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Northern Mariana Islands Long-Term Resident Status

Topics of Discussion



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- ✓ Who can file
- ✓ General requirements
- ✓ When to file
- ✓ Application process
- ✓ Period of stay
- ✓ Travel outside the CNMI
- ✓ Parole
- ✓ Tools and resources

Who can file?



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You must fall into one or more of the following categories:

- ✓ Foreign nationals born in the CNMI between January 1, 1974, and January 9, 1978.
- ✓ Spouses and unmarried children under the age of 21 of foreign nationals born in the CNMI between January 1, 1974, and January 9, 1978.
- ✓ Individuals who were permanent residents of the CNMI on November 27, 2009.
- ✓ Spouses and unmarried children under the age of 21 of an individual who was a permanent resident of the CNMI on November 27, 2009.

Who can file? (cont.)



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You must fall into one or more of the following categories: (cont.)

- ✓ Individuals who, on November 27, 2011, were either a spouse, child or parent of a U.S. citizen, and continue to have such family relationship with the citizen.
- ✓ Caregivers of critical medical or special needs individuals in the CNMI who on December 31, 2018, had a grant of parole under the former USCIS parole program for certain in-home caregivers.

General Requirements



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You must also:

- ✓ Have been lawfully present in the CNMI on December 31, 2018, or June 25, 2019, under the immigration laws of the United States, including under a grant of parole under section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act or deferred action;
- ✓ Be admissible as an immigrant to the United States under the INA, except that no immigrant visa is required;
- ✓ Have resided continuously and lawfully in the CNMI from November 28, 2009, through June 25, 2019; and
- ✓ Not be a citizen of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia or the Republic of Palau.

When to File



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Important Reminder

You may only apply for CNMI long-term resident status between February 19, 2020 and August 17, 2020.

Application Process



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To apply for CNMI long-term resident status, you must complete and submit:

- ✓ [Form I-955, Application for CNMI Long-Term Resident Status](#), including all evidence listed in the Form I-955 instructions; and
- ✓ [Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization](#). Use eligibility category for CNMI long-term resident status on Form I-765 is listed as “Applicant for Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Long-Term Resident Status -- (c)(37).”

Application Process (cont.)



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Required Initial Evidence

- ✓ Photocopy of a government issued identity document with photo
- ✓ Photocopy of your birth certificate
- ✓ Evidence that you have been 'inspected and admitted' or 'inspected and paroled'
- ✓ Photocopy of your marriage certificate and other proof of relationship if you are applying as the spouse or child of a stateless individual, permanent resident of the CNMI, or United States Citizen

Application Process (cont.)



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Required Initial Evidence (cont.)

- ✓ Evidence of lawful presence in the CNMI on December 31, 2018 or on June 25, 2019
- ✓ Evidence of continuous and lawful residence in the CNMI from November 28, 2009, through June 25, 2019
- ✓ Evidence of financial support
- ✓ Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record, may be required. If required, USCIS will issue a Request for Evidence.

Application Process (cont.)



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Required Initial Evidence (cont.)

- ✓ Certified police and court records of any criminal charges, arrests, or convictions
- ✓ Waiver of inadmissibility (if applicable)
- ✓ Two (2) passport style photos (for Form I-765)
- ✓ Any documents in a language other than English must be submitted with a certified English translation
- ✓ Please visit the [Form I-955](#) webpage for more information.

Application Process (cont.)



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\$ Filing Fee

- ✓ There is no filing fee for Form I-955.
- ✓ You must file Form I-765 with all fees in accordance with the instructions. (Form Fee of \$410 plus \$85 biometric services fee, for a total of \$495.)
- ✓ There are no fee exemptions or waivers.
- ✓ Please visit the [Form I-765](#) webpage for more information.

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Application Process (cont.)



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Where to File

Submit the completed applications, required evidence, and filing fee to the USCIS Dallas Lockbox.

Please visit the [Form I-765](#) webpage to find the correct address.

For U.S. Postal Service (USPS):
USCIS
P.O. Box 650890
Dallas, TX 75265

For FedEx, UPS, and DHL deliveries:
USCIS
Attn: I-765 C37
2501 S. State Highway 121 Business
Suite 400
Lewisville, TX 75067

Application Process (cont.)



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- ✓ If your Form I-955 is approved, you will receive an employment authorization document (EAD) as evidence of your CNMI Long-Term Resident Status.
- ✓ Your EAD will be valid for five years.
- ✓ You must renew your EAD every five years by filing Form I-765 with all applicable fees.

Period of Stay



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As a CNMI long-term resident, you may remain in the CNMI for as long as you hold this status. You will lose status if you:

- ✓ Cease to reside in the CNMI, or
- ✓ Adjust status under section 245 of the INA to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or otherwise become a lawful permanent resident.
- ✓ Travel to Guam or elsewhere in the United States without permission.

Travel outside the CNMI



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As a CNMI long-term resident, there are restrictions on your travel outside of the CNMI.

- ✓ You must obtain advance approval to travel to any other part of the United States (including Guam), except to travel in direct transit between the CNMI and a foreign place through Guam.
- ✓ If you travel to Guam or elsewhere in the United States in violation of these restrictions, your status will automatically terminate.

Travel outside the CNMI (cont.)



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To request advance approval to travel, you must file Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, with fee, at the USCIS Guam Office by mail. Along with your completed Form I-131, you must include:

- ✓ A statement describing the purpose of your intended travel;
- ✓ The specific dates of your trip;
- ✓ Travel destinations; and
- ✓ Any supporting documentation you wish to have considered in deciding your request.



**Mail your
Form I-131 to:**

USCIS Guam Field Office
770 East Sunset Blvd, Ste. 185
Tiyan Barrigada
GU 96913

Parole



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On June 17, 2020, USCIS announced an automatic extension of parole, and employment authorization if applicable, for certain aliens present in the CNMI.

- ✓ Applies to current parolees whose parole status will expire on June 29, 2020.
- ✓ Automatic extension of parole (and employment authorization, if applicable) through August 17, 2020.
- ✓ For parolees who file for CNMI long-term resident status by August 17, USCIS will announce additional relief while their application is pending.
- ✓ If a parolee does not file for CNMI long-term resident status by August 17, their parole status will end on August 17.

Self-Help Tools and Resources



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The [USCIS webpage](#) offers the following:

- ✓ Check your [case status](#)
- ✓ [Change your address](#)
- ✓ Check [processing times](#)
- ✓ Download [forms](#)
- ✓ [Explore My Options](#)
- ✓ [Ask Emma](#)
- ✓ Create an account on [myUSCIS](#)
- ✓ [CNMI Long-Term Resident Status](#) webpage

Or call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283.

The Wrong Help Can Hurt



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Visit the [USCIS Avoid Scams](#) webpage to learn more about:

- ✓ [Form filing tips](#);
- ✓ Common immigration scams;
- ✓ How to [report immigration scams](#); and
- ✓ How to find [legal services and help](#).

THE WRONG HELP
CAN HURT

BEWARE OF IMMIGRATION SCAMS





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Questions?