

## DHS Announces Termination of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Certain Venezuelans

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### IMPORANT UPDATES ON TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR VENEZUELA

On February 3, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) [announced](#) the decision to terminate the [October 3, 2023 designation](#) of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Venezuela. **This decision impacts an estimated 348,000 Venezuelans who currently live in the U.S., would have arrived between March 9, 2021 and July 31, 2023**, and who are in the process of seeking or have already received TPS under that designation. The decision was officially published in the [Federal Register on February 5, 2025](#) and indicates the termination is **effective April 7, 2025**. Therefore, after April 7, 2025, nationals of Venezuela (and people having no nationality who last habitually resided in Venezuela) who have been granted TPS under the 2023 Venezuela designation will no longer have TPS. The Trump administration has chosen not to provide any transition period for individuals affected by this decision. **This is a notable and unprecedented decision in the [long history of the Temporary Protected Status law which was enacted in 1990 \(8 U.S.C. §1254a\)](#).**

**The termination does not impact Venezuelan nationals who hold TPS under the previous 2021 designation** and who re-registered under subsequent extensions. The 2021 TPS designation for Venezuela, which protects approximately 250,000 Venezuelans who were present in the U.S. on or before March 8, 2021, **is still in place and set for expiration on September 10, 2025**. The decision about the status of the 2021 TPS designation **is due by July 12, 2025**.

The 2023 TPS termination decision follows a series of rapidly changing policy announcements that have caused significant concern and mass confusion. On January 28, 2025, [DHS Secretary Noem announced the rescission](#) of a January 10, 2025 Biden administration [decision to extend TPS for Venezuela for 18 months](#). The Trump administration's actions raise procedural and legal concerns that are expected to be reviewed by members of Congress and challenged in the courts.

### WHAT IS TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS?

TPS is a temporary immigration status that provides protection from deportation and eligibility for work authorization for certain eligible nationals of the designated country or stateless individuals who last habitually resided in the country of designation. Individuals must register for TPS and apply for work authorization to receive benefits. If TPS is granted, the beneficiary may also seek a TPS travel authorization document which may be used for travel abroad.

## WHO IS IMPACTED BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION TO TERMINATE THE 2023 DESIGNATION OF TPS FOR VENEZUELA

The Trump administration's decision to terminate the 2023 designation of TPS for Venezuela impacts approximately 348,000 Venezuelan nationals who received or were in the process of seeking TPS or an extension of TPS under this designation and the Biden administration's decision to extend TPS on January 10, 2025. Individuals who qualified for TPS under this designation would have arrived in the United States between March 9, 2021 and July 31, 2023.

TPS recipients under the 2023 designation should have an approval notice issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and Employment Authorization Document (EAD), or work permit, that was issued under the a(12) or c(19) category **valid through April, 2, 2025**.

### **Example Employment Authorization Document:**



For 2023 TPS recipients who were in the process of re-registering under the Biden Administration's January 2025 extension, the [Vacatur or notice cancelling the extension of TPS](#) indicates **USCIS will no longer accept Venezuela TPS re-registration applications and work permit extension requests.**

**USCIS will stop processing those re-registration applications and issue refunds of any fees paid. Additionally, USCIS will invalidate EADs; TPS Approval Notice (Form I-797); and Forms I-94, Arrival/Departure Records that have been issued with October 2, 2026 expiration dates.**

## WHO IS **NOT IMPACTED** BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION TO TERMINATE THE 2023 DESIGNATION OF TPS FOR VENEZUELA

Venezuelan nationals who have registered for or received TPS or an extension of TPS under the 2021 TPS designation for Venezuela are not impacted by the 2023 designation termination. These TPS recipients would have TPS approval and EAD or work permit

documents that are valid with the following dates: Sept. 9, 2022, March 10, 2024, Sept. 10, 2025. **Venezuelan nationals who have received TPS under the 2021 designation continue to hold TPS until September 10, 2025.** While the Trump administration is not expected to continue all the current TPS designations, there is a legal process that must be followed when making decisions to terminate, extend, and redesignate. Please review Global Refuge's [TPS Backgrounder](#) for more general information about TPS policy.

TPS recipients under the 2021 designation who received an automatic extension of work authorization in connection with a pending re-registration application should take note that the automatic extension of work authorization through March 10, 2025 remains in place. **However, the automatic extensions of work authorization valid through April 2, 2026 have been rescinded.**

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A TPS DESIGNATION ENDS

When a TPS designation ends, TPS beneficiaries return to the immigration status that they held prior to receiving TPS, unless that status has expired or the person has successfully acquired a new immigration status. For Venezuelan nationals, some TPS recipients also have parole, have applied for asylum, lawful permanent residency (LPR) or Green Cards based on family sponsorship, or other immigration benefits.

Nationals who have humanitarian parole in addition to TPS should immediately seek guidance from a qualified immigration legal services provider. See [Global Refuge's Parole Toolkit](#) for more information about parole and the importance of seeking screening for alternative immigration options.

Pending asylum applications should continue to be processed by the USCIS or in the immigration court and individuals with pending asylum applications should remain in the United States while awaiting a decision on their asylum case. **Venezuelan nationals with pending asylum or other immigration benefit applications should consult with a qualified immigration legal services provider immediately to understand their legal options and next steps.**

### ARE VENZUELANS ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS IN THE U.S.?

Generally, most non-citizens who are present in the U.S. on Temporary Protected Status are not eligible to apply for federal mainstream benefits, such as cash assistance through Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), health insurance through Medicaid, and food assistance through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

## OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER

1. Individuals who are affected by the 2023 TPS termination should take immediate action and contact a qualified immigration legal services provider, if they are not already working with one. A listing of nonprofit immigration legal services providers can be found at [www.immigrationadvocates.org/legaldirectory/](http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/legaldirectory/).
2. The loss of an immigration document or status can be unsettling and cause anxiety. We encourage you to [learn more about your rights in the U.S. and how to prepare your family](#) for changes ahead. We also encourage seeking [mental health support](#).
3. The cancellation or Vacatur of the Biden administration's January 10, 2025 decision to extend TPS for Venezuela and the termination of the 2023 TPS designation for Venezuela without a wind down or transition period is unprecedented. Both actions have raised significant procedural and legal concerns. We expect these decisions to be reviewed and challenged in the courts. If future litigation challenging these decision results in an injunction, affected individuals may be able to access TPS protection and work permits again.
4. Beware of immigration fraud/notario fraud! Notary publics in the United States are **not** attorneys. Be careful of who you involve in assisting with immigration applications. You can find more information on how to report immigration fraud [here](#).