

APPENDIX 15A

BENEFITS COMPARISON CHART

Asylum, withholding of removal, or protection under the Convention Against Torture are forms of protection that yield varying benefits and responsibilities. These are compared in the chart below.

Benefits Comparison Chart	Asylum	Withholding of Removal under INA §241(b)(3)	CAT Protection
Right to Remain in the U.S.	Confers permission to remain in the U.S.	Prohibits removal to the country of feared persecution, but does not prohibit removal to other countries	Prohibits removal to the country of feared torture, but does not prohibit removal to other countries
Documentation of Status	Asylum Approval letter or IJ Order granting asylum; I-94 card showing admission as asylee	IJ Order showing order of removal, but noting removal withheld to the country of feared persecution	IJ Order showing order of removal, but noting removal withheld to the country of feared torture
EAD	Confers automatic employment authorization upon grant	Confers eligibility to apply for employment authorization under category (A)(10)	Confers eligibility to apply for employment authorization for those granted withholding, but not necessarily for those granted deferral of removal
Travel	Confers eligibility to file an application for a refugee travel document to travel outside the U.S.	No ability to travel outside of the U.S. and then re-enter	No ability to travel outside of the U.S. and then re-enter
Family	Spouses and children in the U.S. may be granted asylum as derivatives; confers eligibility to petition for spouses and children to follow to join the asylee in the U.S.	No ability to include spouses and children as dependent applicants or to petition for spouses and children	No ability to include spouses and children as dependent applicants or to petition for spouses and children
LPR and Citizenship	Confers eligibility to apply for LPR status after one year physically present in the U.S. as an asylee	No pathway to permanent residence or citizenship	No pathway to permanent residence or citizenship
Public Benefits	Confers potential eligibility for federal means-tested public benefits, means-tested refugee cash and medical assistance, refugee social services, matching grant, and a medical screening	No eligibility for public benefits	No eligibility for public benefits