



ARE YOU HOPING TO GET YOUR GREEN CARD OR IMMIGRANT VISA AS A “CHILD” AND YOUR 21ST BIRTHDAY IS COMING UP?

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If so, reach out to a trusted immigration legal services provider today—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) recently changed how they process these types of cases, so you **may need to take steps sooner than you think!**

HOW DO I KNOW IF I’M IMMIGRATING AS A “CHILD”?

- **Did a lawful permanent resident (LPR, or green card holder) parent file a petition (I-130) for you when you were under 21 (and unmarried)?** For example, your LPR mother filed a petition for you when you were 15 years old.
- **Did a U.S. citizen aunt, uncle, or grandparent file a petition (I-130) for one of your parents when you were under 21 (and unmarried), or maybe even before you were born, and you are still waiting for your turn to immigrate?** For example, your U.S. citizen aunt filed a petition for your father when you were 3 years old. It might also be a petition filed by a U.S. citizen aunt or uncle for a parent before you were born, and your parent is still waiting for their turn to immigrate using this petition (which you can be included in too, as long as under 21 and unmarried).

A LITTLE MORE BACKGROUND

People hoping to immigrate through the family-based categories described above often have to wait many years for their turn to immigrate due to our quota system limiting the number of visas available. While waiting, many children turn 21 and “age out” of their eligibility for a visa. After turning 21, some children may be re-classified in a new category and may have to wait even longer to immigrate while others lose



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the ability to immigrate altogether. A law called the Child Status Protection Act, or CSPA, helps prevent some of these problems when someone ages out while waiting to be able to immigrate. USCIS recently changed how they interpret these CSPA protections, so it's important to check with a **trusted immigration services provider** (ilrc.me/gethelp) as soon as possible to see how these changes may have affected your case.

Are you a California Community College (CCC) or a California State University (CSU) student? If so, you qualify for **FREE** immigration legal services!

FIND OUT MORE

CCC: findyourally.com

CSU: findyourally.com/csu

Discover more community explainers, toolkits, & alerts about immigration law.

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