

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Transitional Assistance

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Online Guide Transmittal 2023-37 May 11, 2023

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff

From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management

Re: Cross Program: Additional Parole Process for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has announced a process through which nationals of Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela, and their immediate family members, may request to come to the United States in a safe and orderly way. Qualified beneficiaries who are outside the United States and lack U.S. entry documents may be considered, on a case-by-case basis, for advanced authorization to travel and a temporary period of parole for up to two-years for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.

Individuals who are nationals of Cuba or Haiti who travel to the United States through this parole process are immediately eligible for SNAP, TAFDC, and EAEDC as Cuban/Haitian Entrants.

However, individuals who are nationals of Nicaragua and Venezuela who travel to the United States under the same process are held to Parolee eligibility criteria for SNAP and TAFDC and are not eligible without meeting additional conditions. These individuals meet noncitizen eligibility criteria for EAEDC benefits.

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Purpose

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to advise of:

- A parole process for individuals from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela to enter the United States; and
- New COA codes for individuals who arrive through this process.

Documentation

Individuals who enter the US under the parole process for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans may present a copy of their electronic Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record, from the U.S Customs and Border Protection website, which will include one of the following Classes of Admission (COAs):

- CHP
- HHP
- NHP
- VHP

They may also have one or more of the following:

- Paper Form I-94 with a COA of CHP, HHP, NHP, or VHP;
- Foreign passport with parole stamp that includes a COA of CHP, HHP, NHP, or VHP; or
- Form I-766, Employment Authorization Document (EAD) with a C11 category

Please Note: These individuals are not employment authorized upon the issuance of their parole status. They must have an EAD to be employment authorized. Individuals arriving from Cuba or Haiti under this process, without employment authorization, will require a Non-work SSN Letter.

SAVE Verification

Based on information from the client's documentation, SAVE will provide an initial verification response of Parolee with a COA of CHP, HHP, NHP, or VHP. The initial response may also include employment authorization information if the parolee has an EAD. Additional verification may be required in limited circumstances, such as when the applicant information submitted does not match federal immigration records.

Revised Online Guide Pages

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Book: General Nonfinancial Requirements

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Subchapter: Eligible Qualified Noncitizens

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Topic: SNAP

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Topic: TAFDC

Book: Program Nonfinancial Requirements

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Topic: TAFDC

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Questions

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email them to DTA.Procedural Issues.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.