

Immigration Relief Legislation

The tables below include new immigration relief options in proposed legislation primarily introduced in the 119th Congress. These tables only address and compare the legalization provisions in each bill; please note that most of these bills include enforcement provisions and other major changes to existing forms of immigration relief not addressed here. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the entirety of these bills, not just the sections providing immigration relief, before taking a position on these bills.

Disclaimer: The bills described here are proposed legislation only. They are not law and the immigration relief listed is not available unless and until Congress passes the bills and they are signed into law. People should be cautious of notarios or others who claim these benefits are available now. For legal advice about current options, consult a licensed immigration attorney or an accredited representative.

All of these bills include measures:

- Providing people with work permits.
- Requiring applicants to pay fees unless exemptions or waivers are offered by the DHS Secretary.
- Requiring applicants to undergo background checks.
- Requiring applicants to submit documents to prove their eligibility.

The following bills are included in this table; these are a selection among many bills that have been introduced in recent years:

- Dignidad Act ([H.R. 4393](#))
- U.S. Citizenship Act ([H.R. 3194](#))
- American Dream and Promise Act of 2025 ([H.R. 1589](#))
- 2025 Dream Act ([S. 3348](#))
- Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929 ([H.R. 4696](#) / [S. 2468](#))
- Strengthening Our Workforce Act of 2025 ([H.R. 5098](#))
- Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2025 ([H.R. 3227](#))

Dignidad Act (H.R. 4393) There are three new immigration relief programs proposed in this bill: (1) Dream Act, (2) Dignity Program, and (3) American Families United			
	Dream Act	Dignity Program (DP)	American Families United
What type of immigration relief?	Conditional Permanent Residence (CPR) ⁱ status followed by access to Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) ⁱⁱ status after certain conditions are met and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status; if you have been in the U.S. since 2021, entered before the age of 19 , meet the education, military, or work requirements below, and meet additional requirements. ⁱⁱⁱ	"Dignity Status" if you have been in the U.S. since December 31, 2020 and meet additional requirements. ^{iv} "Dignity Status" is a temporary lawful status valid for 7 years and renewable. It <i>does not</i> lead to lawful permanent residence or citizenship.	Eliminates barriers ^v for many families who can now access existing family sponsorship options and eventually citizenship, but offers no direct path to citizenship.
Education Requirement OR	<p>For CPR status: Admitted to an institution of higher education or a postsecondary area career and technical school; has a high school diploma, General Educational Development (GED), or equivalent; has a career and technical certificate/credential; a postsecondary credential; or is currently in a secondary school or program working toward one of these.</p> <p>For LPR status: Has a higher education degree or other postsecondary credential from an area career and technical education school.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet this requirement.</p>	<p>Participants must be enrolled in higher education or an area career and technical school.</p> <p>Waiver available in some cases.</p>	None
Military Requirement	For CPR status: Must meet the education requirement first.	Participants can enlist in the military, and are eligible for lawful	None

<p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>For LPR status: Must have served for at least three years or received an honorable discharge.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet this requirement.</p>	<p>permanent resident (LPR) and citizenship status after serving one term.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Work Requirement</p>	<p>For CPR status: Must meet the education requirement first.</p> <p>For LPR status: Must have worked for at least four years, at least 75 percent of the time with valid employment authorization.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>	<p>Participants must be employed for at least 4 years.</p> <p>Waivers available in some cases.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>What are the inadmissibility bars? * (see appendix for explanations)</p>	<p>Immigration and Nationality Act section 212(a)(1), (2), (3), (6)(E), (6)(G), (8), (10)</p>	<p>INA section 212(a) except 212(a)(9) because the 3- and 10- year bars^{vi} don't apply</p>	<p>INA section 212(a)(2), (3), (10)(A), (C), (D)^{vii}</p>
<p>What are the criminal bars?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felony offense is an offense punishable by more than 1 year imprisonment. Misdemeanor 	<p>Any felony is a bar.</p> <p>Any 2 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).</p> <p>Any domestic violence misdemeanor is a bar (some exceptions in cases where the applicant has been a victim of abuse or criminal activity).</p>	<p>Any felony is a bar.</p> <p>Any 2 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).</p> <p>Any domestic violence misdemeanor is a bar (some exceptions in cases</p>	

