

Afghan Placement and Assistance (APA) Program

Certain Afghan nationals at risk who are granted humanitarian parole into the United States are eligible for the U.S. Department of State's Afghan Placement and Assistance (APA) Program.

The Department of State is providing temporary housing facilities for SIV applicants and certain other Afghan nationals at the National Conference Center (NCC) in Leesburg, Virginia. While at the NCC, Afghans will have access to medical care as needed, apply for work authorization, undergo cultural orientation, and will be matched with a resettlement agency in local communities across the country.

APA Resettlement Agencies

CWS: Church World Services ECDC: Ethiopian Community

Development Council

EMM: Episcopal Migration Ministries

HIAS

IRC: International Rescue Committee LIRS: Lutheran Immigration and

Refugee Service

USCCB: United States Conference of

Catholic Bishops

USCRI: U.S. Committee for Refugees

and Immigrants **WR:** World Relief

Placement of individuals in local communities prioritizes reunification with U.S.-based family or friends and considers the needs and characteristics of each case, as well as the suitability and capacity of the community to receive them.

The purpose of the APA Program is to provide certain Afghans granted parole with initial relocation services for 30 to 90 days after arrival as they begin to rebuild their lives in the United States. These services are provided through local refugee resettlement agencies and community partners. A one-time per capita amount of \$2,275 is provided to the resettlement agencies, of which \$1,225 is available for agencies to use to fund critical direct assistance needs such as housing and basic necessities, including food, clothing, and furnishings during the first 30-90 days in their new communities. Services include cultural orientation, assistance with enrollment in English language services as eligible, assistance with school enrollment, access to immigration assistance, and referral to other social, medical, and employment services, as eligible. The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) in the Department of Health and Human Services provides longer term benefits and services for Afghans granted parole. Information about ORR benefits can be found at Benefits for Afghan Humanitarian Parolees fact sheet.

As with resettlement, the APA Program is, at its core, a public-private partnership. Resettlement agencies conduct extensive engagement with local communities to develop resources and support. Potential donors and volunteers can go contact the nearest local resettlement office at https://www.wrapsnet.org/afghans-granted-humanitarian-parole/ or go to welcome.us to register their support, learn how to get involved, and become connected with organizations working to help meet needs.