



## **The Presidential Proclamation Suspending Entry of Certain Immigrants During the Recovery to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

### **Who does the Presidential Proclamation impact?**

The Proclamation Impacts Immigrants who are:

- Outside the U.S. on April 23, 2020 and
- Do not have an immigrant visa (meaning, had not had the consular interview and been approved to enter the United States) on or before April 23, 2020, and
- Do not have travel document (advance parole, transportation letter, or boarding foil) valid on April 23, 2020 or issued after that date, and
- Are trying to enter the U.S. as a step in the green card process in the next 60 days.

The Proclamation Does NOT Impact Immigrants Who:

- Were inside the United States on April 23, 2020, or
- Are already lawful permanent residents (green card holders), or
- Have an immigrant visa that was valid on April 23, 2020, or
- Have an official travel document (advance parole, transportation letter, or boarding foil) that is valid on April 23, 2020 or issued after that date, or
- Are the spouse or under-21 child of a U.S. Citizen, or
- Are healthcare workers, physicians, medical researchers, or other researchers combating the pandemic, or their spouse or unmarried, under-21 children, or
- Recognized as essential workers, their spouse and unmarried, under-21 children, or
- Have a student, temporary worker, or other non-immigrant visa, or
- Are a member of the U.S. military or their spouse and children, or
- Are seeking asylum, withholding of removal, protection under the Convention Against Torture, or refugee status, or
- Are entering on Special Immigrant Visas with SI or SQ classifications, or
- Are a prospective adoptee of a U.S. Citizen under the IR-4 or IH-4 classifications or
- Applying for a visa through the EB-5 immigrant investor visa program, or
- Are determined to be a person whose entry would further important law enforcement objectives, or
- Are determined to be entering "in the national interest"

### **What does the Proclamation say about non-immigrant visas?**

For now, the Presidential Proclamation does not affect non-immigrant visas. However, the Proclamation hints that within the next 30 days, the Trump Administration will be considering whether to include non-immigrant visas in a similar executive action in the near future.

### **Does this really "temporarily suspend immigration into the United States" like the President said it would? Does it impact people who are already permanent residents?**

No. There are many immigrants who will continue to be able to enter the United States. The Proclamation's effect is small especially because many government offices had already closed or reduced operations because of the COVID-19 pandemic. It does not ban immigrants who are already permanent residents. For now, the Proclamation is set to last for only 60 days, although that period could be extended.

### **What is the purpose of this Proclamation?**

In the Proclamation, the President says he thinks immigrants would compete with U.S. citizen workers for jobs during the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the time immigrants do not compete with U.S. citizens for jobs, but instead increase job opportunities for citizens. According to the Small Business Administration, immigrants are 30% more likely to start a business. Businesses owned by immigrants hire workers. Immigrants put billions of dollars into our economy. The Presidential Proclamation is based on false and anti-immigrant beliefs. The Trump Administration seems to be trying to take advantage of the current crisis to cut immigration to the United States.

### **Questions?**

Please contact Catholic Migration Services in Brooklyn at (718) 236-3000 or in Queens at (347) 472-3500.

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**For more information, visit our website at [catholicmigration.org](http://catholicmigration.org)**

*As of April 30, 2020*