uscis.gov/allieswelcome</u>

- Asylum (videos available in <u>Dari</u> and <u>Pashto</u>)
- Temporary Protected Status
- Green Cards
- Employment Authorization
- Special Immigrant Visas
- Reunification for immediate family members
- Avoid scams

Pre-event slide. Click on the image to play video

#### **Have You Moved?**





Licensed from the Microsoft PowerPoint gallery

Don't miss any notices and documents from USCIS! Give us your new address as soon as you move.

- 1. If you submitted a form online, or you submitted a paper form and the receipt number begins with IOE, you can update your address quickly in your USCIS online account at <a href="mailto:my.uscis.gov">my.uscis.gov</a>.
- 2. You can also use our change of address tool at <u>uscis.gov/addresschange</u>.

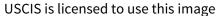
Pre-event slide. We will begin our presentation at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

#### **Don't Miss Our Engagements!**



We have more presentations for **Afghan nationals** planned! Visit <u>uscis.gov/outreach</u> for more information.







Pre-event slide. We will begin our presentation at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

### **Electronic Reading Room**



We post some engagement materials in the Electronic Reading Room at <u>uscis.gov/records/electronic-reading-room</u>.



USCIS is licensed to use this image



Pre-event slide. We will begin our presentation at 2 p.m. Eastern time.



## **Immigration Options for Afghan Nationals and Creating a USCIS Online Account**



An Overview for Afghan Nationals

May 15, 2023

#### Disclaimer



Materials presented today are for informational purposes only and are not legal advice. The information disseminated today and statements made by USCIS personnel are intended solely for the purpose of providing public outreach to the agency's stakeholders about issues of mutual interest. It is not intended to, does not, and may not be relied upon to create any right or benefit.

## **Agenda**

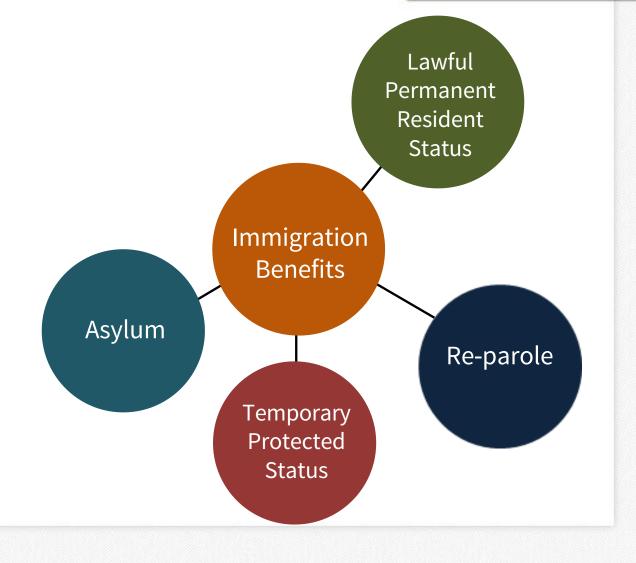
# Immigration Options for Afghan Nationals Paroled into the United States

- Overview of re-parole for certain Afghan nationals
- Review of different immigration benefits
- Other benefits and services

#### **How to Create an Online Account**

- Why you should have an account
- Online account features







# **Opening Remarks**

#### **Overview**



- Eligible Afghan nationals will be able to request re-parole through a new streamlined process online, and also request employment authorization online.
- If approved, Afghans will receive an additional two-year period of parole and employment authorization for an additional two years.
- Timeline to apply online: June 2023.
- **Get Ready**: Afghan nationals can prepare to apply for this new reparole process online by creating a USCIS online account now.

### Afghan Nationals Paroled Into U.S.





Courtesy of the Department of Defense: Afghan families begin to board a U.S. Air Force Boeing C-17 during Operation Allies Welcome, Photo ID 6798573.

Since July 2021, the U.S. government evacuated 97,000 Afghan nationals, U.S. citizens, and lawful permanent residents to the United States.

- Approximately 77,000 Afghans paroled into the United States.
- Afghans paroled into the United States can remain for up to two years and apply for employment authorization.
- Parole does not lead to immigration status
   (including lawful permanent resident status or
   U.S. citizenship).

