

INFORMATION GUIDE

Afghan Allies and the Refugee Resettlement Program

If you know an Afghan who needs help

If you are a veteran, active military personnel, or member of a U.S. agency that was active in Afghanistan and worked with an Afghan national who is at risk, contact your congressional representative at [usa.gov/elected-officials](https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials) or consult wrapsnet.org/siv-iraqi-syrian-afghan-referrals/ for information about eligibility and the referral process to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.

How to help locally

Resettlement agencies across the U.S. are providing evacuated Afghans with resettlement and integration services. If you are able to help financially, with gifts-in-kind, by volunteering, or by providing a service, contact your local resettlement agency. Find contact information and more ways you can help at tnrefugees.org.

Afghan resettlement in the U.S.

There are three main pathways currently available to Afghans. The first is the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program, an already established pathway to resettlement. The second is for Priority-2 (P-2) refugees. The Afghan P-2 designation permits U.S. government agencies, U.S.-based NGOs, and U.S.-based media organizations to refer Afghans to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. The third pathway is open to evacuees who are not applicants for the SIV or P-2 programs but are still under significant risk. These Afghans are admitted to the U.S. under what is called "humanitarian parole."

Vetting Afghan evacuees

The U.S. has evacuated Afghans who have a qualifying relationship with the U.S. to military bases in Europe and the Middle East. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is conducting processing, security screening, and vetting in coordination with the Department of State and federal and international law enforcement and security agencies with the goal of bringing to the U.S. Afghans who have worked for the U.S. and those otherwise at risk. For more detailed information on security screening and other processing, visit dhs.gov/publication/fact-sheet-operation-allies-welcome. Afghans remain overseas until security screening and vetting is successfully completed and they are cleared for travel to the U.S.

Where our Afghan Allies go after vetting

SIVs have completed security screening and required processing prior to leaving Afghanistan and traveling to their final destination in the U.S., to be reunited with family or friends or settle in a community that is already prepared to welcome them. SIV applicants in progress and those entering the U.S. with humanitarian parole receive additional processing and services at one of eight military bases in the U.S. From there, they are matched with and travel to a resettlement agency and community prepared to welcome them with resettlement and integration services. While Tennessee is not a top state for Afghan resettlement, we anticipate receiving both SIVs and humanitarian parolees in the coming months. We are honored to offer protection to our allies who have bravely supported U.S. missions abroad.

TOR is committed to being transparent about resettlement data. For more information, visit tnrefugees.org.

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