



CHICAGOLAND

Immigration Info Session
Ukraine
May 2022

THE WEBINAR WILL BEGIN SHORTLY



CHICAGOLAND

STAND/WITH THE VULNERABLE™

Immigration Info Session - Ukraine

Emily Mudge, Senior Staff Attorney

Sara Oh, Staff Attorney

Interpretation by Liza Khalil

Immigration Legal Services

May 2022

- Immigration Statuses
- Pathways to Lawful Permanent Resident Status
- Ukrainian Parolees
 - Work permits (EADs)
 - Temporary Protected Status
 - Asylum
- Family Reunification
 - Uniting For Ukraine
 - Lautenberg
 - I-130 Family petitions
- Questions

WR Services

- Immigrant Family Services
 - Family Case Management/Refugee Resettlement
 - Employment Services
 - Counseling Center
- Education
 - English as a Second Language
 - Job preparedness classes
 - Citizenship education (classes and tutoring)
- Immigration Legal Services
 - Green cards
 - Naturalization/Citizenship
 - DACA
 - Other immigration relief (U-visas)
 - Work permits (EAD)
 - Family Reunification



Who Can Practice Immigration Law?

- Licensed Attorneys
AILA – www.ailalawyer.com
- Department of Justice (DOJ) Accredited Representatives
<https://www.justice.gov/eoir/recognition-accreditation-roster-reports>

- 1) U.S. Citizens
- 2) Lawful Permanent Residents (“LPR” green card holder)
- 3) Refugees/Asylees
- 4) Nonimmigrant Visa Holders (visitor, business, performance, etc.)
- 5) Misc. temporary provisions (Temporary Protected Status, Parole, etc.)
- 6) Undocumented

- Family based
 - USC/LPR family member
 - Wait times
 - Bars to fixing papers
- Employment based
- Diversity Lottery Visa (Ukrainian citizens are eligible)
 - 55K visas/year
 - Country limitations
 - High school equivalent degree/min two years professional experience
- Humanitarian provisions
 - Certain victims of violent crimes (U/T/SIJS), asylee/refugee
- Court remedies (e.g. cancellation of removal)

- Parole allows an individual who may be ineligible for admission into the U.S. to be in the U.S. for a temporary period for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.
- Ukrainians paroled in from Mexico
 - 15,000 to 20,000 Ukrainians were paroled at the Mexico – U.S. border
 - Some were placed in removal proceedings or signed up for ICE check-ins
 - Most received parole to stay in the U.S. temporarily (DT entry stamp/code)
 - Unprecedented, not officially related to President Biden’s commitment to assist 100,000 Ukrainians
 - Not refugee status, not a special humanitarian program – not eligible for traditional resettlement services
 - Starting to see state and local government responding with assistance
 - Federal benefits for Ukrainian parolees were just announced 05/26/2022, and you can do an intake with WR to see if you might be eligible for other assistance (<https://worldrelief.org/chicagoland/first-time-intake-form/>)
- U.S. stopped offering parole to Ukrainians at the border with the implementation of the Uniting for Ukraine program.

Work Permits

- If paroled in from Mexico and received DT entry stamp/code, can apply for employment authorization document
 - It is discretionary. Must show necessity to work
- Form I-765 is found online (information to apply is on uscis.gov)
- Filing fee is \$410, fee waiver available
- Include two passport style photos, copy of passport biographic page, entry stamp and I-94 card/paper showing parole status, and explanation or proof of your necessity to work

What is Temporary Protected Status?

- Temporary lawful status for nationals of designated countries
- Secretary of DHS decides which countries merit TPS
- Designation is for maximum of 18 months at a time
- Can be extended or terminated 60 days prior to expiration; otherwise automatically extended six months
- Can apply for work permit at the same time

Benefits of TPS:

- Temporary lawful status in the U.S.
- Work authorization, if you apply
- Temporary stay of removal
- Can request advance parole to allow for travel outside the U.S. and reentry into the U.S.

