

Information for the Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan and Venezuelan (CHNV) parolees in New Jersey

This fact sheet provides only general information. This fact sheet **does not provide legal advice** and is not a substitute for assistance from qualified legal professionals. Each person's situation is different. Please consult an attorney for legal advice for your situation.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is proceeding with the termination of all unexpired parole statuses under the CHNV program. See June 6, 2025 [DHS Alert](#).

DHS has [indicated](#) that individuals affected by the termination have received or will receive notification on their myUSCIS accounts or by email. See June 12, 2025 [DHS Release](#). Those communications may address the termination of the individual's CHNV parole status and intend to also terminate any active work authorization previously obtained based on the individual's CHNV parolee status.

As of November 1, 2025, CHNV parolees whose status has been terminated may expect the following:

- **Work Authorization Revoked:** DHS has taken the position that individuals whose CHNV parole has been terminated cannot rely on work authorization they obtained in connection with their CHNV status to continue working.
- **If a CHNV Parolee has a pending application for another status:**
 - Any terminated CHNV parolee who has applied for a different immigration status, such as a pending asylum application, may be eligible to seek ancillary immigration benefits (including work authorization) while their application is under review by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).
 - Applications submitted by those who entered the United States as CHNV parolees may still experience heightened vetting from immigration officers.
 - Terminated CHNV parolees with pending applications before USCIS for other immigration status or benefits are encouraged to monitor the progress of their case and to retain any government-issued documents that show a pending application (e.g., any Form I-797C Notice of Action confirming USCIS's receipt of an immigration application or petition).



CHNV Parolees who do not depart the US:

Priority for Removal: The [March 2025 notice](#) announcing the intended termination of the CHNV program confirmed that all CHNV parolees who did not depart the United States and lacked an alternative basis to remain in the country would be viewed by DHS as targets for prompt removal. Certain CHNV parolees also face heightened risk of being "prioritized" for removal, with or without access to the immigration court process.

CHNV Parolees who do not have a pending application for another status:

The March 2025 notice instructed DHS to prioritize for removal CHNV parolees who (i) had not "properly filed," prior to March 25, 2025, an immigration benefit application (with appropriate fees or fee waiver) to obtain alternative immigration status and (ii) were not the beneficiaries of a petition for immigration benefits filed by someone else (such as a spouse, fiancé/ée or employer).

CHNV Parolees who have a pending application for another status:

- It is currently unclear whether DHS continues to prioritize for removal those who may have properly filed applications for immigration benefits after the March 2025 cutoff.
- It is unclear what constitutes a “proper filing” for an immigrant benefit. CHNV parolees are encouraged to retain evidence that they have an application pending before USCIS (e.g., any Form I-797C Notice of Action confirming USCIS’s receipt of an immigration application or petition). CHNV parolees who have been in the United States for less than 2 years: They may be particularly vulnerable to immigration enforcement because they are subject to expedited removal, a process that permits deportation without the right to speak to an attorney or appear before an immigration judge.
- **Credible Fear Interview:** If you are afraid of returning to your home country, you may state this fear when interacting with an immigration officer, who will be required to refer you for a Credible Fear Interview (CFI). If during that interview (which may be by phone) an asylum officer finds that you have demonstrated credible fear, the expedited removal order may be revoked and you may have access to the protections available in normal removal proceedings.



Resources Available for All, Regardless of Immigration Status

All others who may have lost their parole status may be eligible for other resources regardless of current immigration status.

Help and Support Available

Where to apply or get assistance

Children under 19 may apply for **NJ FamilyCare** regardless of their immigration status.

Apply online at www.njfamilycare.org

Food and nutrition assistance for pregnant woman and children up to 5 – **Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program**

Apply through a local agency, find the list at www.nj.gov/health/fhs/wic/participants/apply-wic/

Mental Health and Emotional Support

Call **1-866-202-4357** to talk to a trained professional

Legal Assistance

For a list of immigration attorneys near you, go to <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/file/probonofulllist/dl>

Benefits and Services Available for CHEs

For those who are Cuban or Haitian nationals, you may still be eligible for mainstream benefits and services as a Cuban and Haitian Entrant (“CHE”) if you meet the following criteria:

You may qualify as a Cuban-Haitian Entrant if you are a Cuban or Haitian national, and:

- 1) Granted parole status as a Cuban-Haitian Entrant;
- 2) or in removal proceedings (for whom a final, non-appealable, and legally enforceable order of deportation or exclusion has not been entered);
- 3) or with an application for asylum pending.

For more information on the CHE category and examples of documentation, visit:
<https://www.uscis.gov/save/resources/information-for-save-users-cuban-haitian-entrants>

CHEs may be eligible for mainstream benefits, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Medicaid. Note that qualifying as a “Cuban-Haitian Entrant” has an impact on benefit eligibility but does not confer an immigration status. The term is unrelated to CHNV parole status, and **the DHS Notice of March 25, 2025 terminating the CHNV program has no impact on eligibility of CHEs for mainstream benefits.**

Help and Support Available	Where to apply or get assistance
Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) - Cash Assistance for individuals without dependent children	Please contact the nearest RCA program near you. Visit the ONA Website for a list of service providers: https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/njnewamericans/programs/refugees/agencies/
Food Assistance – NJSNAP	Apply online or through your local county social service agency. Applications and a list of local offices is available at www.njsnap.gov . For more guidance on SNAP eligibility and the ending of the CHNV program see here: https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/admin/further-guidance-termination-chnv-parole-programs
Cash and Rental Assistance for families with children – TANF	Apply online at www.mynjhelps.gov or through your local county social service agency.
Health insurance coverage NJ FamilyCare (Medicaid)	Apply online at www.njfamilycare.org

Food and nutrition assistance for pregnant woman and children up to 5 – **Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program**

Apply through a local agency. The list of agencies is available at www.nj.gov/health/fhs/wic/participants/apply-wic/

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Eligibility for public benefits (TANF, Medicaid, and SNAP) includes financial and non-financial factors, such as eligible immigration status. Please check eligibility requirements online.

To learn more please see the ORR Benefits for Cuban/Haitian Entrants Fact Sheet:

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/fact-sheet/benefits-cuban/haitian-entrants>

For more information on Cuban and Haitian Entrants in New Jersey please visit the New Jersey Office of New Americans website <https://www.NewAmericans.NJ.Gov>

Or you can contact our Refugee Team at NJRefugeeProgram@dhs.nj.gov

The implementation of the CHNV program termination remains subject to change based on developments in litigation. It is important to check for up-to-date information that may affect your legal rights and obligations.

For more information:

