



Documentation and Benefit Eligibility for Afghan Evacuees

	Special Immigrant Visa	SI/SQ Parole	Humanitarian Parole
What is it?	<p>Visa available to translators, interpreters, or other professionals employed by or on behalf of the U.S. Government in Afghanistan.</p>	<p>Parole for translators, interpreters, and other professionals employed directly by or on behalf of the U.S. Government in Afghanistan who have not yet received their Special Immigrant Visa, but are somewhere in the application pipeline – typically with approved I-360 petitions.</p>	<p>AKA Afghan Parole Parole for evacuees that do not qualify for an SIV or P1/P2/P3 refugee programs, but were at-risk, had ties to family members in the U.S., or had not started SIV or other immigrant status applications. HP is not an immigration status, but permission to be in the U.S. lawfully for two years.</p>
What documents or stamps identify the category?	<p>An immigrant visa in passport with the category SI1 or SQ1 (principal holder) or SI2 or SQ2 (spouse/family member of principal holder)</p>	<p>Stamp on passport or I-94 reading: SPECIAL IMMIGRANT STATUS (SI/SQ) PAROLE Sec 602(8)(1) AAPA / Sec 1059 (a) NDAA 2006 Date _____ USCIS Officer _____ or SQ4/SI4 (principal) SQ5/SI5 (family member)</p>	<p>Stamp on passport or I-94 reading either: DT or Operation Allies Refuge / OAR or Operation Allies Welcome / OAW *Note: DT stamps (aka Port of Entry parole) were given to evacuees prior to the extension of humanitarian parole to 2 years – clients with DT stamps should have had their parole automatically changed by CBP, and that should be reflected in their digital I-94.</p>
For what benefits are individuals in each category eligible?	<p>SIV holders are eligible for the same benefits as refugees, administered under the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) including the Reception and Placement Program. Additionally, they receive Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance, and Refugee Support Services, as well as access to federal assistance programs like TANF, SNAP, and SSI (if appropriate).</p>	<p>SI/SQ parolees are similarly eligible for the same benefits as refugees, administered under the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) including the Reception and Placement Program. Additionally, they receive Matching Grant, Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance, Preferred Communities, and Refugee Support Services, as well as access to federal assistance programs like TANF, SNAP, and SSI (if appropriate).</p>	<p>After the passage of the FY2022 Continuing Resolution in September 2021, Humanitarian Parolees are now eligible for benefits through the Afghan Placement and Assistance (APA) program, which provides immediate resettlement assistance to newly arrived Afghans. Additionally, they receive Matching Grant, Preferred Communities, Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance and Refugee Support Services, as well as access to federal assistance programs like TANF, SNAP, and SSI (if appropriate).</p>
What is the pathway to lawful permanent residency?	<p>Once admitted into the United States, SIV holders will be mailed a Permanent Resident Card (aka Green Card), and after five years of residing in the U.S. are able to apply for U.S. citizenship.</p>	<p>Individuals with SI/SQ parole need to complete the remainder of their SIV application, the last step of which is filing a form I-485 <i>Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status</i>.</p>	<p>Because HP is not an immigration status, there is no direct pathway to lawful permanent residency. Humanitarian Parolees can achieve permanent residency by applying for asylum, or if eligible, having a U.S. citizen or LPR family member file an I-130 immigrant visa petition to adjust status. The passage of an Afghan Adjustment Act would enable parolees to adjust status without having to apply for asylum or other immigration relief.</p>