

Keeping Families Together Process



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Background

On June 18, 2024, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a new process for certain noncitizen spouses and stepchildren of U.S. citizens to request parole in place on a case-by-case basis. Parole in place is a temporary permission to be in the United States.

This document explains who may qualify to request parole in place and how to request it.

If U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) approves your parole in place request, you may be able to apply from within the United States to become a U.S. lawful permanent resident and get a Green Card if you meet the requirements.

Criteria for Noncitizen Spouses of U.S. Citizens to Request Parole in Place

| | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| 1. I am lawfully married to a U.S. citizen as of June 17, 2024. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 2. I have been continuously physically present in the United States since June 17, 2014. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 3. I am present in the United States without admission or parole. (I entered unlawfully.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 4. I do not have any disqualifying criminal history and I am not a threat to public safety, national security, or border security. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 5. I merit a favorable exercise of discretion. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |

You may submit Form I-131F, with evidence and fee, to request parole in place.

Criteria for Noncitizen Stepchildren of U.S. Citizens to Request Parole in Place

| | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| 1. I was unmarried and under 21 years old as of June 17, 2024. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 2. My parent lawfully married a U.S. citizen on or before June 17, 2024, and before I turned 18. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 3. I have been continuously physically present in the United States since at least June 17, 2024. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 4. I am present in the United States without admission or parole. (I entered unlawfully.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 5. I do not have any disqualifying criminal history and I am not a threat to public safety or national security. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |
| 6. I merit a favorable exercise of discretion. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> You are not eligible. |

You may submit Form I-131F, with evidence and fee, to request parole in place.

How to Request Parole in Place Under This Process

1. Submit Form I-131F, Application for Parole in Place For Certain Noncitizen Spouses and Stepchildren of U.S. Citizens, online. Make sure you meet the criteria before you submit the form.
2. You will need to create a USCIS online account at my.uscis.gov or you can use an existing account. Learn how to create an account at www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqY6NmorTtU.
3. Log in to your USCIS online account and complete Form I-131F. The fee for this form is \$580. You must submit evidence to show that you meet the criteria. A fee waiver is not available for this form.
4. On a case-by-case basis, we will determine if you merit a discretionary grant of parole based on significant public benefit or urgent humanitarian reasons.
5. We will consider your previous immigration history, criminal history, the results of background and national security checks, and any other relevant information.

Gather Your Evidence

Scan or take a picture of each piece of evidence and save it to your computer before you start filling out the form. You may submit expired documents. Give your documents a short, descriptive name using only the English alphabet. Do not include any foreign letters, accents, or symbols. This will make completing the form easier. Any document in a foreign language must have a complete, certified English translation.

Noncitizen Spouses of a U.S. Citizen Should Provide Documents That Show:

- Proof of a legally valid marriage to a U.S. citizen as of June 17, 2024, such as a marriage certificate;
- Proof of identity for yourself. This could be a state or country driver's license or identification, or passport;
- Proof of your spouse's U.S. citizenship, such as a U.S. passport, U.S. birth certificate, or Certificate of Naturalization;
- Proof of termination of all prior marriages for you and your U.S. citizen spouse, such as a divorce decree, death certificate, or annulment document (if applicable);
- Your continuous physical presence in the United States since at least June 17, 2014. You should provide evidence to account for as much of the period as possible, but you do not have to submit documentation for every single day or month. This can include rental agreements, bank statements, utility bills, school, hospital, medical, and church records, tax transcripts, and employment records; and
- Your criminal history, including any arrest records and certified court dispositions of all charges and convictions (if applicable).

Noncitizen Stepchildren of a U.S. Citizen Should Provide Documents That Show:

- Your relationship to your noncitizen parent, such as a birth certificate;
- Proof of identity for yourself, such as a state or country driver's license or identification, or passport;
- Your continuous physical presence in the United States since at least June 17, 2024. You should provide evidence to account for as much of the period as possible. This can include rental agreements, bank statements, utility bills, school, hospital, medical, or church records, tax transcripts, and employment records;
- Proof of a legally valid marriage between your noncitizen parent and your U.S. citizen stepparent that took place on or before June 17, 2024, and before your 18th birthday;

- Proof of termination of all prior marriages for your parent and your U.S. citizen stepparent, such as a divorce decree, death certificate, or annulment document (if applicable);
- Proof of your stepparent's U.S. citizenship, such as a U.S. passport, U.S. birth certificate, or Certificate of Naturalization; and
- Your criminal history, including any arrest records and certified court dispositions of all charges and convictions (if applicable).

Watch Out for Scams

Some people may try to scam you by saying they have special connections, they can get your application processed faster, or you could be deported if you don't do what they say. These are lies. Protect yourself and your family by knowing the rules and getting information from reliable sources.

- USCIS will never call or email you and threaten you with deportation or demand payment over the phone.
- Be careful who you hire. Only licensed attorneys or representatives accredited by the U.S. Department of Justice can give you legal advice on immigration matters.

Stay Informed

- Find the latest information and frequently asked questions at: uscis.gov/keepingfamilies-together
- Learn about USCIS online accounts: uscis.gov/file-online
- Create your account at uscis.gov or my.uscis.gov.
- Watch our videos: www.youtube.com/@uscis
- Learn about common immigration scams at uscis.gov/avoidscams or uscis.gov/eviteestafas.
- The Aug. 20, 2024, Federal Register Notice: www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/20/2024-18725/implementation-of-keeping-families-together



uscis.gov/keepingfamilies-together