

DHS Announces Extension of Sudan for Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

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BACKGROUND

On January 10, 2025, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Mayorkas [announced](#) the extension of Sudan for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 18 months, from **April 20, 2025 through October 19, 2026**, due to ongoing armed conflict and extraordinary and temporary conditions that continue to prevent nationals of Sudan here in the United States from safely returning. DHS indicated the extension was warranted because of continued political instability that has triggered human rights abuses, including direct attacks on civilians.

Sudan was initially designated for TPS on November 4, 1997. In April 2022, DHS Secretary Mayorkas newly designated Sudan on the basis of extraordinary and temporary conditions effective April 19, 2022, through October 19, 2023. In August 2023, the Secretary extended that designation and also redesignated Sudan for TPS on the basis of ongoing armed conflict and extraordinary and temporary conditions.

The extension of TPS for Sudan is based on the determination that the conditions supporting the 2023 designation continue to exist. Specifically, the ongoing armed conflict and humanitarian crises pose a serious threat to the personal safety of Sudanese nationals if they were to return to Sudan. The [extension decision cites](#) the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces that began in April 2023 and has spread to most Sudanese states, devastating the civilian population across the country. **The determination further indicates that 11.4 million Sudanese—over 20 percent of the population—have been forcibly displaced, with 2.3 million having fled the country, resulting in the worst displacement crisis in the world.**

This extension of TPS for Sudan is expected to allow approximately 1,900 current eligible beneficiaries to re-register for TPS. **The re-registration period is Jan. 17, 2025, through March 18, 2025.**

WHAT IS TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS)?

TPS is a temporary immigration status that provides protection from deportation and eligibility for work authorization for certain, eligible nationals of the designated country. Designated countries have been determined to be experiencing conditions such as armed conflict, natural disaster, or other extraordinary circumstances. The DHS Secretary, after consulting with relevant government agencies, has the authority to designate, extend, or terminate TPS for a country based on prevailing conditions. The decision to extend Sudan's TPS designation follows a review of country conditions, including input from the Department of State and other U.S. government entities.

Individuals must register for TPS and apply for work authorization to receive benefits. If TPS is granted, the beneficiary may also seek a TPS travel authorization document which may be used for travel abroad.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR TPS UNDER THIS EXTENSION AND REDESIGNATION

This TPS extension allows Sudanese nationals (and individuals having no nationality who last habitually resided in Sudan) who have been continuously residing in the U.S. since August 16, 2023, and who have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since October 20, 2023, to apply or re-register for TPS.

With some [notable exceptions](#), TPS applicants must also demonstrate that they are admissible to the U.S. Individuals who have been convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors in the U.S., those who are subject to any of the [mandatory bars to asylum](#), and those who have been found inadmissible as an immigrant under applicable grounds in INA section 212(a), including non-waivable criminal and security-related grounds may not be eligible for TPS.

WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR TPS RE-REGISTRATION

Individuals seeking to re-register for Temporary Protected Status apply by submitting [Form I-821](#) with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) along with biometrics fees, or request for fee waiver, and supporting documentation. TPS applicants seeking work authorization should file [Form I-765](#) and filing fees with the TPS registration application. The filing fee for Form I-765 is the same for initial applicants and individuals re-registering for TPS. Individuals who apply online will pay \$470 for work authorization and those applying on paper will pay \$520. The complete fee schedule can be found [here](#). TPS and associated work authorization applications may be submitted online unless the applicant is seeking a fee waiver ([Form I-912](#)).

Note that individuals who have a Sudan TPS application (Form I-821) that was still pending as of January 17, 2025, do not need to file the application again. If USCIS approves an individual's Form I-821, USCIS will grant the individual TPS through October 19, 2026.

Fee waivers are available for certain individuals who cannot afford the USCIS filing fees. However, the fee waiver request and associated TPS and EAD applications must be submitted by mail. Detailed and updated information about the application process is found on [USCIS' TPS for Sudan webpage](#).

WHAT IS THE CURRENT PROCESSING TIME FOR TPS RE-REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

USCIS is [currently processing](#) Sudan TPS re-registration applications in 9 months.

WILL MY CURRENT TPS-RELATED WORK PERMIT OR EAD BE AUTOMATICALLY EXTENDED?

EAD “Card Expires” date of April 19, 2025, June 30, 2024, Dec. 31, 2022, Oct. 4, 2021, Jan. 4, 2021, Jan. 2, 2020, April 2, 2019, Nov. 2, 2018, or Nov. 2, 2017

For TPS recipients with an EAD card with these expiration dates, the [January 17, 2025 Federal Register Notice](#) automatically extends the Sudanese TPS recipient’s EAD through April 19, 2026 without any further action. TPS recipients may use their current EAD to use this automatic extension.

540-Day Automatic Extension of EADs

Sudanese TPS recipients may also be eligible for a longer automatic extension of up to 540 days from the “Card Expires” date on the EAD **if they file Form I-765 EAD renewal application during the re-registration period of January 17, 2025, through March 18, 2025** (“Up to 540-Day Automatic EAD Extension”). For more information regarding the EAD auto-extension, refer to the Federal Register Notice at the section “How can I receive an automatic extension of my current TPS EAD for up to 540 days from the “Card Expires” date on the EAD by filing an EAD renewal application?”

HOW TO SEEK LATE RE-REGISTRATION

USCIS may accept a late re-registration application if the applicant has a good reason for filing after March 18, 2025. Applicants must submit a letter explaining the reason for filing late along with the TPS re-registration application. Filing a late TPS re registration application can cause a delay in processing the TPS application and related work permit or EAD application.

ARE NATIONALS OF SUDAN ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS IN THE U.S.

Generally, most non-citizens who are present in the U.S. on TPS are not eligible to apply for federal mainstream benefits, such as cash assistance through Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), health insurance through Medicaid, and food assistance through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER

1. Individuals with a pending asylum application (Form I-589) can and **should** consider applying for TPS, if they are eligible to do so.
2. Individuals who currently hold another temporary immigration status such as humanitarian parole, F-1 student status, H-2A or H-2B temporary work visas can and **should** consider applying for TPS, if they are eligible to do so.

Note: We strongly recommend consulting with a qualified immigration legal services provider when considering TPS and how seeking TPS may interact with other immigration benefits applications. A listing of non-profit immigration legal services providers can be found at www.immigrationadvocates.org/legaldirectory/.