TPS is NOT:

- A pathway for permanent residence or U.S. citizenship
- Permanent – it may be terminated
- Doesn't help those who entered after April 11, 2022

TPS Eligibility Basic Requirements for Ukrainians

- Be national of Ukraine
- Continuously present and residing in U.S. since April 11, 2022
- Certain criminal history may affect eligibility
- Not firmly resettled in a third country
- Not be inadmissible (or be eligible for a waiver)

Application Process

- Forms (can file online)
 - I-821, for TPS
 - I-765, for employment authorization (optional)
 - I-601, if need to waive a ground of inadmissibility (consult with an attorney or DOJ Accredited Representative)
 - Fee or fee waiver (application fees found on uscis.gov)
- Supporting Documents:
 - Proof of identity – state issued ID, passport, birth certificate
 - Proof of Ukrainian nationality – passport or birth certificate
 - Date of Entry – visa, passport, travel documents, plane tickets
 - Continuous residence – lease, bank statements, school records, etc.
- Note: All documents not in English must have a certified English translation

- Elements of Asylum Eligibility:
 - Past persecution or well-founded fear of future persecution
 - On account of:
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Nationality
 - Religion
 - Political Opinion
 - Membership in a Particular Social Group (gender, age, family, sexual orientation, etc.)
 - Government is unable or unwilling to control the persecutors (or is the persecutor)
 - Not able to relocate safely inside the country

- Application:
 - Submit application to USCIS
 - Apply within 1 year of arriving in the U.S.
 - Though there is an exception for those who enter under humanitarian parole
 - Interview with USCIS
 - Granted asylum
 - Apply for lawful permanent resident status after 1 year with asylum

Other Options for Ukrainians Overseas

- Temporary parole program for Ukrainians outside the U.S.
- Announced 04/21/2022 and started 04/25/2022
- Requires a U.S. based supporter who agrees to financially support the Ukrainian for the duration of stay in the U.S.
- Provides 2 years of parole and work permit
- Does NOT provide pathway to lawful permanent residence or U.S. citizenship
- Only helps those with a U.S. tie (family or friend) willing and able to sponsor financially

Eligibility Requirements

- **Supporter:**
 - Required Status: U.S. citizen/national, LPR, nonimmigrant, asylee, refugee, parolee, deferred action beneficiary, TPS holder.
 - Passed security & background check
 - Demonstrate financial resources to receive, maintain & support the individual(s)

- **Beneficiary:**
 - Ukrainian national or non-Ukrainian immediate family member
 - Outside of U.S.
 - Immediate family member = spouse or common law partner, unmarried children under 21 (if under 18, must travel with parent)
 - Resided in Ukraine immediately before Russian invasion (through 02/11/22) & displaced as a result of invasion
 - Valid Ukrainian passport or child on a Ukrainian parent's passport. If not Ukrainian citizen – immediate family member of Ukrainian citizen beneficiary with a valid passport
 - Clear biographic & biometric security checks

Application Process

- Supporter files I-134 Affidavit of Support (online only through <https://my.uscis.gov/>), no fee
- Beneficiaries upload documents, including vaccination status
- Undergo background checks, may include an interview
- Once approved, print out bar code which is used to get commercial flight
- Enter U.S., get TB test within two weeks
- Apply for I-765 work permit

Remember – once in the U.S. can investigate pathway to lawful permanent residence

- Family based
- Employment based
- Diversity Lottery Visa (Ukrainian citizens are eligible)
- Humanitarian provisions
- Court remedies (e.g. cancellation of removal)

Overview:

- U.S. based relatives can apply for their relatives living in Former Soviet Union (FSU) countries
- Generally for certain religious groups from the FSU
- Must have a family relationship to beneficiary – child, spouse, sibling, parent, grandparent
- Can take several years and unpredictable
- There is an application period each year

Benefits:

- Enter as refugees – a permanent status
- Pathway to lawful permanent residence and U.S. citizenship
- Full resettlement services and benefits (public benefits, housing, employment, ESL, etc.)

If already applied and are in Europe:

- If come to U.S. on your own (not arranged by IOM), will not be able to get refugee status – will have to apply for separate status here/start over
- Advising people to get to safe place in Europe, inform IOM of whereabouts and contact info (icc@iom.int) and wait

- Permanent residents and U.S. citizens can file immigrant petitions
 - Visa must be available
 - If in the U.S., potentially can do an adjustment of status
 - If outside of the U.S., complete consular processing
- Adult Lawful Permanent residents can file for:
 - Spouses and unmarried children under 21
 - Unmarried sons and daughters (21 and over)
- Adult U.S. citizens can file for:
 - Spouses, unmarried children under 21, parents
 - Unmarried children 21 and over
 - Married children
 - Brothers and sisters

Questions?

World Relief Chicagoland
Immigration Legal Services

World Relief DuPage
191 S. Gary Ave Ste. 130
Carol Stream, IL 60188
630-462-7660

World Relief Aurora
73 S. La Salle St.
Aurora, IL 60505
630-906-9546

World Relief Chicago
3507 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
(773) 583-9191

For more information
visit our website at:
<https://chicagoland.worldrelief.org/>

Stay connected to us on social media:

