

Information Sheet for Afghan Special Immigrants
Seeking to Apply for Adjustment of Status at a Safe Haven

Welcome to the United States. Your health, safety and well-being will be our top priority as you travel to your new homes and integrate into your local communities.

Special Immigrants

If you believe you are eligible to file an application for adjustment of status as a Special Immigrant based on employment by or on behalf of the U.S. government, or if you started but did not complete the Special Immigrant Visa application process before coming to the United States, you will need to complete the following process:

1. Apply for Chief of Mission (COM) approval with the Department of State.
 - For more information, see travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/special-immg-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html or travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/siv-iraqi-afghan-translators-interpreters.html.
 - If you already have COM approval, proceed to step 2.
2. File [Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow\(er\), or Special Immigrant](#), with USCIS. Follow the instructions at uscis.gov/i-360.
 - You may scan and email your petition with the required documents (preferably in .pdf format) to nsci360sivapp@uscis.dhs.gov. Please include the email address where you would like USCIS to send your electronic receipt.
 - If you have an approved [Form I-360](#), proceed to step 3.
3. If USCIS has approved your [Form I-360](#), you may apply for adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident status (obtain a Green Card) with [Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status](#). You may file Form I-485 at a U.S. safe haven if you have a U.S. address to include on your Form I-485. If you do not have a U.S. address, you may file when you arrive at your new home once you learn your new address. If you will be filing Form I-485 from your new address, find filing instructions at uscis.gov/green-card-for-an-afghan-employed-behalf-us-government or uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility/green-card-for-an-afghan-or-iraqi-translator-or-interpreter.
 - You do not need to submit the 2 passport-style photographs outlined in the Form I-485 instructions. If you are at a safe haven, and you have filed Form I-360 with USCIS and received a receipt notice, USCIS will accept your [Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status](#), before we approve your Form I-360. You should follow the instructions in step 3 above.
 - Note: If you do not submit Form I-485 while at the safe haven, USCIS must approve your Form I-360 before you file Form I-485.
4. After you have filed [Form I-485](#), USCIS may schedule you for an interview.
 - Follow all instructions provided by USCIS. If we approve your [Form I-485](#), we will mail your Green Card to you.
 - USCIS will expedite the adjudication of your application, whether it is filed at a safe haven or from your new home.

Additional instructions for those filing Form I-485 at a U.S. safe haven:

1. Once you have properly completed and signed the Form I-485 application(s), you may hand-deliver it to a USCIS official at the safe haven.
 - Each safe haven will have a designated location where you can submit your application if a USCIS official is not present at the time you are prepared to submit the application(s).
2. USCIS cannot adjudicate or provide a receipt notice at a safe haven. USCIS will mail all submitted applications to a central location for intake processing.
 - That central processing location will issue and mail a receipt notice to the address on the Form I-485.
 - Do not use the address of the safe haven or the address listed on the receipt notice for your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, if it shows the International Organization of Migration in Washington, D.C.
 - If you do not provide a U.S. address, you may not receive interview notices and other correspondence that USCIS sends to you.
 - If you change addresses, you must notify USCIS within 10 days that your address has changed by filing [Form AR-11](#), Alien's Change of Address Card.
 - The quickest way to file your AR-11 is using the online form at egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do. Changing your address with the U.S. Postal Service or any other agency will not update your address with USCIS.

Fees

- There is no filing fee for a [Form I-360](#) filed for an Afghan Special Immigrant.
- There is no filing fee for a Form I-485 based on an approved Form I-360 for an Afghan Special Immigrant.
- Applicants should include an "OAW" annotation in the top right corner of their Form I-485.

Petitioners, beneficiaries, or attorneys of record with questions about a pending [Form I-360](#) for Afghan Special Immigrants may call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833). The Contact Center hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern. From outside the United States, call 212-620-3418 or check the case status online at egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do.

For questions about a pending Chief of Mission application or immigrant visa, please visit the Department of State webpage, travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/special-immg-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html, for contact information.