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I-821, Application For Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

If you are an eligible national of certain countries that the Secretary of Homeland Security (Secretary) has designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or a person without nationality who last habitually resided in the designated country, then you may apply for TPS by filing Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status. This form is also used if you have TPS and are filing for TPS re-registration.

Do not use Form I-821 to request Consideration Of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Form I-821D must be used to request DACA.

Review our website for more information on [countries currently designated for TPS and registration dates \(https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/temporary-protected-status\)](https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/temporary-protected-status).

✓ Before You Start Your Application

Eligibility

To be eligible for TPS, you must be admissible to the United States as an immigrant under the applicable grounds in INA section 212(a), with certain exceptions.

We may grant discretionary waivers of certain inadmissibility grounds for humanitarian purposes, to assure family unity, or because it is otherwise in the public interest. However, we cannot waive some inadmissibility grounds, by law, including certain criminal grounds in INA sections 212(a)(2)(A-C) and national security, terrorism-related, and persecution grounds in INA sections 212(a)(3)(A-C, E). If you are inadmissible on grounds that can be waived, you may be able to obtain a discretionary waiver. If you are re-registering for TPS and you were already granted a waiver of a ground of inadmissibility in conjunction with your prior TPS application, you do not need to seek another waiver for the same action, incident, or circumstance. For example, if on a prior TPS application, USCIS previously granted you a waiver of the health ground of inadmissibility because you had tuberculosis that was treated, you do not need to apply for another waiver for that same health incident. However, you will need to file for a waiver if you have contracted another communicable disease for which a waiver is necessary.

Each person seeking TPS must apply for themselves on a separate Form I-821. There is no derivative TPS status, meaning that your spouse, children or parents cannot obtain TPS as a result of your approval for TPS. They must each qualify for TPS individually. However, we may accept late initial TPS applications from certain individuals who had a qualifying relationship to a spouse or child during the initial registration period for the TPS-designated country and that relative is also currently eligible for TPS. Even where such a relationship exists, the applicant must still meet all other TPS eligibility requirements before we may grant TPS.

You may submit this form with Form I-765 online if you also want to request an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). If you request an EAD in Form I-821, we will add Form I-765 for you to complete after you sign your Form I-821.

Note: If you were ever convicted of or ever committed a “particularly serious crime” that constitutes a “danger to the community of the United States,” or there are serious reasons for believing that you have committed “serious nonpolitical crimes” outside of the United States before your arrival in this country, you cannot be granted TPS. We will make the determination as to whether your crimes fall into either of these categories. You must, however, provide information and, if available, any supporting documentation on all crimes which you have committed or were convicted of in the United States or outside of this country so that we can make an appropriate decision. If you believe that any of your arrests or convictions were politically motivated, describe why in your supplemental statements.

Fee

Initial TPS application: **\$50**

TPS re-registration: There is no application fee for re-registering for TPS.

All applicants and re-registrants who are 14 years of age or older must pay the **\$85 biometric services fee**.

Note: You cannot use a fee waiver if applying online.

Refund policy: USCIS does not refund fees, regardless of any action we take on your application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. By continuing this transaction, you acknowledge that you must submit fees in the exact amount and that you are paying the fees for a government service.

Please refer to the instructions for the form(s) you are filing for additional information or you may call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) 800-767-1833.

Documents you may need

We will automatically determine which documents you should provide us as you fill out your application. At the time of filing, you must submit all evidence and supporting documentation listed.

Biometric services appointment

USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), before making a decision on your application, petition, or request. After USCIS receives your application and ensures it is complete, we will inform you in writing or by email notice if you e-file your application, if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If an appointment is necessary, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS Application Support Center (ASC) and the date and time of your appointment or, if you are currently overseas, instruct you to contact a U.S. Embassy, U.S. Consulate, or USCIS office outside the United States to set up an appointment.

After You Submit Your Application

Track your case online

After you submit your form, you can track its status through your USCIS account. Sign in to your account often to check your case status and read any important messages from USCIS.

Respond to requests for information

If we need more information from you, we will send you a Request for Evidence (RFE) or Request for Information (RFI). You can respond to our request and upload your documents through your USCIS account.

Receive your decision

The decision on Form I-821 involves a determination of whether you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing.

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