



Temporary Protected Status for Venezuela Updated March 9, 2021

Venezuela has been designated for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 18 months, effective March 9, 2021 through September 9, 2022. This allows certain Venezuelan nationals and individuals without nationality who last resided in Venezuela to file initial applications for TPS from **March 9, 2021 through September 5, 2021**.

FIND THE RIGHT HELP!

For more information and to obtain referrals for free legal services, call the **New Americans Hotline** at **(800) 566-7636**, available Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-8:00 pm.

What is TPS?

TPS is a temporary immigration status that allows people to remain in the U.S., apply for a work permit, and apply for travel authorization. The Department of Homeland Security may decide to extend TPS when the original period expires.

Who is Eligible for TPS for Venezuela?

Venezuelan nationals and individuals without a nationality who last resided in Venezuela may qualify for TPS if they:

- have continuous presence in the U.S. since March 9, 2021;
- have continuously resided in the U.S. since March 8, 2021;
- have not voluntarily returned to Venezuela or to a country in which they last resided outside the U.S.;
- are not inadmissible/removable because of security grounds;
- do not have prior convictions of any felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the U.S.;
- are not subject to any of the mandatory bars to asylum, including participation in the persecution of others, or engaging in or inciting terrorist activity.

When to Apply for TPS for Venezuela

Initial Applications for TPS for Venezuelans must be submitted during the registration period of **March 9, 2021 to September 5, 2021**. In some instances, late registration is allowed.

How to Apply for TPS

- [Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status](#) and supporting documents must be filed during the registration period of March 9, 2021 through September 5, 2021.
- For work permits: [Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization](#) – can be filed with Form I-821 or later.
- For permission to travel: [Form I-131, Application for Travel Document](#) – can be filed later.
- All applications can be downloaded for free on the USCIS website. However, there are fees to submit the applications. If you cannot pay, you can request fee waivers for the TPS application and the work permit. There is no fee waiver for the travel document.

Evidence Needed to Apply for TPS for Venezuelans

Evidence that must be submitted in support of the initial TPS application:

Proof of Identity and Nationality:

- passport; birth certificate, accompanied by photo identification; and/or any national identity document from Venezuela with a photo and/or fingerprint;
- if you do not have any of the primary evidence listed above, you may submit an affidavit with secondary evidence.

Date of Entry into the US and proof that you have resided in the U.S. since March 8, 2021 and continuous presence since March 9, 2021:

- Copy of passport;
- I-94 Arrival/Departure Record;
- Copies of :
 - U.S. employment records;
 - rent receipts, utility bills, receipts or letters from companies;
 - U.S. school records;
 - U.S. hospital or medical records;
 - attestations by church, union or other organization officials who know the applicant and where s/he has been residing;
 - money order receipts for money sent in or out of the country; birth certificates of children born in the U.S.; dated bank transactions; correspondence with date and address; automobile license receipts, title, vehicle registration; deeds, mortgages, contracts; tax receipts; insurance policies; receipts.

What About DED?

A January 19, 2021 Presidential Memorandum announced Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) for certain Venezuelan nationals and habitual residents if they were present in the U.S. on **January 20, 2021** and have resided in the U.S. continuously since that date. **DED is valid for 18 months, through July 20, 2022.** DED is an administrative stay of removal ordered by the President. **It is not an immigration status**, but those covered by DED are not subject to removal from the U.S. and are usually allowed to apply for work and travel authorization for the designated period of time.

Those who are granted TPS and are also covered by DED do not need to apply for work authorization under both programs.

Individuals who believe they are eligible for TPS are encouraged to **apply between March 9 and September 5, 2021, even if they are also covered by DED**, in case they cannot qualify for a late TPS filing after their DED expires and if DED is not extended by the President.