

USCIS Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

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Immigration Help Available to Those Affected by Natural Disasters and Other Unforeseen Circumstances

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USCIS is reminding the public that we offer immigration services that may help people affected by unforeseen circumstances such as natural disasters. Examples of unforeseen circumstances include, but are not limited to, the wildfires in the western United States and the recent building collapse in Surfside, Florida.

The following measures may be available on a case-by-case basis upon request:

- Changing a nonimmigrant status or extending a nonimmigrant stay for an individual currently in the United States. Failure to apply for the extension or change before expiration of your authorized period of admission may be excused if the delay was due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control;
- Re-parole of individuals previously granted parole by USCIS;
- Expedited processing of advance parole requests;
- Expedited adjudication of requests for off-campus employment authorization for F-1 students experiencing severe economic hardship;
- Expedited adjudication of employment authorization applications, where appropriate;
- Consideration of fee waiver requests due to an inability to pay;
- Flexibility for those who received a Request for Evidence or a Notice of Intent to Deny but were unable to submit evidence or otherwise respond in a timely manner;
- Flexibility if you were unable to appear for a scheduled interview with USCIS;
- Expedited replacement of lost or damaged immigration or travel documents issued by USCIS, such as a Permanent Resident Card (Green Card), Employment Authorization Documents, and Arrival/Departure Record (Form I-94); and
- Rescheduling a biometrics appointment.

Note: When making a request, please explain how the impact of unforeseen circumstances, such as a natural disaster, created a need for the requested relief. If you lost all forms of evidence in an unforeseen circumstance, include an explanation in your description and a copy of a police report, insurance claim, or other report, if available, to support your request.

Visit our [Special Situations](#) page or call us for more information about how we provide assistance to individuals affected by unforeseen circumstances. To learn how to request these measures, call us at 800-375-5283. For people with disabilities: (TTY) 800-767-1833 or (VRS) 877-709-5797.

We strongly encourage you to update your address with USCIS to ensure you receive all correspondence and benefits from us in a timely manner and avoid possible delays related to your case. To update your address with USCIS, visit our [How to Change Your Address](#) page.

Please note that changing your address with the U.S. Postal Service will not change your address with USCIS.

Visit our [Office Closings](#) page to determine if an office is open and to learn about rescheduling appointments. In particular, if your [InfoPass](#) appointment was affected by a natural disaster, you can reschedule your appointment online or by calling the [USCIS Contact Center](#).

All Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, requirements remain in place. Those affected by natural disasters should visit [I-9 Central](#) for more information on how to complete Form I-9 if an employee's documents are [lost, stolen, or damaged](#).

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