

Information for U.S. Affiliated Afghan Nationals Regarding U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) Referrals

As of August 2, 2021, Afghan nationals affiliated with the U.S. government may be referred to the USRAP if they meet the [eligibility criteria](#). **An individual cannot directly refer themselves to the USRAP and must be referred by a U.S. government agency, [U.S.-based NGO, or U.S.-based media organization](#)** provided they meet the qualifications.

If you believe you are eligible for the P-2 program, you must contact the U.S. government agency, U.S.-based NGO, or U.S.-based media organization that you were affiliated with and provide them with [this chart](#) about yourself and your family and include information about the qualifying organization you worked for and your dates of employment. It is the responsibility of the U.S. government agency, U.S.-based NGO, or U.S.-based media organization to submit a referral to us, following established processes, after reviewing and confirming your eligibility.

If possible, you should also provide your referrer scans of the following documents:

- Documents to establish identity: passport; national ID (Tazkira); birth certificates
- Documents to establish relationships: marriage, divorce, death, and/or birth certificates
- Documents to establish employment history: employment badges, employer affidavit

Whether or not you are still in Afghanistan, a U.S. government agency, U.S.-based NGO, or U.S.-based media organization can still refer you to the P-2 program. However, case processing cannot begin until/unless you relocate to an **eligible** processing country. Processing is not feasible in Afghanistan, Iran, North Korea, Syria, and Yemen.

*Note: If you are an Afghan national well-known to a direct-hire American employee of U.S. Embassy Kabul and face or have faced imminent harm in Afghanistan, you may qualify for an Embassy P-1 referral. Please note that **you cannot directly refer yourself to the P-1 program**. A U.S. government official seeking to make a P-1 referral must have known you personally in Afghanistan and will need to obtain the relevant Senior Executive Service/Senior Foreign Service official's approval prior to referring you to the P-1. You should reach out to your U.S. government contact directly to ask about a potential P-1 referral. Although P-1 referrals can be made for Afghan nationals who remain in Afghanistan, case processing cannot begin until/unless you leave Afghanistan.*

After the USRAP has received your referral from a U.S. government agency, U.S.-based NGO, or U.S.-based media organization, **and** you have relocated to a country where refugee processing can occur, you will need to inform us of your current location and contact information for your

referral to be assigned to a U.S.-funded overseas Resettlement Support Center (RSC) for case processing. You would email <USRAPAfghanReferrals@state.gov> with the subject heading “XX: Request from <Last Name> to Confirm Afghan P1 or P2 Referral and Begin Processing.” Please include the following information in the body of your email:

- **Mandatory**: Full name (LAST, First): (include possible spelling variations)
- **Mandatory**: DOB (DD-MMM-YYYY): [Example: 04-MAR-2001]
- Afghan Referral Record Number (if known)
- Passport #:
- National ID (Tazkira) #:
- Principal Applicant’s phone number at time of referral:
- Principal Applicant’s email address at time of referral:
- Which U.S. government agency and/or individual referred you:
- Current phone number (if different from above):
- Current email address (if different from above):
- Current location (including address):

Please be advised: The United States is unable to provide protection or support to you while you await a decision on your refugee case. **If you are being persecuted or fear persecution in Afghanistan and have relocated to another country, you should follow procedures to register for international protection and assistance as a refugee with the government of the country you are in. You can also register and seek assistance from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).** More information can be found at <https://help.unhcr.org/>.

Case processing can be lengthy (potentially 12-14 months), so please be aware that this process could require living in and supporting yourself and your family in a third country for a substantial amount of time until case processing is complete. Even if you qualify for the P-1 or P-2 program and travel outside of Afghanistan, there is no guarantee that you will be approved for resettlement to the United States. In particular, all applicants must pass extensive security checks and complete an interview with a Department of Homeland Security/US Citizenship and Immigration Services officer.

Finally, if you are eligible for the [Special Immigrant Visa \(SIV\)](#) program, you should **not** seek a USRAP referral.