

Important Notice:

Afghans who were paroled into the U.S. under “Operation Allies Rescue” or “Operation Allies Welcome” may be able to file for asylum more than one year after their legal entry into the U.S.

If you are in valid parole status, or you have Temporary Protected Status (TPS), you may have extra time to file your asylum application. Keep reading to find out more.

Usually, applicants for asylum must file their application within one year of their last entry to the United States. However, the law which creates that deadline also includes an exception.

The immigration service *may* still accept an asylum application as timely, even if it is filed more than one year after the applicant entered the United States. Here is what the U.S. Immigration and Customs Service (USCIS) says about the one year asylum deadline for Afghan parolees:

Generally, maintaining valid status or parole until a reasonable period before the filing of the asylum application will be considered an extraordinary circumstance. If you were granted valid status or parole within one year or the date of your last arrival in the United States and you applied for asylum within a reasonable period of time of the expiration of your valid status or parole, generally this extraordinary circumstance would apply to you. The USCIS website ‘Obtaining Asylum in the United States’ has more specific information:

<https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/refugees-and-asylum/asylum/obtaining-asylum-in-the-united-states> . Make sure to look under ‘Affirmative Asylum Processing with USCIS.’

This means that USCIS will generally consider an asylum application to be timely if an Afghan parolee files that application while they are still in valid parole or TPS status, even if they file the application more than one year after they entered the United States.

**** * The above information does not constitute legal advice. It is for general informational purposes. Consult a qualified legal representative about your specific circumstances. * ****

