



Overview of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

Background on Temporary Protected Status:

Temporary Protected Status is a humanitarian relief granted by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). It was established by Congress recognizing the dangers of returning immigrants to their home countries experiencing ongoing armed conflict, natural disasters, or other extraordinary or temporary conditions that are a threat to their safety. If the country's conditions reflect one of the above statutory grounds of eligibility, the Secretary provides a designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS). DHS makes the final decision on whether to designate TPS for a country, hence requiring a great deal of push from advocates.

Benefits of TPS:

Although temporary, the status provides the ability to legally reside in the United States without the fear of deportation and a work permit for beneficiaries for the duration TPS. The first step to qualifying for TPS is to prove that you have been present and living in the United States since the date indicated by DHS at the time of designation. A designation can last up to 18 months, after which the Secretary of DHS reviews country conditions to determine whether to extend, expand protections, or terminate the designation.

Extension: When the Secretary decides to extend a designation, beneficiaries of the initial designation can re-register to maintain the protections. When extending a designation, the DHS specifies the duration of the extension, which can range from 6 months, 12 months, or up to 18 months.

Redesignation: Under certain circumstances, the Secretary may decide to redesignate a country for TPS. A redesignation allows the Secretary to push the date of presence to include individuals who may be eligible but arrived after the cut-off date under the initial designation.

Termination: When a designation is about to expire, the Secretary has up to 60 days to review the conditions in the country and decide whether they continue to meet the statutory requirements, and if returning beneficiaries to their home country will put their safety in peril. If the Secretary determines that conditions no longer warrant TPS, they can end the designation.

- **What happens when a designation is terminated?** At the time of ending a designation, DHS announces a wind-down period that allows beneficiaries to make arrangements, which include: applying for other forms of immigration status, planning to return to their home country, resettling to another country, or joining advocacy groups in their efforts to fight for permanent protections or alternate relief.

Advocacy for permanent protections:

Independently and collectively, over 100+ organizations nationwide are advocating for permanent protections for all TPS holders. The advocacy involves engaging with the White House, the Department of Homeland Secretary, the Department of State, and State and Local elected officials. While permanent protection is the end goal, we are dedicated to the expansion of TPS as a safety net protection for our immigrant communities.

Countries currently designated:

Countries currently designated for TPS include: South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, Cameroon, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Syria, Venezuela, Burma, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Nepal, Haiti, Sudan, and Ethiopia. An estimated [500,000](#) benefit from TPS, plus an additional [30,000](#) Ethiopians that newly qualify under the recent designation.

The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.

Contact: admin@masadc.com