

July 24, 2024 Update: Parole in Place for Spouses of U.S. Citizens: Available Starting August 19, 2024

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has introduced a new process for noncitizens married to U.S. citizens, allowing them to apply for Parole In Place (PIP) and adjust their immigration status to Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders) without leaving the United States. Applications for PIP will be accepted beginning August 19, 2024.

This initiative benefits individuals who entered the U.S. without formal admission or parole by immigration officers, enabling them to apply for permanent resident status within the country. Previously, such individuals had to leave the U.S. to obtain this status. Those who do not qualify for PIP must continue to seek immigration waivers and immigrant visas at U.S. consulates abroad.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) estimates that over 500,000 noncitizen spouses who have resided in the U.S. for at least ten years could benefit from this process.

Parole In Place Eligibility Requirements for Noncitizen Spouses

- Continuous physical presence in the U.S. for at least ten years as of June 17, 2024
- Legally married to a U.S. citizen as of June 17, 2024
- No disqualifying criminal history and not considered a threat to national security or public safety
- Physical presence in the U.S. without admission or parole
- Must merit a favorable use of discretion by USCIS

USCIS may also consider certain noncitizen children of PIP requestors if they have been physically present in the U.S. without admission or parole as of June 17, 2024, and have a qualifying stepchild relationship to a U.S. citizen.

Next Steps for Eligible Applicants

Eligible individuals should start collaborating with a qualified immigration attorney to prepare the necessary documentation for their PIP application, which can be submitted starting August 19, 2024. Ensure that all applications are made through the official USCIS website.

Note that a PIP application currently exists, but this is not the application that should be submitted. The current PIP application is for family members of military personnel. If this application does not apply to you, it will be rejected and filing fees will not be refunded.

For more information, please contact Angel Law Firm, PL. We are here to assist you in navigating this new opportunity.