# Pending Applications from Afghan Nationals



Asylum applications files: 16,782	Special Immigrant Green Card applications filed: 17,250	Temporary Protected Status Applications Filed: 11,300	Afghan parolees with no other applications filed:
# approved: 2,527	# approved: 5,600	# approved: 1,700	Approximately: 23,800
# pending: 14,119	# pending: 11,700	# pending: 9,500	



# Possible Immigration Pathways

#### **Benefits of Asylum**



- You may apply for asylum in you are in the U.S. and have been persecuted or fear that you will be persecuted in Afghanistan
- Individuals with pending asylum applications are not subject to removal.
  - Can apply for employment authorization 150 days after asylum application is filed.
- Principal asylees can file Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition, on behalf of their spouse and unmarried children under 21 years old.



Courtesy of the Department of Defense: Evacuees from Afghanistan Arrive at Naval Station Rota,
Photo ID 6820801.

For more information, visit <u>uscis.gov/allieswelcome</u>.

### Benefits of Asylum (cont.)



- Asylees can apply for lawful permanent resident status after one year.
- Lawful permanent residents can file a <u>Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative</u>, on behalf of their:
  - Spouse;
  - Unmarried children under 21 years old; and
  - Unmarried son or daughter 21 years old or older.
- Eligible lawful permanent residents can apply for U.S. citizenship after 5 years.
- U.S. citizens can file Form I-130 on behalf of their spouse, sons and daughters, siblings, and parents.

# **Benefits of Special Immigrant Visa Classification**



Expediting processing of Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence and Adjust Status, for Afghan nationals applying to adjust status to lawful permanent resident as a special immigrant.

- No fee to apply.
- SIV lawful permanent residents that had a spouse or child **before** adjusting to Special Immigrant status can request for spouses or unmarried children under 21 years old to join them in the U.S.
  - o File Form I-824, Application for Action on an Approved Application or Petition.
- Eligible lawful permanent residents can apply for U.S. citizenship after five years.
- U.S. citizens can file Form I-130 for certain family members including siblings, sons and daughters, and parents.

## **Special Immigrant Visa Classification**



- Old Process (until July 20, 2022)
  - Applied for Chief of Mission (COM) approval with Department of State (DOS) and submitted Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant, to USCIS.
- New Process (starting on July 20, 2022)
  - New Afghan SIV applicants submit only the <u>Form DS-157</u> with the documents required to apply for Chief of Mission Approval to DOS. Submitting Form I-360 is not required.
- Exception
  - Pending SIV applications with COM approvals as of July 20, 2022, must submit Form I-360 with USCIS.

For more information, visit <u>uscis.gov/allieswelcome</u>.

### **Temporary Protected Status (TPS)**



- Afghan nationals can apply for TPS if they have been in the United States continuously since March 15, 2022.
- TPS is an employment authorized status.
- TPS does not automatically lead to any permanent immigration status.
- Registration period for Afghanistan TPS ends November 20, 2023.



For more information, visit uscis.gov/tps.

### **Family Reunification Efforts**



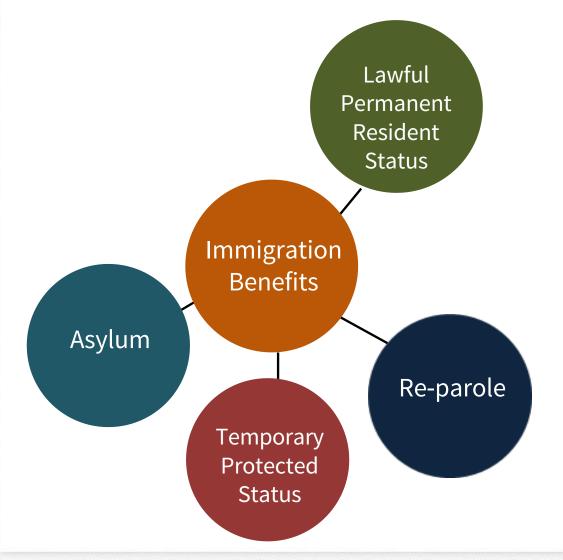
- If you are a parolee, or paroled into the United States and later obtained TPS, your spouse and unmarried children under 21 may be eligible for admission to the United States as refugees.
- You can apply for family members by submitting Form DS- 4317 to the Department of State.
- Reminder: For those who have or will soon secure asylum or a Green Card, such as through SIV classification, you may also apply for family reunification.



For more information visit the Department of State's Family Reunification for Afghans page at <a href="mailto:state.gov/afghanistan-family-reunification">state.gov/afghanistan-family-reunification</a>.

