



August 12, 2021

PA-2021-18

Policy Alert

SUBJECT: Rescinding Guidance on Discretionary Employment Authorization for Parolees

Purpose

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is rescinding policy guidance in the [USCIS Policy Manual](#) on discretionary employment authorization for parolees.

Background

In 2019, USCIS published guidance in the Policy Manual to address USCIS' discretion to grant employment authorization to noncitizens paroled into the United States.¹ This guidance was issued in response to a 2019 presidential proclamation and related national emergency and a 2017 executive order. The President terminated the national emergency and revoked these presidential documents in 2021.² As the guidance on employment authorization for parolees was issued in response to the terminated national emergency and revoked presidential documents, USCIS is now rescinding the guidance.

This Policy Manual update is effective immediately. The guidance contained in the Policy Manual is controlling and supersedes any related prior guidance on the topic.

Policy Highlights

- Rescinds guidance on discretionary employment authorization for parolees in Volume 10 and relocates general information regarding parole to Volume 3.
- Removes references to revoked presidential documents throughout the Policy Manual.

Citation

Volume 10: Employment Authorization, Part B, Specific Categories, Chapter 2, Parolees [[10 USCIS-PM B.2](#)]; Volume 3, Humanitarian Protection and Parole, Part F, Parolees, Chapter 1, Purpose and Background [[3 USCIS-PM F.1](#)]; Volume 1, General Policies and Procedures, Part C, Biometrics and Security Checks, Chapter 1, Purpose and Background [[1 USCIS-PM C.1](#)].

¹ See [Employment Authorization for Parolees](#), PA-2019-04, issued August 19, 2019.

² See [Proclamation 10142](#), issued January 20, 2021. See [Executive Order 14010](#), issued February 2, 2021.