



NEWS RELEASE

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July 21, 2000

INS Reminds Employers of Automatic Extension Of Employment Authorization for Eligible Hondurans and Nicaraguans With Temporary Protected Status

WASHINGTON — Today, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) reminds all employers that all Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) for Hondurans and Nicaraguans with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) have automatically been extended from July 5, 2000 to December 5, 2000.

The extension of the EAD validity period was published in the *Federal Register* on June 9, 2000. INS decided to extend the authorization period in order to prevent potential gaps in employment authorization while such individuals wait for their applications to be processed. However, in spite of the *Federal Register* notice and INS' public education campaign, INS has learned of some employers who are unaware of this extension.

The extension of the EAD validity period is automatic and only applies to EADs that:

- Bear a July 5, 2000 expiration date and
- Either bear the notation "A-12" or "C-19" on the face of the card under "Category" if the EAD was issued on Form I-766; or "274A.12 (A)(12)" or "274A.12(C)(19)" on the face of the card under "Provision of Law" if it was issued on Form I-688B.

Employers completing the Employment Eligibility Verification form (Form I-9) who are presented with an EAD that has been extended by the *Federal Register* notice and appears to be genuine and to relate to the employee, should accept the EAD as a valid List A document. Employers should not ask for additional I-9 documentation. To do so may be an unfair immigration-related employment practice.

Employers are reminded that the laws prohibiting unfair immigration-related employment practices remain in full force. Employers with questions concerning the extension may call the INS Office of Business Liaison Employers Hotline Number at 1-800-357-2099. Employers and workers alike can also contact the Department of Justice, Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) Hotline at 1-800-255-7688. OSC investigates immigration-related employment discrimination and protects work-authorized individuals against national origin and citizenship status discrimination in hiring and firing, as well as against unfair

employment verification or documentary practices. Assistance is available in all languages. Or write to:

Office of Special Counsel
for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices
P.O. Box 27728
Washington, D.C. 20038-7728

Web address: www.usdoj.gov/crt/osc