## **Multiple Immigration Pathways**





Noncitizens may pursue multiple immigration benefits at the same time.

#### Re-parole for Afghan Nationals

#### **Get Ready Phase**



DHS will announce when the <u>new</u> re-parole and employment authorization application process for eligible Afghans will be available for both online and paper filings.

• To file for re-parole when it is ready online, create a USCIS online account at <a href="my.uscis.gov">my.uscis.gov</a>.

#### Important note:

- New re-parole and employment authorization process will be streamlined and fee exempted.
- The new re-parole process will be available in June.

#### **General Requirements: Identification**

#### **Get Ready Phase**

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Acopy of both sides of your current Employment Authorization Document, or a passport or Tazkira with English translation.

- If you submit a passport, include copies of the biographical page and ALL visas you have from any country.
- Do not submit a Tazkira unless you never gave this to USCIS before.
- If you have never given USCIS a Tazkira and cannot provide one, list your father's and mother's first names and explain why you cannot provide a Tazkira.



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# Office of Refugee Resettlement Updates

#### **Benefits and Services**



Certain Afghans may be eligible for federal benefits including mainstream public

benefits:

- ORR-funded benefits and services
  - ✓ Temporary cash assistance
  - ✓ Medical assistance
  - ✓ Case management
  - ✓ Employment services
  - ✓ Legal services
- Other benefits
  - ✓ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Supplemental Security Income, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, etc.



Courtesy of the Department of Defense: Afghan children learning the names of the 50 states in the U.S. at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey, Photo ID 7030815.

## Who is Eligible for ORR-Funded Services



- Certain Afghan nationals may be eligible for ORR-funded services:
  - Afghans with active parole (including those granted re-parole)
  - Afghan asylees (must be granted asylum, not just applied)
  - Afghan refugees
  - Special Immigrants
- Important note: Afghans with only Temporary Protected Status will not be eligible for ORR benefits and services.

#### **Immigration Legal Services for Afghan Arrivals Funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement**



- The Immigration Legal Services For Afghan Arrivals (ILSAA) project provides free legal support to eligible Afghan families.
- Covers legal services including, but not limited to:
  - Asylum
  - Special Immigrant Visa
  - Adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident
  - Family reunification
  - Family-based petitions
  - **Employment authorization**
- Visit <a href="https://ilsaa.acf.hhs.gov">https://ilsaa.acf.hhs.gov</a> for more information.



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#### Flyers in Dari and Pashto available!

- acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ orr/ilsaa-handout-english.pdf
- acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ orr/ilsaa-handout-dari.pdf
- acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ orr/ilsaa-handout-pashto.pdf

#### **Important ORR Resources**



Questions about eligibility for ORR services:

RefugeeEligibility@acf.hhs.gov

Afghan Assistance Resources acf.hhs.gov/orr/programs/refugees/afghan-assistanceresources

Contact a resettlement agency in your state: <a href="https://acf.hhs.gov/orr/map/find-resources-and-contacts-your-state">acf.hhs.gov/orr/map/find-resources-and-contacts-your-state</a>



#### **Afghan Support Centers**





- Phoenix, AZ May 17-20
- Tucson, AZ
   June 1-3
- Sacramento, CA June 21-24
- Pittsburgh, PA July 19-22 (dates subject to change)
- Seattle, WA Aug. 16-19 (dates subject to change)
- Oklahoma City September

Visit <u>centersforafghansupport.org</u> and <u>uscis.gov/outreach</u> for more information.



# How to Create a USCIS Online Account

# Benefits of Using the USCIS Online Account



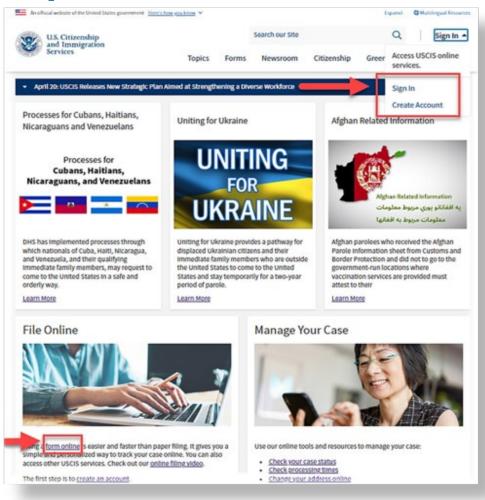
#### **USCIS Online Account**

Avoid common mistakes like a missing signature, missing pages, or an incomplete application. Check case status, access notices, communicate with USCIS, and approve work prepared by your legal representative.

