

ORR Updates on Ukrainian Eligibility and Re-parole

May 2024



Wisconsin Department of
Children and Families

***Disclaimer: Written guidance not updated**

*Due to the short turnaround for at least one of the processes outlined in ORR's letters, as well as the detailed email, we wanted to provide an opportunity to discuss the updates as quickly as possible, without waiting for OM guidance to catch up.



What updates?

- [ORR Dear Colleague Letter 24-01](#)
- [ORR Policy Letter 24-01](#)
- [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#) (May 7 update)



Eligibility Date Extension

(DCL 24-01)

As of May 8, 2024, Ukrainian parolees must have entered the United States with parole by September 30, 2024 in order to be eligible for ORR refugee benefits and services.



Re-parole and continuous eligibility

(PL 24-01)

For certain eligible Ukrainian nationals (as detailed in PL 22-13), in order to continue to receive ORR benefits and services beyond the expiration date of one's initial parole period and while a re-parole application is pending, they must apply for re-parole within 30 days of the publication date of the Policy Letter (i.e. by June 8, 2024), or by one day before the expiration date of one's initial parole period, whichever is later.



Timely re-parole vs. new or re-enrollment

Uninterrupted ORR benefits and services are only available to those with a pending re-parole application as detailed in the previous slide, whereas new enrollments or re-enrollments into ORR programs for those who were un-enrolled or had never enrolled previously must wait until a new period of parole is granted.



Importance of initial date of eligibility

If a new period of parole is granted upon applying for re-parole, ORR-enrolled individuals must maintain their initial date of eligibility, rather than using the new parole date as the date of eligibility. In other words, re-parole does not authorize a new period of eligibility for any time-limited benefits such as RMA and RCA.

(For eligible Ukrainian parolees who entered the United States with parole between February 24, 2022 – Sept 30, 2023, their date of eligibility (regardless of any re-parole circumstance) is May 21, 2022, or their date of (initial) parole, whichever is later.)



Initial date of eligibility, new enrollments

(PL 22-13)

For eligible Ukrainian parolees who enter the United States with parole between October 1, 2023 – Sept 30, 2024, their date of eligibility is April 24, 2024, or their date of parole, whichever is later.

Example: Anna is a Ukrainian national who entered the US with parole on January 15, 2024. She applied for RCA on January 19, 2024 and was denied due to being outside the period of eligibility in place at that time. Upon the passing of the Additional Ukrainian Supplemental Appropriations Act (2024), Anna returned to the W-2 agency on May 15, 2024 and re-applied for RCA. She was found eligible. Her first RCA check included the time period beginning April 24, 2024*, which is Anna's initial date of eligibility (According to RCA policy, her payments may begin on this date because she initially applied before 4.24.24; if the first time she applied had been on May 15, 2024, her payments would have begun on May 15, 2024, and her eligibility period would be from April 24, 2024 through April 23, 2025).

*"Backdating" to April 24, 2024, as in the case of this example, is the only type of "backdating" of payments that could be allowable under these new policies.



Backdating/retroactive payments not otherwise permitted

If someone has been un-enrolled from a program (e.g. RCA) due to the expiration of their initial parole period, they may not be re-enrolled until re-parole is granted, assuming their initial period of eligibility (which began on the date on which their initial parole period began) has not yet run out, which it likely has, since the common length of time for an initial period of parole is a year or more.



Verification Requirements*

Pending re-parole verification for continuous period of eligibility:

Must review and retain copies of certain documents (may be digital), which may include but are not limited to a copy of the individual's MyUSCIS online account with case status, a copy of USCIS MyCaseStatus webpage, or a receipt notice of the pending re-parole application with an official filing date.

Approved Re-parole verification for continuous or new period of eligibility:

Must review and retain copies of certain documents (may be digital), which may include, but are not limited to, a Form I-94 with updated Class of Admission (COA) and updated "admit until" date, or approval notice of Form I-131, *application for re-parole*.

**This guidance does not include other verification requirements, such as of immigration status, which has not changed.*



Pending or denied re-parole applications

If a re-parole application is pending for more than three months, contact BRP.

If a re-parole application is denied, ORR eligibility ends.*

*Note that underlying TPS status is considered separately from parole, and does not by itself equate eligibility for ORR programs.



Questions?