<p>offense is an offense punishable by imprisonment more than 5 days but not more than 1 year.</p> <p>Exclusions apply, and waivers available in some cases.</p>	<p>Under a secondary review, DHS may provisionally deny an application if there is clear and convincing evidence that the person is a public safety threat or participated in criminal gang activity in the last 5 years.</p>	<p>where the applicant has been a victim of abuse or criminal activity).</p>	
<p>Any restitution or taxes requirements?</p>	<p>Must pay back any federal taxes owed.</p>	<p>Initial payment of \$1,000 to qualify (unless a prior TPS recipient, under the age of 18, or enlisted in the Armed Forces). Participants pay a total of \$7,000 over seven years into the H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Account for American workers.</p> <p>Must pay back any federal taxes owed. Participants pay an additional 1% income tax.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Any restrictions on public benefits use?</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Participants cannot receive certain federal benefits or programs. U.S. citizen children and dependents in the same household are exempt.</p>	<p>None</p>

	U.S. Citizenship Act (H.R. 3194) There are four new immigration relief programs proposed in this bill: (1) Lawful Prospective Immigrant Status, (2) The American Promise Act, (3) The Agricultural Workers Adjustment Act, and (4) Dream Act			
	Lawful Prospective Immigrant Status	The American Promise Act	The Agricultural Workers Adjustment Act	Dream Act
What type of immigration relief?	Lawful Prospective Immigrant (LPI) status followed by access to LPR status after certain conditions are met and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status; if you have been in the U.S. since 2023 , and meet additional requirements. ^{viii} Lawful Prospective Immigrant (LPI) is lawful status valid for 6 years and renewable. It <i>does</i> lead to lawful permanent residence and citizenship (similar to CPR status).	LPR status and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status if you have been in the U.S. since 2017 , with or eligible for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) as of January 1, 2017 , and meet additional requirements. ^{ix}	LPR status and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status for agricultural workers in the U.S. since 2017 , who meet the employment requirement below, and meet additional requirements. ^x	LPR status and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status if you have been in the U.S. since 2023 , entered before the age of 18 , meet the education, military, or work requirements below, and meet additional requirements. ^{xiii}
Education Requirement OR	None	None	None	For LPR status: has a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent; has a higher education degree; has a postsecondary credential from an area career and technical education; or completed in good

				<p>standing at least 2 years of a program leading to a bachelor’s degree or higher degree or a recognized area career and technical education postsecondary credential.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>
<p>Military Requirement</p> <p>OR</p>	None	None	None	<p>Must have served for at least two years or received an honorable discharge.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet this requirement.</p>
Work Requirement	None	None	<p>Agricultural worker who worked a total of at least 400 workdays or 2,300 hours in the U.S. during the five years before the date they apply.</p>	<p>Must have worked for at least three years, at least 75 percent of the time with valid employment authorization (these numbers may be reduced if enrolled in school).</p> <p>A waiver may be available for people unable to meet these requirements.</p>

What are the inadmissibility bars? * (see appendix for explanations)	INA section 212(a)(2),(3),(6)(E), (8),(10)(C), 10(E) ^{xi}	INA section 212(a)(2),(3),(6)(E), (8),(10)(C), 10(E)	INA section 212(a)(2),(3),(6)(E), (8),(10)(C), 10(E)	INA section 212(a)(2),(3),(6)(E), (8),(10)(C), 10(E)
What are the criminal bars? Felony offense is an offense punishable by more than 1 year imprisonment. Misdemeanor offense is an offense punishable by imprisonment more than 5 days but not more than 1 year. Exclusions apply, and waivers available in some cases.	Any felony is a bar. Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).	Any felony is a bar. Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).	Any felony is a bar. Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).	Any felony is a bar. Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).
Any restitution or taxes requirements?	Must pay back any federal taxes owed.	None	None	None
Any restrictions on public benefits use?	People in LPI status are not eligible for premium tax credits to help pay for health coverage.	None	None	Spouse and children included in the application are ineligible for federal benefits and programs for five years.

