



General Information System (GIS) Message

Section 1

Transmittal:	23DC073 Upstate and New York City
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To:	Subscribers
Suggested Distribution:	Commissioners, TA Directors, HEAP Coordinators, SNAP Directors, Employment Coordinators, Fair Hearing Officers, Staff Development Coordinators, WMS Coordinators
From:	Valerie Figueroa, Deputy Commissioner Employment and Income Support Programs
Subject:	Implementation of the New Family Reunification Parole (FRP) Processes for Columbia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras
Effective Date:	Immediately
Contact Information:	Temporary Assistance Bureau at: 518-474-9344 or: tabureau@otda.ny.gov

Section 2

The purpose of this GIS message is to inform social services districts (districts) that the United States (U.S.) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently announced new family reunification parole (FRP) processes for certain nationals from Columbia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

The new FRP processes are available by invitation only to certain petitioners who filed an approved [Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative](#), on behalf of a principal beneficiary, and their immediate family. These processes allow an eligible beneficiary to be considered for parole into the U.S. on a case-by-case basis while they wait for their family-based immigrant visa to become available. These processes are a part of comprehensive federal measures to reduce dangerous and irregular migration across the Western Hemisphere and expand lawful pathways to enter the U.S.

Colombian, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, or Honduran nationals who enter the U.S. under the new FRP processes, or who are granted parole in another way, may be eligible for public benefits. The public benefits that such parolees are eligible for depends on the length of their parole and if they otherwise fulfill all the conditions of eligibility for the program. Non-citizens paroled into the U.S. for less than one year may be eligible for Safety Net Assistance (SNA), if they are otherwise eligible. Non-citizens paroled into the U.S. for one year or more may be eligible for federal public benefits such as Family Assistance (FA), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).

Please note that Colombian, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, or Honduran nationals who enter the U.S. under these new processes may be paroled into the U.S. for up to three years and are eligible to apply for employment authorization for the duration of their parole period. When determining eligibility for public benefits, districts should use the [LDSS-4579](#) as a guide when assigning the appropriate Welfare Management System (WMS) Alien Citizenship Indicator (ACI) code of “G – Non-Citizen Paroled into the U.S. for at Least One Year”, or “T – Non-Citizen Paroled into the U.S. for Less Than One Year”.

Acceptable Immigration Documentation

Parolees under the new FRP processes can obtain a copy of their electronic Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record, from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) website at: [194 - Official Website \(dhs.gov\)](#). The following is a list of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) documents that parolees under the new FRP processes may present to districts to verify they were granted FRP:

- Electronic or Paper Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record, with a class of admission (COA) of Colombia Family Reunification Parole (RCO), El Salvador Family Reunification Parole (RSV), Guatemala Family Reunification Parole (RGT), or Honduras Family Reunification Parole (RHN); or
- Foreign passport with parole stamp that includes a COA of RCO, RSV, RGT, or RHN; or
- Form I-766, Employment Authorization Document (EAD) with a C11 category, if they have applied for and received one, along with documentation indicating parole under the new FRP for Columbia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras; or
- Any other authoritative USCIS document indicating parole under the new FRP processes for Columbia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

The documents listed above are not the only forms of acceptable immigration documentation to support a non-citizen parolee status under the new FRP processes for Columbia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

For guidance on common documentation for other types of parolees, districts should refer to the [LDSS-4579](#). If a district has eligibility questions regarding any type of immigration documentation that a non-citizen presents, the district may contact the Temporary Assistance (TA) Bureau by calling: 518-474-9344 or emailing: tabureau@otda.ny.gov. The New York State (NYS) Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) will release further guidance, if necessary, should additional federal immigration policy changes occur.

SAVE System Verification

Based on information from the non-citizen’s immigration documentation, the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) system will provide an initial verification response of Parolee with a COA of RCO, RSV, RGT, or RHN for non-citizens granted parole through the new FRP processes. The initial SAVE system 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 non-citizen information submitted by the district does not match federal immigration records.

Colombian, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, or Honduran non-citizens paroled into the U.S. through other processes will have a general parole COA code, such as DT or PAR.

As a reminder, in accordance with [13-ADM-07](#): “Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program: Replacement of Manual Form G-845 (Document Verification Request) with Verification Information System Web-3 Access”, districts must use the SAVE system to verify non-citizens’ immigration documentation when determining their eligibility for TA. Benefits must not be delayed, denied, reduced, or terminated pending verification of non-citizens’ documentation through the SAVE system. If all other factors of eligibility have been established and the non-citizens are otherwise eligible, benefits must be granted while awaiting responses from the SAVE system.

Other Guidance

Districts are reminded to follow the guidance included in [07-INF-01](#): “Social Security Numbers for Aliens without United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Work Authorization,” when determining eligibility for non-citizens who have not met the benefit eligibility requirement to apply for/have a Social Security Number (SSN).

For guidance on determining benefit eligibility for other types of parolees, districts should refer to the [LDSS-4579](#), [GIS 21 TA/DC071](#), [GIS 22 TA/DC059](#), [GIS 23 TA/DC006](#), [GIS 23 TA/DC017](#) and [GIS 23 TA/DC036](#).

For additional information on FRP, please visit the following U.S. DHS website: [Family Reunification Parole Processes](#). Individuals with questions specific to FRP should be directed to contact their immigration attorney and/or referred to the NYS Office for New Americans (ONA) Hotline at: 1-800-566-7636.