

Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate

Humanitarian Parole Program



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services



The Humanitarian Parole Program is
administered by the
Humanitarian Affairs Branch
Office of International Operations



Overview of Parole Authority

Legal Authorities

- Parole is governed by numerous Public Laws and national policy, such as:
 - Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Title 8, United States Code, Section 1182(d)(5): provides authority to the Attorney General to parole aliens into the United States
 - Sections 402 and 421 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, P.L. 107-29: transfers authority for immigration matters, including parole, to the Secretary of DHS; and
 - Title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 212.5: provides regulations for the parole of aliens into the United States



Legal Authorities (continued)

- Parole is a discretionary authority that allows for the temporary entry of individuals into the United States for urgent humanitarian reasons or for significant public benefit
- Parole does not constitute an admission into the United States
- Parole does not convey any benefits to the beneficiary



What is Humanitarian Parole?

- Humanitarian Parole is an extraordinary measure sparingly used to bring an otherwise inadmissible alien into the United States for a temporary period of time due to a compelling emergency.
- Humanitarian Parole is not intended to be used to circumvent normal visa issuing procedures, bypass delays in visa issuance, or immigrate to the United States.
- It is possible that a parolee can adjust to a permanent status from parolee (e.g., parolees granted asylum, beneficiary of a relative petition, Cubans through the Cuban Adjustment Act, etc.).



Who Can Apply for Humanitarian Parole?

- Anyone can make an application on behalf of someone who is outside of the United States and has an urgent need to enter the country.
- Individuals may also self petition for Humanitarian Parole if they are outside the United States.



Common Types of Parole Requests

- Reasons for Parole include but are not limited to the following:
 - Medical
 - Family Reunification (adults and children)
 - Civil and Criminal Court Proceedings
 - Other Emergent Requests



HAB staff triages requests for HP received and attempts to provide immediate processing in accordance with the following criteria:

- Life threatening medical emergencies
- Family reunification
- Children under 16
- Physically and/or mentally challenged individuals



Jurisdiction

- USCIS, ICE, and CBP exercise concurrent parole authority
 - USCIS (HAB) authorizes parole for aliens outside the United States for many reasons, including humanitarian.
 - ICE authorizes parole aliens outside of the United States for many reasons, including law enforcement and intelligence purposes as well as to release detained aliens from custody.
 - CBP authorizes parole at United States ports of entry, including pre-flight inspection facilities.



Application Forms and Documentation

- **Form I-131, Application for Travel Document** (required for all requests)
- Non-refundable of \$305 that can not be waived
- A concise, to the point but comprehensive statement of facts supporting the parole request
- Birth, marriage, or death certificates



Application Forms and Documentation (continued)

- Official identification for Beneficiary (e.g., copy of passport)
- Proof of immigration status for Petitioner in the United States
- Divorce decrees
- Guardianship/Adoption decrees
- Other pertinent documentation



Application Forms and Documentation (continued)

- **Form I-134, Affidavit of Support** with:
 - Income tax returns for the previous two years
 - Proof of current employment
 - Medical and/or insurance coverage (applicable to medical cases)
 - Proof of immigration status (if Sponsor is different from Petitioner)
 - Form I-134 must be signed and dated



Adjudications Decisions

- If the parole request is approved, HAB will notify the petitioner and any representative of record.
- HAB will then coordinate with the USCIS Overseas Officers or US Embassy or Consulate for issuance of appropriate travel documentation.
- If the parole request is denied, HAB will notify the applicant and any representative of record.



Re-Paroles

- There is no provision in the regulations to “extend” a parole for an individual who is present in the US. A parole ends on the date the parole period expires or when the alien departs the US if this occurs prior to the expiration of the parole.
- HAB has the authority to Re-Parole an alien if the initial parole authorization was issued by the HAB.
- A request for Re-Parole requires the filing of a complete parole application package (including a nonrefundable fee of \$305) that contains information supporting the need for a Re-Parole.



Conclusion

- Over the years, approximately 25% of the received applications have been approved. Generally we receive approximately 1200 applications per year.
- Please remember that humanitarian parole cannot be used to circumvent normal immigration procedures and it is not a means to bypass delays in visa issuance. Therefore, humanitarian parole should not be recommended to individuals unless all other avenues for entry into the United States have been exhausted.
- Complete application instructions including downloadable forms can be found at www.uscis.gov



QUESTION/ANSWER SESSION