		American Dream and Promise Act of 2025 (H.R. 1589) There are two new immigration relief programs proposed in this bill: (1) Dream Act of 2025 and (2) The American Promise Act of 2025	
		Dream Act	American Promise Act of 2025
What type of immigration relief?	CPR status followed by access to LPR status after certain conditions are met and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status; if you have been in the U.S. since 2021, entered before the age of 19 , meet the education, military, or work requirements below, and meet additional requirements. ^{xii}	LPR status and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status if you have been in the U.S. for three years and with or eligible for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as of January 1, 2017 , or Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) as of January 20, 2021 .	
Education Requirement OR	<p>For CPR status: Admitted to an institution of higher education or a postsecondary area career and technical school; has a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent; has a career and technical certificate/credential; a postsecondary credential; or is currently in a secondary school or program working toward one of these.</p> <p>For LPR status: Has a higher education degree or completed in good standing at least 2 years of a program leading to a bachelor's degree or higher degree or a recognized area career and technical education postsecondary credential.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>	None	

<p>Military Requirement</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">OR</p>	<p>For CPR status: Must meet the education requirement first.</p> <p>For LPR status: Must have served for at least two years or received an honorable discharge.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Work Requirement</p>	<p>For CPR status: Must meet the education requirement first.</p> <p>For LPR status: Must have worked for at least three years, at least 75 percent of the time with valid employment authorization (these numbers may be reduced if enrolled in school).</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>What are the inadmissibility bars? * (see appendix for explanations)</p>	<p>INA section 212(a)(1), (2), (3), (6)(E), (6)(G),(8), (10)</p>	<p>INA section 212(a)(1), (2), (3), (6)(D), (6)(E),(6)(F), (6)(G),(8), (10).</p>
<p>What are the criminal bars?</p> <p>Felony offense is an offense punishable by more than 1 year imprisonment.</p> <p>Misdemeanor offense is an offense punishable by imprisonment more than 5 days but not more than 1 year.</p>	<p>Any felony is a bar.</p> <p>Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).</p> <p>Any domestic violence misdemeanor is a bar (some exceptions in cases where the applicant has been a victim of abuse or criminal activity).</p> <p>Under a secondary review, DHS may provisionally deny an application if there is clear and</p>	<p>Must not have engaged in conduct since January 1, 2017 that would make them ineligible for TPS or since January 20, 2021 that would make them ineligible for DED, including any felony or two or more misdemeanors.</p>

Exclusions apply, and waivers available in some cases.	convincing evidence that the person is a public safety threat or participated in criminal gang activity in the last 5 years.	
Any restitution or taxes requirements?	None	None
Any restrictions on public benefits use?	None	None

	2025 Dream Act (S 3348)	Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929 (H.R. 4696 / S. 2468)
What type of immigration relief?	CPR status followed by access to LPR status after certain conditions are met and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status; if you have been in the U.S. for the 4 years before the Act's enactment, entered before the age of 18 , meet the education, military, or work requirements below, and meet additional requirements. ^{xiii}	LPR status and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status if you have been in the U.S. for seven years.
Education Requirement OR	<p>For CPR status: admitted to an institution of higher education; has a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent; or is currently in a secondary school or program working towards one of these.</p> <p>For LPR status: has a higher education degree, or completed in good standing at least 2 years of a program leading to a bachelor's degree or higher degree.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>	None

<p>Military Requirement</p> <p>OR</p>	<p>For CPR status: Must have enlisted, served or currently be serving, or received an honorable discharge.</p> <p>For LPR status: Must have served for at least two years or received an honorable discharge.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Work Requirement</p>	<p>For CPR status: Must meet the education or military requirement first.</p> <p>For LPR status: Must have worked for at least three years, at least 75 percent of the time with valid employment authorization (these numbers may be reduced if enrolled in school).</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>What are the inadmissibility bars? * (see appendix for explanations)</p>	<p>INA section 212(a)(2), (3), (6)(E), (6)(G), (8), (10)(A), (10)(C), (10)(D)</p>	<p>INA section 212(a)(2) (A), (B), (C) (exceptions for certain marijuana-related offenses), (2)(D), (6)(E), 10(A), and 212(a)(3)(E).</p>
<p>What are the criminal bars? Felony offense is an offense punishable by more than 1 year imprisonment. Misdemeanor offense is an offense punishable by imprisonment more</p>	<p>Any felony is a bar.</p> <p>Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar.</p>	<p>None</p>

<p>than 5 days but not more than 1 year.</p> <p>Exclusions apply, and waivers available in some cases.</p>		
<p>Any restitution or taxes requirements?</p>	<p>Must pay back any federal taxes owed or entered into an agreement to pay back unpaid federal taxes.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Any restrictions on public benefits use?</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>None</p>

