

Policy Document: Afghan SIV Immigration Status

November 9, 2021

18.2.4.1 Immigration Status

To qualify for Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance, individuals must provide proof, in the form of documentation issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, of one of the following immigration statuses:

1. Paroled under section 212(d)(5) of the [Immigration and Nationality Act \(INA\)](#);
2. Admitted as a refugee under section 207 of the INA;
3. Granted asylum under section 208 of the INA;
4. [Cuban-Haitian entrant\(s\)](#), in accordance with the requirements in 45 CFR section 401.2;
 - i. Any individual granted parole status as a Cuban/Haitian Entrant (status pending) or granted any other special status subsequently established under the immigration laws for nationals of Cuba or Haiti, regardless of the status of the individual at the time assistance or services are provided.
 - ii. A national of Cuba or Haiti who was paroled into the United States and has not acquired any other status under the INA and with respect to whom a final, non-appealable, and legally enforceable order of removal, deportation or exclusion has not been entered.
 - iii. A national of Cuba or Haiti who has an application for asylum pending with the [United States Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\)](#) and with respect to whom a final, non-appealable, and legally enforceable order of removal, deportation or exclusion has not been entered.
5. Certain [Amerasian\(s\)](#) from Vietnam who are admitted to the U.S. as immigrants pursuant to section 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988 (as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100-202 and amended by the 9th proviso under Migration and Refugee Assistance in Title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Acts, 1989 (Public Law 100-461 as amended));
6. Victims of trafficking who have been certified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement under section 107 (B) of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000;
7. Iraqis and Afghans with "special immigrant status." These groups have been admitted to the U.S. in Lawful Permanent Resident status; however for a limited time upon arrival they are treated as if they are in refugee status for public benefits purposes.
 - i. A citizen or national of Afghanistan who was admitted to the United States with SI/SQ Parole (per section 602(B)(1) AAPA/Section 1059(a) NDAA 2006), Special Immigrant (SI)

Conditional Permanent Residence (CPR), or Humanitarian Parole status (per the Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022); and their spouses and children.

8. Admitted for permanent residence, provided the individual previously held one of the statuses identified above. (Note that it is highly unlikely for an individual with this immigration status to meet the 8 month time limit requirement.) (See [18.2.4.2](#))

Refer to the following [Refugee Status Documentation guide](#) the Office of Refugee Resettlement's Policy Letter 16-01 [Documentation Guide](#) for information on the types of documents that verify the immigration statuses listed above. For information on appropriate CARES coding for the immigration statuses listed above, refer to the [W-2 Non-Citizen Eligibility Desk Guide](#).

If a refugee is not able to verify his or her immigration status with paper documentation, attempt to verify the status using the web-based [Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements \(SAVE\)](#) program. Scan the information found using SAVE into [ECF](#).