



SYRIAN TPS UPDATE

On January 31, 2018, Homeland Security (DHS) announced an 18-month extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Syrians until September 30, 2019. Unfortunately, under this announcement, Syrians who arrived in the U.S. after August 1, 2016 do not qualify for this program.

This is a list of important things Syrians with TPS should know and do now:

- 01 You continue to have authorization to live and work in the U.S.**

The DHS statement provides that TPS for Syrians is extended for 18-months. That means that if your re-register, you will be eligible to live and work in the U.S. through September 30, 2019. The decision on whether Syrian TPS will be extended beyond September 30, 2019 will be made by the DHS Secretary before that date.
- 02 Be prepared to re-register and apply for work authorization before March 31, 2018**

The announcement states that Syrian TPS beneficiaries must re-register to maintain work authorization and legal status in the U.S. through September 30, 2019. The DHS has not yet issued the Federal Register notice that explains the rules for re-registering. Details of the re-registration process will be posted on iAmerica.org/tps as soon as the Federal Register notice is issued.
- 03 Find out if you qualify for another type of immigration status. Do this now!**

Many TPS holders have been in the U.S. for years and may be eligible for other types of immigration status and benefits. To see a partial list of possible immigration options use the checklist at iAmerica.org/TPS and then consult with a reputable immigration attorney or legal services organization. You can also use the online immi tool to find a path that's right for you at iAmerica.org/immi.
- 04 Carry proof of TPS status**

It's important to keep proof that you have TPS status with you. A copy of your employment authorization card, or a notice of approval will prove that you have TPS status.
- 05 The announcement should not cause your employer to re-verify your work authorization now**

Your employer does not need to re-verify your employment authorization until after March 31, 2018. You continue to have work authorization until that date and your employer should not ask for additional documents in order for you to continue working.
- 06 Talk to your union rep if you have one**

If you belong to a union, talk to your union rep to help you with employer questions about work authorization.
- 07 You have rights under the U.S. Constitution**

All people in the U.S. have certain rights under the U.S. Constitution. Visit the Know Your Rights section on iAmerica.org.
- 08 Beware of notarios! Get reputable legal help.**

Find reputable immigration attorneys and legal services organizations at iAmerica.org/legalhelp. Avoid scammers and notarios who claim to be able to help you.
- 09 Take action and make your voice heard!**

Get your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers involved in the fight to protect immigrants. Ask them to join you in calling your members of Congress to demand they protect people with TPS and support efforts to allow TPS holders to stay in the U.S. legally: 1-888-204-8353