	Strengthening Our Workforce Act (H.R. 5098)	Farm Workforce Modernization Act of 2025 (H.R. 3227)
What type of immigration relief?	CPR status followed by access to LPR status after certain conditions are met and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status; for workers in the U.S. since 2024 who meet the work requirement below.	<p>Certified Agricultural Worker (CAW) status, followed by access to LPR status after certain conditions are met and citizenship status after 5 years of LPR status; for agricultural workers in the U.S. since the Act's introduction, who meet the work requirement below.</p> <p>Certified Agricultural Worker (CAW) is lawful status valid for 5.5 years and renewable. It <i>does</i> lead to lawful permanent residence (similar to CPR status).</p>
Education Requirement	None	None
Military Requirement	None	None
Work Requirement	<p>For CPR status: People who worked for a total of 100 days in a covered profession (including health care, sanitation, education, hotel, retail, domestic work, janitorial, transportation, warehousing, manufacturing). While having CPR status, maintains at least a total of 100 days of employment a year for two years in a row.</p> <p>Immediately gets LPR status (unless the person objects timely in writing) after paying a fee and passing a background check.</p>	<p>For Certified Agricultural Worker (CAW) status: Agricultural worker who worked a total of at least 180 days or 1,035 hours in the U.S. during the two years before the Act's introduction.</p> <p>For LPR status: CAW who worked at least 100 days or 575 hours each year. If CAW worked 10 or more years in agriculture before the Act's enactment, they must complete at least 4 more years of agricultural work to apply. If CAW worked less than 10 years in agriculture before the Act's enactment, they must complete at least 8 more years of agricultural work.</p> <p>An exception may be available for people who are unable to meet these requirements.</p>

<p>What are the inadmissibility bars? * (see appendix for explanations)</p>	<p>For CPR status: INA section 212(a)(1), (6)(E), (6)(G), (8), (10)^{xiii}</p>	<p>INA section 212(a)(1), (2), (3), (6)(B), (6)(E), (a)(10); 212(a)(9)(C) if based on the act of unlawfully entering the U.S. after the Act's introduction; 212(a)(6)(B) and (9)(A) if relevant conduct that began on or after the date of applying for CAW status.</p>
<p>What are the criminal bars?</p> <p>Felony offense is an offense punishable by more than 1 year imprisonment.</p> <p>Misdemeanor offense is an offense punishable by imprisonment more than 5 days but not more than 1 year.</p> <p>Exclusions apply, and waivers available in some cases.</p>	<p>Any felony is a bar.</p> <p>Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar (exceptions for certain marijuana-related and civil disobedience offenses).</p> <p>Any domestic violence misdemeanor is a bar (some exceptions in cases where the applicant has been a victim of abuse or criminal activity).</p>	<p>Any felony, including an aggravated felony, is a bar.</p> <p>Any 3 or more misdemeanors is a bar.</p> <p>Any 2 misdemeanor offenses involving "moral turpitude" is a bar.</p>
<p>Any restitution or taxes requirements?</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>For LPR status: may apply after paying a \$1,000 fine and pay back any federal taxes owed.</p>
<p>Any restrictions on public benefits use?</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>CAWs (and their spouses and children included in the application) are ineligible for federal benefits. CAWs are not eligible for premium tax credits to help pay for health coverage.</p>

***Appendix: Inadmissibility Bars**

In immigration law there is a list of certain things that can make you ineligible to be admitted to the U.S. or to become a lawful permanent resident (LPR). They are called inadmissibility bars. Sometimes there are exceptions and waivers specified in the legislation that you can apply for. Below is a list of the inadmissibility grounds referenced in the legislation covered in the table above:

INA 212(a)

