

ADVANCE PAROLE

This is a document that allows an individual to re-enter the United States without an immigrant visa or non-immigrant visa after having traveled abroad. In addition, it must be granted before he or she leaves the U.S. If they have not obtained advance parole before traveling abroad, then there is a great possibility that they may not be permitted to re-enter the United States upon their return without obtaining the kind of visa.

Advance Parole does not guarantee admission into the United States. Individuals who have obtained Advance Parole are still subject to the inspection process at the port of entry. It takes about two to three months to process an Advance Parole application. Moreover, this document is renewable and is valid up to one year and during that period, an alien may make multiple entries into the United State. Renewal application must be filed at least 120 days before the previously issued advance parole expires.

Two Main Functions Of Advance Parole—This enables an individual to come back to the United States after traveling abroad without obtaining a visa to enter the United States AND/OR preserves the pending Adjustment of Status pending with the USCIS or other application for protected status that the alien has filed.

You May Apply for advance parole if you currently reside in the United States and have a personal or *bona fide* reason to travel temporarily abroad. Examples of a personal or bona fide reason to travel temporarily abroad may include an application for adjustment of status pending, being granted benefits under the Family Unity Program, being granted temporary protected status, having an asylum application pending. **Note:** You do not require an advance parole if you have applied for adjustment of status and are maintaining H-1 status (temporary workers in specialty occupations) or L-1 status (intra-company transferees), or are a dependent in H-4 or L-2 status.

You May Not Apply for advance parole if you are in the United States without a valid immigration status, a beneficiary of a private bill, in removal proceedings, currently in a valid non-immigration status, subject to the two year foreign residence requirement due to having held J-1 status.

To Apply, you must prove that you have a personal or *bona fide* reason to travel abroad. Your application must include the following (a) USCIS Form I-131, Application for Travel Document; (b) Two identical color photographs taken within 30 days of filing the application, showing full face (passport style) and with your head bare (unless you are wearing a headdress as required by a religious order of which you are a member), has a white background and be no larger than a 2x2 inches, with the distance from the top of the head to just below the chin about 1 and ¼ inches and glossy, un-mounted, un-retouched and printed on thin paper. **Note:** lightly print you A# or your name if you have no A# on the back of each photo using a pencil; (c) Copy of your current passport; (d) Copy of the USCIS Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Document issued to you while you entered the United States; (e) Copy of the receipt notice or other evidence that your application for Green Card is pending with the USCIS; (f) Copies of documents which indicate your current status.

To find out more about the procedural steps involved and an estimate of fees, call or email us today for your free in-depth consultation!