



Frequently Asked Questions: The Haitian Family Reunification Parole Program

What is the Haitian Family Reunification Parole (HFRP) program?

The HFRP program was implemented in 2015 for Haitian nationals who are the beneficiaries of family-based immigrant visa petitions filed by certain family members in the United States. The intent of the program was to expedite family reunification by granting parole to eligible Haitians awaiting visa availability.¹

Who is eligible to apply?

A lawful permanent resident (LPR) or U.S. citizen petitioner may seek parole for a qualifying relative in Haiti if the petitioner filed an I-130 petition for that family member on or before Dec. 18, 2014, an immigrant visa number is not yet available, and the petitioner received an invitation from the National Visa Center (NVC) to participate in the HFRP program. The NVC was tasked with identifying I-130 petitions with priority dates expected to become current within 18-42 months and then issuing invitations to the U.S. petitioners to submit requests for parole for their family members. Under the program, the applicant had six months from the date of the NVC invitation letter to apply for parole under HFRP.

Is HFRP still in effect?

Yes, the program remains in effect. In August 2019, under the Trump administration, USCIS announced that it would terminate the HFRP program in accordance with Executive Order 13767. In a Federal Register notice dated Dec. 28, 2020, the USCIS requested public comments on the proposed changes to the instructions for Form I-131 that would terminate the HFRP program.² In late 2021, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that it would reverse the decision to terminate the HFRP program and that the program remains in

¹ More information about the program can be found on the USCIS website, uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-parole/the-haitian-family-reunification-parole-hfrp-program.

² Agency Information Collection Activities; Revision, of a Currently Approved Collection: Application for Travel Document. Removal of Instructions Regarding the Haitian Family Reunification Program and Filipino World War II Veteran Parole Program, USCIS, 85 Fed. Reg. 84362, [federalregister.gov/documents/2020/12/28/2020-28475/agency-information-collection-activities-revision-of-a-currently-approved-collection-application-for](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/12/28/2020-28475/agency-information-collection-activities-revision-of-a-currently-approved-collection-application-for) (Dec. 28, 2020).

effect.³ In addition, in April and June 2023, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and USCIS announced that the HFRP would be modernized.⁴ The updated program appears to continue to limit applicants to those who have been invited to participate, but is moving towards a simplified online I-134A application process, and eliminating the need for interviews at Port-Au-Prince or any other consular post. Practitioners should continue to consult the USCIS website for the most up-to-date information.

Note that there is a separate parole program designed for those Haitians seeking safe haven in the United States. This separate program has less stringent requirements as well as the potential to be faster. A Haitian applicant could pursue both options. More information about this newly announced program can be found on the USCIS website and CLINIC's FAQ on the program.⁵

Can an individual granted parole under HFRP apply for adjustment of status?

Assuming a visa is available based on the approved I-130 petition and there has been no lapse in parole status, HFRP grantees are eligible to apply for adjustment of status under INA § 245(a).

³ Alert, The Haitian Family Reunification Program (HFRP), USCIS, uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-parole/the-haitian-family-reunification-parole-hfrp-program (last updated June 22, 2022).

⁴ Fact Sheet: U.S. Government Announces Sweeping New Actions to Manage Regional Migration, DHS, dhs.gov/news/2023/04/27/fact-sheet-us-government-announces-sweeping-new-actions-manage-regional-migration (April 27, 2023) and Family Reunification Parole Process, USCIS, uscis.gov/FRP (last updated June 7, 2023).

⁵ [Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans, USCIS, uscis.gov/CHNV](https://uscis.gov/CHNV) and Resources on Parole, CLINIC, cliniclegal.org/resources/parole.