- (1)(A)(i) (has a communicable disease of public health significance)
- (1)(A)(ii) (has not received required vaccinations)
- (1)(A)(iii)(I) (has a physical condition with harmful behavior or risk of recurrence)
- (1)(A)(iii)(II) (has a mental condition with harmful behavior or risk of recurrence)
- (1)(A)(iv) (is a drug abuser or addict)
- (2)(A)(i)(I) (convicted of or admits to a crime involving moral turpitude)
- (2)(A)(i)(II) (attempts or is convicted of or admits to a controlled substance violation)
- (2)(B) (two or more convictions with aggregate sentences of 5 years or more)
- (2)(C) (known or believed to be a drug trafficker or assisted trafficking)
- (2)(D) (engaged in prostitution or related activities)
- (3)(A)(i) (engaged in espionage, sabotage)
- (3)(A)(iii) (attempts to overthrow the U.S. government)
- (3)(B) (engaged in or supported terrorist activity)
- (3)(C) (entry would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences)
- (3)(E) (participated in nazi persecutions or genocide)
- (6)(A) (entered or is present in the U.S. without being admitted or paroled)
- (6)(C) (misrepresentation or fraud to obtain an immigration benefit)
- (6)(D) (entered or attempted to enter as a stowaway)

- (6) (E) (helped someone enter the U.S. unlawfully)
- (6)(F) (subject to civil penalties for immigration violations)
- (6)(G) (foreign government official who committed severe religious freedom violations)
- (8)(A) (permanently ineligible for citizenship)
- (8)(B) (inadmissible due to draft evasion)
- (9) (prior immigration violations including unlawful presence, unlawful re-entry leading to 3-year, 10- year, and permanent bars)
- (10)(A) (practicing polygamy)
- (10)(C) (has abducted or retained a child in violation of custody rights)
- (10)(D) (unlawful voters)
- (10)(E) (former citizens who renounced citizenship to evade taxation)

ⁱ Conditional Permanent Residency (CPR) includes permission to be in the U.S. and the opportunity to apply for LPR status after certain conditions are met.

ⁱⁱ Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) includes having permission to live and work in the U.S. permanently.

ⁱⁱⁱ Additional requirements are playing no role in persecuting people based on race, religion, nationality, social group, or political views; registering with the Military Selective Service, if eligible; not abandoning their U.S. residence while having CPR.

^{iv} Additional requirements to apply are registering, submitting a sworn declaration admitting to not having lawful immigration status and/or lawful presence in the U.S. After being approved, requirements include reporting every 2 years where you live and providing testimony of having good standing in the community, supporting dependents, complying with all federal and state laws, having qualifying health coverage.

^v A spouse or child of a U.S. Citizen can have their immigration proceedings or order of removal terminated, a ground of inadmissibility or deportability waived, and/or be granted permission to reapply for admission if there is a determination of hardship for a U.S. citizen spouse, child, or parent if removed from the U.S. (e.g. family separation is a presumed hardship).

^{vi} The 3-year and 10-year bars are tied to unlawful presence in the U.S. The 3-year bar is triggered when a person was unlawfully present in the U.S. for more than 180 days but less than 1 year and then departs the U.S. The 10-year bar is triggered when a person was unlawfully present in the U.S. for a year or more, and then departs the U.S. Once triggered, the person can be barred from being admitted for 3 years or 10 years, respectively.

^{vii} There are also deportability bars for certain crimes, unlawful voting, national security, or related grounds under INA section 237(a)(2), (4), or (6).

^{viii} Additional requirements to apply are being physical present in the U.S. when the application is submitted unless the person was removed or deported from the U.S. on or after 1/20/2017, had been in the U.S. for at least three years before leaving, and has not reentered unlawfully after 1/1/2023. After having LPI status for at least 5 years, can apply for LPR status if they remain eligible and have not been continuously absent from the U.S. for more than 180 days.

^{ix} Additional requirements to apply are being physical present in the U.S. when the application is submitted unless the person was removed or deported from the U.S. on or after 1/20/2017 and had been in the U.S. for at least three years before leaving.

^x Additional requirements to apply are being physical present in the U.S. when the application is submitted unless the person was removed or deported from the U.S. on or after 1/20/2017 and had been in the U.S. for at least three years before leaving.

^{xi} After traveling abroad using a LPI status document, LPI must establish that they are not inadmissible under INA section 212(a)(3)(A)(i), (A)(iii), (B), or (C).

^{xii} Additional requirements are playing no role in persecuting people based on race, religion, nationality, social group, or political views; registering with the Military Selective Service, if eligible; not abandoning their U.S. residence while having CPR.

^{xiii} There are also deportability bars for certain crimes, unlawful voting, national security related crimes, and all other grounds listed under INA section 237.