Humanitarian Parole Public Inquiries Auto-Response

Thank you for contacting the USCIS Humanitarian Affairs Branch. This automated response is to acknowledge receipt of your inquiry message. Due to the large number of inquiries we are receiving, we are unable to respond to every inquiry individually. Please carefully review the information below for further information. USCIS may not provide an additional response to your email if your question is addressed in the information below.

Filing for Parole:

USCIS cannot provide guidance on whether you should file for parole. USCIS is also unable to receive requests for parole via email. For general information about our parole adjudication process, eligibility for parole, and instructions for filing a request for parole, please visit our website at: https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-or-significant-public-benefit-parole-individuals-outside-united-states. A separate parole request must be filed for each individual parole beneficiary.

Pending Parole Requests:

If you have filed a request for parole by mail and the request was properly filed, a USCIS Lockbox facility will send the petitioner and attorney of record a receipt notice. The receipt notice will contain your USCIS receipt number. Please include the receipt number in the subject line of every email regarding your pending parole request.

USCIS Humanitarian Affairs Branch conducts an initial review of requests for parole upon receipt to confirm jurisdiction and determine whether the parole request warrants expedited processing because of an urgent or time-sensitive reason. You will receive a second receipt notice from the Humanitarian Affairs Branch once this initial review is complete. All requests for parole are reviewed initially to determine urgency regardless of whether the petitioner specifically requests expedited consideration. If the beneficiary's circumstances have changed since the parole request was initially filed and there is an urgent need for expedited processing, the petitioner or attorney of record may submit an expedite request via email to <a href="https://doi.org/10.100/journal.org/10.1007

USCIS normally adjudicates parole requests within 90 days of receipt. If USCIS needs to request additional information from the petitioner, it will take USCIS longer to process the request. USCIS is currently experiencing an extremely high volume of requests for parole. While USCIS endeavors to expeditiously process all urgent requests for parole, petitioners and beneficiaries should anticipate delays in processing beyond the 90 days.

Parole Requests for Afghan Beneficiaries:

Parole requests may be filed for beneficiaries residing in Afghanistan. However, because the U.S. Embassy in Kabul is closed and all normal consular services in Afghanistan have been suspended, a beneficiary may be required to travel to a third country to continue parole processing. If USCIS determines that the beneficiary may be eligible for parole, USCIS will issue a notice informing the beneficiary that they must arrange their own travel to a U.S. Embassy or Consulate outside of Afghanistan before USCIS can complete processing of their parole request. Once the beneficiary is able to make private arrangements to travel to a third country where there is a U.S. embassy or consulate, the beneficiary must notify USCIS at HumanitarianParole@uscis.dhs.gov with the subject line "Beneficiary Relocated Outside of Afghanistan."

The U.S. Embassy or Consulate will assist with verifying the beneficiary's identity and capturing fingerprints to initiate additional vetting. USCIS will not make a final decision to approve a request for parole until after this additional vetting is complete. The beneficiary may also be required to undergo medical screening or complete vaccination requirements at his or her own cost by a panel physician prior to final approval of a parole request. Therefore, potential parole beneficiaries who go to third countries for further processing should be prepared to remain there for several months, and it is possible that USCIS may deny the parole request while the beneficiary is in the third country.

Other Immigration Processing:

Parole is not intended to be used solely to avoid normal visa processing procedures and timelines, to bypass inadmissibility waiver processing, or to replace established refugee processing channels.

Individuals who have been persecuted or fear persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in particular social group or political opinion may be eligible for resettlement in the United States or another country and are advised to reach out to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for potential referral for resettlement. For further information on access to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP), please visit the Department of State Refugee Admissions website. The Department of State recently announced a new USRAP Priority 2 designation for certain Afghan nationals who have worked with the U.S. government, on U.S. government-funded programs or projects, or for U.S.-based non-governmental organizations and media organizations.

The U.S government is committed to expeditiously processing visa applications for Afghan nationals who may be eligible for a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV). For more information on eligibility for an SIV please refer to Special Immigrant Visas for Afghans – Who Were Employed by/on Behalf of the U.S. Government (state.gov).

USCIS has created a website to provide <u>Afghan Related Information</u>. For additional information for Afghans with pending visas, refugee cases, or SIVs, please visit the Department of State Afghanistan Inquiries website.

Additional information:

Due to privacy concerns, our office kindly requests that you limit the amount of personally identifying information sent via email. All case status inquiries should be made by the petitioner or beneficiary of the case, or by an authorized legal representative for whom USCIS has a Form G-28 on file. If you are writing us from within the United States, you may also contact the USCIS National Customer Service Center in the United States at 1-800-375-5283.

For other resources, quick references, and frequently asked questions, please see the resources and links provided below:

USCIS Resources	
USCIS Main Web Page	www.uscis.gov
USCIS Forms and Fees	http://www.uscis.gov/forms
USCIS Humanitarian and Significant Public Benefit Parole Page	https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-or-significant-public-benefit-parole-for-individuals-outside-the-united-states
USCIS Guidance on Evidence for Parole Requests	https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian- parole/guidance-on-evidence-for-certain-types-of- humanitarian-or-significant-public-benefit-parole-requests
Form I-131, Application for Travel Document	https://www.uscis.gov/i-131
Form I-134, Affidavit of Support	https://www.uscis.gov/i-134
Form I-912, Request for Fee Waiver	https://www.uscis.gov/i-912

We look forward to providing you with high quality customer service in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

USCIS Humanitarian Affairs Branch