**Frequently Asked Questions from Clients**

**I was granted Humanitarian Parole, what does that mean?**

Individuals that were granted Humanitarian Parole were granted temporary permission to stay in the United States for **two years**, starting from the date they entered the country. Humanitarian Parole is **NOT** refugee status and it is **NOT** a permanent immigration status.

Most individuals that were granted Humanitarian Parole will get help from a Refugee Resettlement Agency during their first three months (90 days) in the United States. In addition, eligible individuals may qualify for Employment Authorization which allows them to legally work in the United States for *up to two years.*

**I don’t know what date I entered the United States, how do I find out?**

**If you entered with an Afghan passport that is unexpired,** you should have received a parole stamp in your passport. This stamp indicates the date you entered the United States and the date your parole status expires.

**If you did NOT enter the United States with a passport,** you may have been given a paper called an I-94. This is a paper issued to all non-citizens or legal permanent residents who enter the United States. This paper will tell you your date of entry to the United States and what date your parole status expires.

**I wasn’t given an I-94 at the airport; how do I get one?**

If you were not issued a I-94 at the airport, there may still be a way to determine your exact date of entry to the United States. Follow the steps below:

* **Step 1:** Go to the [I-94 Website: Travel Records for U.S. Visitors](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/recent-search)
* **Step 2:** Enter the client’s biographical information (you may need to enter different variations or spellings of their name)
  + **Document Number:** 
    - **If the client has an Afghan passport**: enter the passport number
    - **If the client has a Tazkera (national ID card):** enter the Tazkera number
    - **If the client has no ID issued by the Afghan government,** you may be able to use their A-Number (9 digits) located on their Work Authorization Card (EAD).

**I haven’t received my Employment Authorization, what do I do?**

If you submitted, or someone assisted you in submitting, an Employment Authorization application (I-765) it is possible the application is being processed **OR** the application has been approved and the physical card has not been mailed. Several cards were sent to Washington, D.C. and Resettlement Agencies are working to mail the cards out to individuals as quickly as they can. **Please contact your case manager if you or someone in your family did NOT receive their Employment Authorization.**

**My Employment Authorization document has the incorrect spelling of my name (or date of birth). What do I do?**

Most Resettlement Agencies in Minnesota are assisting their clients in submitting corrections to their Employment Authorization cards. **Please contact your case manager if you or someone in your family needs to make a correction to their card.**

For more information, please see the [USCIS website](https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/information-for-afghan-nationals).

**I have family members in Afghanistan, can I bring them to the United States?**

We understand the situation in Afghanistan is very dangerous and that many individuals are hoping to bring their family members to the United States (or other countries). This question may have a different answer based on a person’s unique immigration situation; therefore, we recommend speaking with an immigration attorney about your options.

**It is very important to know that there are no fast options to bring family members to the United States.** We cannot provide you with a timeline on how long it will take because each person’s case is different.

**Can I apply for Humanitarian Parole for my family members outside of the United States?**

**How can my family leave Afghanistan?**

**I worked with the United States government or military, what are my legal options?**

Individuals that were employed **by or on behalf of the** United States government after 2001 for **at least one year**, may be able to apply for a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV). If you think you qualify for a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV), please speak with an immigration attorney about how to begin the process of applying.

**I submitted my Chief of Mission application, what now?**

If you have submitted your Chief of Mission (COM) application, you should continue to check your email account every day for an update in your case. It can take **several months** to receive a case number or a decision. The estimated processing time is **277 days**.

Once you receive an update, please notify your immigration attorney or The Advocates for Human Rights so you can be informed about your next steps.

**Do I have to apply for asylum within one year of coming to the United States?**

**How long will it take to get a “green card”?**

The pathway to a “green card” is different depending on which immigration application a person filed and processing times will vary. Many immigration applicants take several months if not years to be completed; therefore, it is important to be patient and work with an immigration lawyer to ensure you follow all steps correctly to avoid any delays.

**What if I don’t get an answer on my applications before my parole status expires?**

In some situations, a person may not receive a final decision in the asylum or Special Immigration Visa (SIV) application before their parole status expires. In this situation, a person could

**What is Temporary Protected Status (TPS)?**

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a designation granted by the Department of Homeland Security that temporarily prevents a country’s nationals from returning safely to their country due to conditions in that country, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately.

For more information on TPS, please visit the [Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota’s Fact Page](https://www.ilcm.org/our-work/projects/temporary-protected-status-project/).

**Should I apply for TPS?**

**I worked with the United States to fight against the Taliban, why am I still at risk of going back to the United States?**

We are grateful for your service and the sacrifices that you and your family made to support the American forces in Afghanistan. There is no good explanation for why Afghan evacuees have not been granted permanent protection in the United States. Many people, including non-profit organizations, government agencies, and politicians are advocating for Afghan evacuees to be granted permanent legal status in the United States as a way to uphold our long-standing commitment to the Afghan people who served alongside our troops.

**What is the Afghan Adjustment Act?**

The Afghan Adjustment Act would provide a path to permanent residence for arriving Afghans, who currently have permission to stay in the United States for only two years. The bill has **not** been voted on and there is no way to apply for status through the Afghan Adjustment Act at this time. Please continue to check The Advocates website for more information: <https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/Home>

**If the Afghan Adjustment Act passes, do I still need to pursue asylum or SIV?**

If the Afghan Adjustment Act passes, it is very important to discuss the best option for you to pursue permanent legal status in the United States with an immigration attorney. There may be some reasons why a person should still pursue another option such as asylum or Special Immigrant Visa (SIV).

**What if I need non-legal assistance?**

The Advocates for Human Rights Legal Clinic and Pro Bono Attorneys can **only** provide legal services. We **cannot** provide direct assistance with housing, medical care, job placement, or other non-legal needs. For assistance with non-legal questions, please contact your Case Manager that was assigned to you by a Resettlement Agency. If you no longer are receiving services from your Resettlement Agency, please notify The Advocates for Human Rights by contacting us via our WhatsApp.