



# THE LATEST ON: TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS)

An update for TPS recipients from El Salvador,  
Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua

**AUGUST 2023**

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) provides protection and work authorization to nationals of certain countries designated by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) due to armed conflict, natural disasters, and other emergencies. Designations are generally for 18 months, and DHS has the authority to extend designations for individuals with TPS or redesignate countries for TPS to include people who arrived after the previous designation.

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF TPS?

There are 16 countries currently designated for TPS (see the [USCIS TPS page](#) for complete information on each country). In 2017 and 2018, the Trump Administration attempted to terminate the TPS designations for six countries: Sudan, Nicaragua, Haiti, El Salvador, Nepal and Honduras. The terminations were challenged in court and while the litigation was pending, TPS was extended until **June 30, 2024** for TPS holders from those six countries.

The Biden administration issued new TPS designations for both Haiti and Sudan. This allows nationals from Haiti and Sudan the opportunity to apply for initial TPS under these more recent designations. TPS beneficiaries from Haiti and Sudan are encouraged to apply under these new designations, since the redesignation is not subject to the litigation mentioned above.

TPS holders from the remaining four countries - El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal and

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Nicaragua - are protected until June 30, 2024. In June 2023, DHS announced that it would rescind the Trump-era terminations of TPS for El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, and Nicaragua and extend TPS for current TPS holders from those countries for an additional 18 months (details about these new extensions are summarized below). While the litigation is still pending, DHS has asked the court to dismiss the case and it is expected that the court will agree.

## **WHAT EFFECT DO THE EXTENSIONS HAVE?**

Although DHS extended TPS for El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal and Nicaragua, it did not redesignate them for TPS (as it did for Haiti and Sudan). **As such, only those individuals who already have TPS can apply to re-register to extend their protections.**

The announcement from DHS outlines the extension dates (the period for which TPS will be valid for those who apply and are approved), as well as the period during which TPS holders **must** apply for re-registration.

<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>TPS EXTENSION DATES</b>	<b>RE-REGISTRATION PERIOD</b>
El Salvador	SEP 10, 2023 - MAR 9, 2025	JUL 12, 2023 - SEP 10, 2023
Honduras	JAN 6, 2024 - JUL 5, 2025	NOV 6, 2023 - JAN 5, 2024
Nepal	DEC 25, 2023 - JUN 24, 2025	OCT 24, 2023 - DEC 23, 2023
Nicaragua	JAN 6, 2024 - JUL 5, 2025	NOV 6, 2023 - JAN 5, 2024

## **I AM FROM ONE OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES AND HAVE TPS. WHEN CAN I APPLY?**

You should make sure to re-register for TPS during the 60-day registration dates listed above for your country. Each country has a different registration period, and it is important to apply during that window.

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## **I DON'T HAVE TPS, BUT I AM FROM ONE OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES. CAN I APPLY FOR TPS FOR THE FIRST TIME?**

Unfortunately, only people from these four countries who already have TPS will be able to take advantage of the extension. This means that those who arrived in the U.S. after the specified continuous residence date for these countries (Feb. 13, 2001 for El Salvador; Dec. 30, 1998 for Honduras and Nicaragua; and June 24, 2015 for Nepal) are not eligible for TPS at this time. Certain individuals who meet the continuous residence dates and other TPS requirements from these four countries, but have never registered for TPS, may be able to file for late initial registration.

For more information on late initial filings, see the [USCIS TPS page](#) and ILRC's [TPS Community Explainer](#). If you think you may be eligible for late initial registration, you should consult with a trusted legal practitioner before filing an application.

## **WHAT COMES NEXT?**

TPS holders from these countries should renew their TPS during the designated registration windows (see chart above) and have their protections extended an additional 18 months. It is important to be screened by an expert to ensure that you are still eligible for TPS, especially if you have been arrested or have had other issues since your last application for re-registration. It is important to remember that low-income TPS holders may qualify for a fee waiver for the application costs of re-registering for TPS.

TPS holders should also consult an expert about other legal options that provide a permanent status. The law or a person's situation may have changed since they last spoke with a legal service provider. It is possible to apply for another form of status while having TPS, and it is a good idea to start those application processes while in valid TPS status. Find a legal service provider in your area here: [ilrc.me/findhelp](https://ilrc.me/findhelp).

Remember, current TPS holders from these countries still have the benefits of TPS



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(employment and travel authorization) through June 30, 2024. But these benefits will only continue beyond that date for those who apply and are approved for re-registration under the new extensions.

## HOW CAN I STAY UP TO DATE?

For more information, visit:

- ▶ <https://www.ilrc.org/tps>
- ▶ <https://www.nationaltpsalliance.org>
- ▶ <https://www.cliniclegal.org/issues/temporary-protected-status-tps-and-deferred-enforced-departure-ded>

The USCIS TPS web site has all the updated information about extensions, designations and deadlines: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/temporary-protected-status>.

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