



November 21, 2022

Updated: Venezuelan Nationals Traveling to the United States with Advance Travel Authorization

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has established a new process that provides certain nationals of Venezuela and their qualifying immediate family members, the opportunity to request advance authorization to travel to the U. S. to seek parole.

Each individual traveling under this process must be in possession of a valid, unexpired passport and have an individual approved travel authorization.

It is expected that individuals seeking to travel to the U.S. under this process will be in possession of a valid passport. Consistent with the National Assembly decree of May 21, 2019, certain expired Venezuelan passports remain valid. A Venezuelan passport:

- Issued before June 7, 2019 (even if expired before this date), without a passport extension ("prorroga"), is considered valid and unexpired for five years beyond the expiration date printed in the passport.
- Issued before June 7, 2019 (even if expired before this date), with a "prorroga" issued before June 7, 2019, is considered valid and unexpired for five years beyond the expiration date of the "prorroga".
- Issued before June 7, 2019 (even if expired before this date), with a "prorroga" issued on or after June 7, 2019, is considered valid and unexpired through the expiration date of the "prorroga" or for five years beyond the expiration date printed in the passport, whichever is later.
- Issued on or after June 7, 2019, without a "prorroga" is not considered valid beyond the expiration date printed in the passport.
- Issued on or after June 7, 2019, with a "prorroga" issued on or after June 7, 2019, is considered valid and unexpired through the expiration date of the "prorroga".

Carriers should not be accepting paper printouts of travel authorizations as the sole mechanism for issuing a boarding pass and allowing the traveler(s) to board the aircraft.

Carriers will be able to validate an approved travel authorization under this process using the same mechanisms that are currently in place to validate that a traveler has a valid visa or other documentation to facilitate issuance of a boarding pass for air travel.

Those air carriers participating in Document Validation will get the "A" code to print a boarding pass, when the Venezuelan passport number submitted through APIS has a valid associated travel authorization on file.

If an air carrier is not participating in Document Validation, they will get the “Z” not applicable response code and will go through their established processes for checking documents and determining eligibility to board.

If you encounter a minor citizen of Venezuela with an approved travel authorization, in possession of their own valid passport, not traveling with their parent or legal guardian, contact CBP as indicated below.

Venezuelan nationals traveling to the U.S by air must adhere to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines regarding testing. Venezuelan Nationals traveling on an approved travel authorization will not be required to demonstrate proof of COVID vaccination at time of boarding.

If you have a question on boarding a traveler, it should be directed to the appropriate Regional Carrier Liaison Group (RCLG), Immigration Advisory Program (IAP) Officer or Joint Security Program (JSP) Officer.

