



January 16, 2020

PA-2020-01

Policy Alert

SUBJECT: Replacing Permanent Resident Card

Purpose

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is issuing policy guidance in the [USCIS Policy Manual](#) regarding eligibility requirements, filing, and adjudication of requests to replace Permanent Resident Cards using the Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card ([Form I-90](#)).

Background

A lawful permanent resident (LPR) is an alien who the U.S. government has lawfully authorized to permanently live in the United States. USCIS issues Permanent Resident Cards (PRCs or Form I-551, commonly referred to as green cards) to LPRs as evidence of identity and status in the United States. LPRs use Form I-90 to request that USCIS replace their PRCs.

This guidance, contained in Volume 11, Part B of the Policy Manual, consolidates and replaces the guidance in Adjudicator's Field Manual (AFM) Chapter 51, the AFM's related appendices, and policy memoranda. The guidance contained in the Policy Manual is controlling and supersedes any prior guidance on replacing Permanent Resident Cards.

Policy Highlights

- Reaffirms eligibility requirements for replacing a PRC.
- Clarifies that I-551 stamps issued for temporary proof of LPR status may only be placed on an Arrival/Departure Record (Form I-94) (with photo) or an unexpired passport.
- Provides guidance for LPRs seeking commuter status and for those in commuter status seeking to take up residence in the United States.

Citation

Volume 11: Travel and Identity Documents, Part B, Permanent Resident Cards [[11 USCIS-PM B](#)].