



SEPTEMBER 2020

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS?

UNDERSTAND THE KEY DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN SOME COMMON CATEGORIES OF IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED STATES.



**U.S.  
Citizen**



**Permanent  
Resident**



**DACA  
Recipient**



**Undocumented/  
Unauthorized**

Document	U.S. Citizen	Permanent Resident	DACA Recipient	Undocumented/ Unauthorized
Document	U.S. passport, U.S. birth certificate, or naturalization certificate	U.S. Permanent Resident card ("green card")	Employment Authorization Document ("work permit")	N/A
Can you be deported?	<b>No</b>	<b>Possibly.</b> If you commit certain criminal or immigration violations, the government could try to deport you.	<b>Possibly.</b> If the government decides to no longer allow you to remain in the U.S.	<b>Possibly</b> and at any time. (However, you still have rights. <b>Know them!</b> )
Can you legally work in the U.S.?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Can you vote?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you have the right to education?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes.</b> You can qualify for in-state tuition in <u>some</u> states (for ex., in CA under AB540) but not all states.	<b>Yes.</b> You can qualify for in-state tuition in <u>some</u> states (for ex., in CA under AB540) but not all states.
Can you get federal financial aid for college?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> - but, in certain states, like CA, you can obtain state aid under the state's Dream Act.	<b>No</b> - but, in certain states, like CA, you can obtain state aid under the state's Dream Act.
Can you get a driver's license?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<u>Depends on the state.</u> In CA, for ex., you can acquire a DL under AB60.
Can you get a Social Security number?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> (it will include a note from DHS & must be accompanied by work permit for employment).	<b>No</b>
Can you help family members immigrate?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> - but with restrictions (you can help fewer people and waits are longer than citizens').	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
Can you travel outside the U.S.?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> - but not for long periods.	<b>Yes</b> - but only with Advance Parole, which is currently only being granted under "exceptional circumstances."	<b>No.</b> If you leave, you may not be able to legally return.

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## OTHER IMMIGRATION CATEGORIES:

### Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)

Allows you to stay in the country, work, and get a green card. You must be separated from one or both of your parents due to problems at home. If you have been abandoned, abused or neglected by one or both of your parents and are undocumented, you should speak with a trusted legal service provider about applying for this.

### Refugee/Asylee

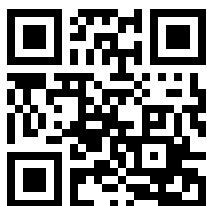
In your home country, you were threatened or face future threats due to your or your family's religion, political views, race, etc. You can live and work in the U.S and get a green card.

### Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

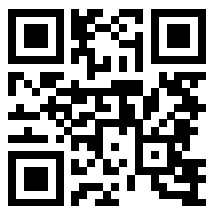
You do not have papers, but because of problems in your home country (a civil war, earthquake, etc.), the U.S. government allows you to stay until the danger has passed.

### U or T Visa

You have been or are willing to be in contact with law enforcement because you've been a victim of a crime or human trafficking. You can live and work in the U.S. and get a green card (eventually).



For a more comprehensive breakdown of immigration categories, a walkthrough of eligibility options, information about your rights during an encounter with ICE, **and much more**, download the ILRC's *Immigration Preparedness Toolkit* (available in English and in Spanish) by visiting <https://www.ilrc.org/immpreptoolkit> or by scanning the QR code on the left with your smartphone.



To find a trusted legal service provider in your area, visit the *Immigration Advocates Network's* National Immigration Legal Services Directory via <https://www.bit.ly/ianimmhelp> or by scanning the QR code on the left with your smartphone.

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