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Fact Sheet: Temporary Protected Status for Venezuela

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On Friday, March 8, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas [designated Venezuela for Temporary Protected Status \(TPS\)](#) for 18 months until September 9, 2022. On July 11, 2022, Mayorkas announced the extension of Venezuela's designation for TPS for 18 months. This extension will be in effect from September 10, 2022, through March 10, 2024.

What is Temporary Protected Status (TPS)?

[Temporary Protected Status \(TPS\)](#) is a temporary immigration status granted by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to individuals who are unable to return home safely due to civil war, natural disaster, or other conditions or circumstances preventing their return to their home country.

During the designated TPS period, TPS holders cannot be deported from the United States and cannot be detained by DHS on the basis of their immigration status. TPS holders are eligible for an employment authorization document (EAD) and for travel authorization.

What does the extension of TPS for Venezuela mean?

This extension enables beneficiaries of the initial designation of Venezuela for TPS who were already residing in the United States in March 2021 to re-register for TPS and apply to renew their EADs, if they otherwise continue to meet eligibility requirements.

USCIS will issue new EADs with a March 10, 2024, expiration date to eligible Venezuelan TPS beneficiaries who timely re-register and apply for EADs. Given the time frames involved with processing TPS re-registration applications, DHS recognizes that not all re-registrants may receive new EADs before their current EADs expire on September 9, 2022. Accordingly, through [this Federal Register notice](#), DHS automatically extends the validity of these EADs previously issued under the original TPS designation of Venezuela through September 9, 2023.

How do I prove my EAD was automatically extended?

To prove your EAD is extended until September 9, 2023, TPS beneficiaries can show their EADs issued under Category A-12 or C-19 and a "Card Expires" date of September 9, 2022 if requested by an employer. The Federal Register notice explains how TPS beneficiaries and their employers may determine which EADs are automatically extended.

What is the difference between the designation period and the registration period?

The registration period determines how long individuals have to apply for TPS. Under the extension of Venezuelan TPS, individuals re-registering must do so during the 60-day re-registration period from September 8, 2022, to November 7, 2022. Venezuelans who arrived in the United States after March 8, 2021, are not eligible for TPS.

The designation period determines how long TPS and the protections under TPS are valid. Through the extension, Venezuelan TPS is valid from September 10, 2022, through March 10, 2024.

Who is eligible for TPS under the Venezuelan extension?

Only beneficiaries of the initial designation of Venezuela for TPS who were already residing in the United States in March 2021 are eligible to re-register for TPS and apply to renew their EADs, if they otherwise continue to meet eligibility requirements.

Is TPS status given automatically?

No, TPS is not automatic. People must apply, pay a filing fee, and pass immigration screening. The application process can be complicated and we recommend contacting a licensed immigration attorney.

[Other eligibility criteria are detailed the Federal Register notice.](#)

Can I apply for TPS if I am in removal proceedings?

Yes, you can apply for TPS if you are in removal proceedings or if you have an appeal before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA).

How long will eligible individuals have protection under TPS?

TPS is a temporary status. The Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas is extending Venezuela for TPS for 18 months, until March 10, 2024. TPS status can, however, be extended.

Get Help

The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota (ILCM) provides free immigration legal services to low-income immigrants in a variety of immigration matters. For more information about how we can assist you, please visit our website at www.ilcm.org or call us at (651) 641-1011.