

## **New Parole Program for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans**

*The following information about the new parole program is meant as a general summary of the program. Details about eligibility requirements and the application process can be found at the following website: <https://www.uscis.gov/CHNV>*

### **Who can submit an application?**

Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan beneficiaries cannot directly apply for parole, they must have a sponsor. Sponsors can be any person in the US with lawful immigration status (including parole, deferred action, lawful nonimmigrant status, and deferred enforced departure). They must be able to demonstrate sufficient financial resources to support the beneficiary for whom they are applying and pass security and background checks.

### **Who is eligible to be included in the application?**

A national of Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, or Venezuela (or their immediate family member of any nationality) who is outside of the United States and who may be considered for parole. Immediate family members of any nationality in these processes include: a spouse or common-law partner; and unmarried children under the age of 21. Children under the age of 18 must be traveling to the US with their parent or legal guardian.

### **Can I apply for a national of one of these four countries that is in the US?**

Unfortunately, no. Eligibility requires that the beneficiary be outside of the United States.

### **Do I need to be related to the beneficiary?**

No.

### **How do I apply?**

To start, the sponsor must complete and file an I-134A, Online Request to be a Supporter and Declaration of Financial Support, with USCIS through the online myUSCIS web portal to initiate the process.

### **Do I need an immigration lawyer or professional to assist me in filing the I-134A?**

While it may be helpful to work with an experienced immigration professional, you may complete this form yourself. World Relief Chicagoland has a limited number of appointments available. Please call 630-462-7660 (DuPage) or 630-906-9546 (Aurora) for an appointment. There will be a nominal charge for the appointment. Also, there are other legal service organizations in the Chicago area that may also be assisting people with completing these applications. Visit this website for more information: <https://www.immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/legaldirectory/search?state=IL>.

### **Is there a USCIS fee for filing the form I-134A?**

No.

### **How long will the process take?**

As this is a new program, it is uncertain how long the process will take.

### **What documentation will I need?**

As a sponsor, you will need evidence of your ability to support the people for whom you are applying. This can include your tax return, bank statements, letter from your employer, and other proof of assets. The beneficiary will need to prove their nationality (with document such as a birth certificate), possess an unexpired passport valid for international travel, and demonstrate that a grant of parole is warranted based on significant public benefit or urgent humanitarian reasons, and that a favorable exercise in discretion is otherwise merited.

**How do I know if my income and assets are sufficient?**

Immigration says there is no specific threshold of income required. However, the supporter must be able to demonstrate that they have sufficient income or financial resources to support the beneficiary for the two-year period of parole.

**If my income and assets are insufficient, can another person join with me to support the beneficiary?**

Yes. Multiple sponsors may join to support one or more beneficiaries. One primary sponsor should submit the I-134A and include supplementary evidence demonstrating the identity and resources of the additional sponsors, along with a statement explaining the intent to share responsibility.

**What happens once the I-134A is submitted?**

USCIS will review the application to make sure the sponsor has sufficient financial income and conduct background checks on the sponsor. USCIS may contact the sponsor if additional evidence or information is needed.

**What happens if my application is approved?**

USCIS will email the beneficiary with instructions on next steps. These steps include creating an online account, submitting biographic information, and providing photo. They must also pass background and security checks, including vaccination requirements. The case status can be tracked online. Once the parole is approved it is valid for 90 days. Beneficiaries are responsible for securing their own travel via air to the U.S.

**What happens if my application is denied?**

A denial of the I-134A is final and cannot be appealed. However, the sponsor may file a new Form I-134A for the same or different beneficiary, or a different sponsor may file for the beneficiary.

**How will the beneficiary travel to the US?**

Once the application has been approved, the beneficiary is responsible to arrange and pay for their air travel. The authorization to travel to the U.S. is valid for 90 days.

**What immigration status will the beneficiary have and how long can they lawfully stay in the US? Can they work?**

If the application is granted, their immigration status will be “parolees” and they may stay in the US temporarily for two years. The beneficiary may apply for discretionary work authorization.

***THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE. PLEASE CONSULT AN IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY OR DOJ ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVE REGARDING YOUR SITUATION PRIOR TO TAKING ANY ACTION.***