Update your address in your account.

Step 1



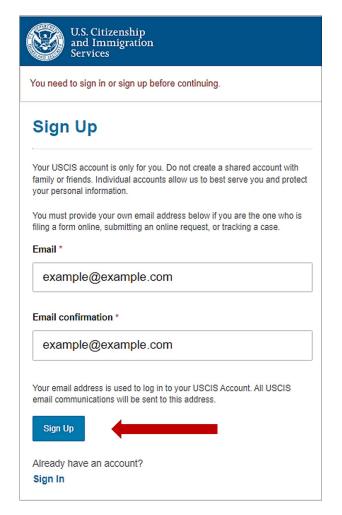


Bookmark these pages for easy access to your account:

- uscis.gov
- my.uscis.gov
- myaccount.uscis.gov

Step 2

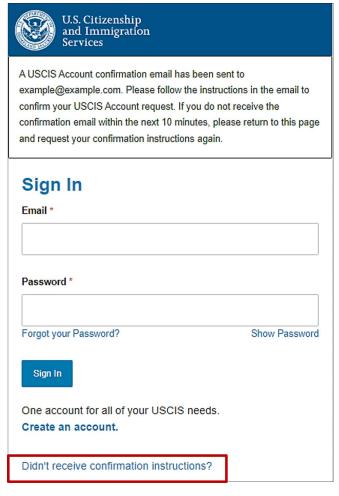




- 1. Enter your email address once.
- 2. Confirm your email address by entering it again.
- 3. Click on 'Sign Up.'

Step 3





USCIS will send you a confirmation email to the email address you used to set up your account.

 The email will come from <u>MyAccount@uscis.dhs.gov</u>

Click the link in the email message to confirm the account.

Tip: Keep a record of the email address you used to set up your USCIS online account.

Step 4





This document contains the **Terms of Use** ("**Terms**") for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) online electronic immigration system accessed using established portals, such as myAccount access page, or its successor. You should read these **Terms** in their entirety and acknowledge that by creating an account or accessing or attempting to access systems and services available online through myAccount, or its successor, that you have read, understand, and agree to comply with these **Terms** in order to access and use any or all of these systems. The **Terms** apply to every individual and user, including attorneys and accredited representatives acting on behalf of a business, corporation, limited partnership, limited liability company, or other legal entity, and any employees of such entities, who accesses, uses, or creates an online account in USCIS' electronic immigration system and

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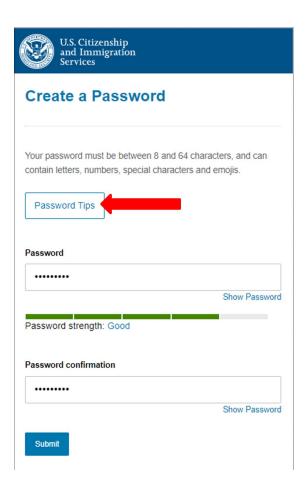
I Agree



Review the terms of use and click 'I Agree.'

#### Step 5

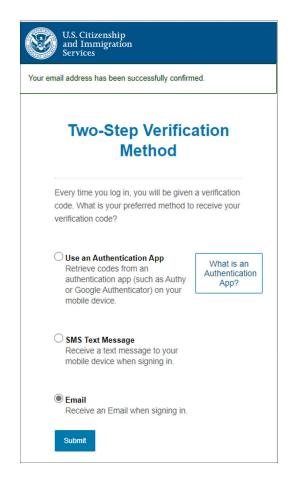




- This is where you will create a password.
  - Enter your password once, and then again to confirm that you entered your password correctly.
- Click on 'Password Tips' if you need help.
  - Your password must be between 8 and 64 characters, and can contain letters, numbers, special characters and emojis.

Step 6





- Choose how you want to receive your two-step verification code.
  - Authentication app, text, or email.
  - Click 'Submit.'

Step 7







- Enter the verification code and click 'Submit.'
- Every time you log in to your account, you will receive a one-time verification code via email or text message, depending on your selection.

#### Step 8



# Two-Step Verification Backup Code

If you lose access to your authentication device (you get a new mobile device or change your phone number), you can use this backup code to login to your USCIS account. If you change and confirm a new two-step verification method preference, your old code will no longer work.

Please print or save a copy of this code, and store it somewhere safe so that you are not locked out of your account.

Your backup code is: 52b447979b

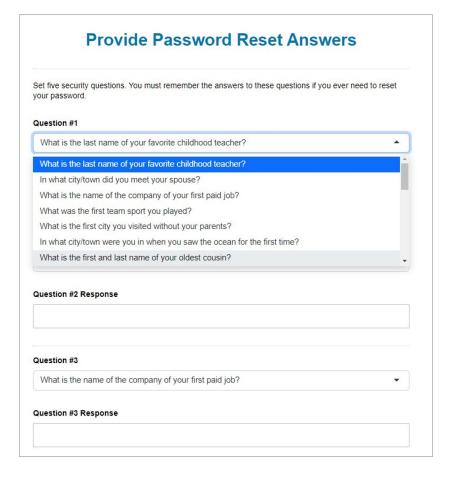
Export As PDF

Proceed

- When you create an account, you will also receive a two-step verification backup code.
- The backup code is used in case you lose access to your cell phone or email account that you used to set up your USCIS online account.
- You can enter this backup code instead of the one-time verification code to get access to your online account.
- Tip: Print or sae a copy of this code!

#### Step 9





- Using the drop-down arrow, chose five password reset questions.
- Tip: Take a screenshot or photo of your password reset questions and answers to help you remember them.

Step 10



#### **Account Type**

#### Select an account type:

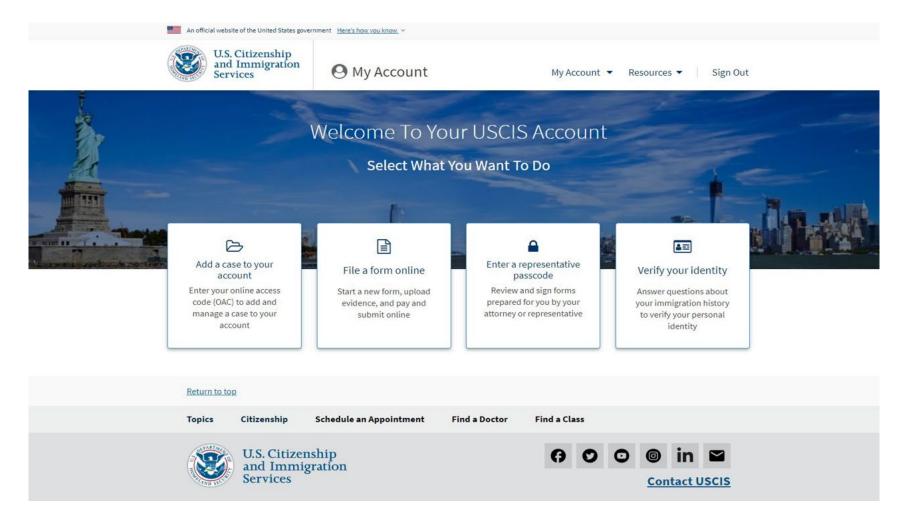
- I am an applicant, petitioner, or requestor.
  - USCIS only offers certain benefit types for online filing. Please refer to uscis.gov for further guidance.
  - You may use this account type to file an online Form I-134A as an individual agreeing to financially support a beneficiary. You may also use this account type if you are a beneficiary of a confirmed online Form I-134 or I-134A.
  - · You cannot file an H-1B Registration with this account type.
- I am a Legal Representative.
  - I am an attorney eligible to practice law in the United States.
  - I am an accredited representative of a qualified organization that is recognized by the Department of Justice in accordance with 8 CFR part 1292.

- Choose if you are an applicant, petitioner, or requestor.
- Legal representatives should select the second option.
- You will receive an email confirming that you have successfully created a USCIS online account.

Submit

## **USCIS Online Account**

#### **Welcome To USCIS Account**



#### **Account Features**





Link a paper form

Check case status

Send a secure message

Upload Evidence

Respond to Requests for Evidence

Change your address













# **Videos**Add a paper filed case





# **Adding a Paper Filed Case**

# **Videos**Case Card Applicant Account





# **Case Card Applicant Account**

### **Videos**

#### How to Send a Secure Message From Your USCIS Online Account





# How to Send a Secure Message From Your USCIS Online Account

# **Videos**Uploading Evidence





# **Uploading Evidence**

# **Videos**Request for Evidence





# **Request for Evidence**

#### **Videos**

#### How to Change Your Address in Your USCIS Online Account





# How to Change Your Address in Your USCIS Online Account

## **Videos**

#### **How to Change Your Address Form AR-11**





# **How to Change Your Address Form AR-11**

# **Specific Issues Email and Password**





I have an account, but I don't remember which email address I used or my password.



- If you are unable to remember which email address you used to set up your account, visit our USCIS Tools and Resources page and click on 'Password and Unlocking Account Help' to send us a message using this webform: <a href="mailto:uscis.gov/tools/uscis-tools-and-resources.">uscis.gov/tools/uscis-tools-and-resources.</a>
- For a password reset, send us a message from <u>my.uscis.gov/account/v1/needhelp</u>.

## **Specific Issues**

#### **Account Locked**





I have been locked out of my account after unsuccessfully attempting to log on more than three times.



 Please send a message from <u>my.uscis.gov/account/v1/needhelp</u>.

# Tips!





Sign up to be notified when we post a message or notice to your account.



Explore your account and the features and tools offered.



Remember your email address and answers to the password reset questions that you used to set up your account.

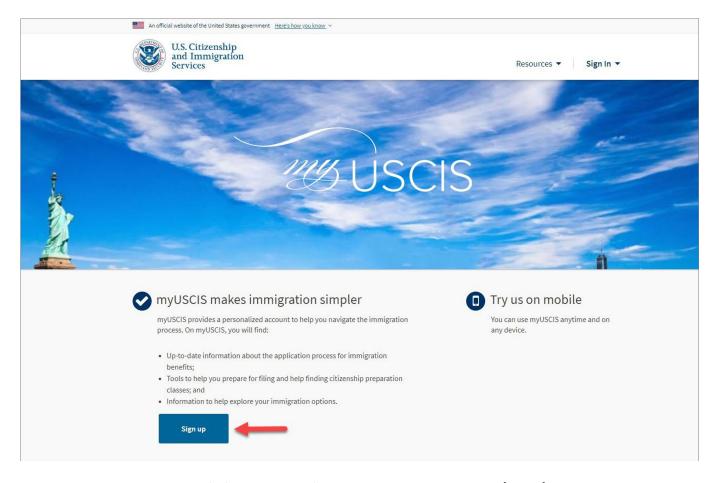


Keep your two-step verification back-up code in a safe place.

 Remember, if you don't have access to your email account or cell phone, you can use your back-up code to gain access to your USCIS online account.

# **Get Ready and Set Up Your Account Today!**





Visit <u>my.uscis.gov</u> to get started today!

# **Tips to Avoid Immigration Scams**

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

- Beware of individuals asking for personal information.
- USCIS does not routinely send emails about an approved immigration benefit.
- Email addresses from the U.S. government end in **.gov**.
- Do not transfer money or pay fees to an individual.
- Watch for identity theft.
- Learn about immigration attorneys and accredited representatives of a recognized organization.



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Learn more ways to avoid scams at <u>uscis.gov/avoidscams</u>.

## **Important USCIS Resources**



#### **Information for Afghan Nationals**

uscis.gov/allieswelcome

#### **USCIS Online Account**

my.uscis.gov

#### **How to Create a USCIS Online Account Videos**

- Dari <u>youtube.com/watch?v=1m1nQPFwiX0</u>
- Pashto <u>youtube.com/watch?v=ndx9SL4LZlA</u>

#### **File Online**

<u>uscis.gov/file-online</u> (filing tips are available)

#### **Technical Support for Your Account**

my.uscis.gov/account/v1/needhelp

#### **Change Your Address**

- uscis.gov/addresschange
- uscis.gov/ar-11

#### **Electronic Reading Room**

uscis.gov/records/electronic-reading-room

#### **Upcoming National Engagements**

uscis.gov/outreach

#### **Get USCIS and DHS News**

<u>uscis.gov/news</u> and <u>dhs.gov/news</u>

# **Concluding Remarks**



- For additional questions, please email <u>public.engagement@uscis.dhs.gov</u>
- For more information on our national engagements, visit <u>uscis.gov/outreach.</u>
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   <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>.



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**Author: USCIS** 

Date of last revision: May 15, 2023

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