



Policy Clarification 2024-03-01

Title: Humanitarian Parolee Updates

Date: March 25, 2024

From: Erin Kelley, Senior Manager

Program(s) Impacted: All Medical Programs

The purpose of this document is to provide updates regarding eligibility for Afghan and Ukrainian humanitarian parolees. The information provided in this document clarifies information found in [PM2022-02-02](#) and is effective upon release and may be applied retroactively as needed.

A. Afghan Humanitarian Parolees

Per PM2022-02-02, Afghan parolees evacuated due to urgent humanitarian reasons as determined by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) between the dates of July 31, 2021, and September 30, 2022, are eligible for Medicaid and CHIP to the extent of refugee status and are not subject to the 5-year waiting period.

Since that time, the date for these parolees was extended by DHS from September 2022 to September 2023. This means that Afghan humanitarian parolees paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, through September 30, 2023, are eligible to apply for Medicaid and CHIP and are exempt from the 5-year bar until the end of their parole term (typically 1 year after entry).

NOTE: This timeframe has no bearing on eligibility for Afghan Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders. They remain eligible to the extent of refugees without condition.

Spouses or children of these individuals paroled into the U.S. after September 30, 2023, are also eligible to apply for these benefits and may be exempt from the 5-year bar (depending on VLP status). Humanitarian parole authorizes only temporary residence in the United States, but Afghans with humanitarian parole may be eligible to apply for asylum (a permanent status).

B. Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees

The guidance provided in [PD2022-07-01](#) regarding medical eligibility for Ukrainian humanitarian parolees remains unchanged. Ukrainian humanitarian parolees paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022, and September 30, 2023, are eligible to apply for mainstream benefits, resettlement assistance, and other benefits available to refugees until the end of their parole term. These individuals' spouses or unmarried

children under the age of 21 who are paroled into the U.S after September 30, 2023, are also eligible to apply for these benefits.

C. New KEES Section Codes and Eligibility Status

Beginning March 2024, new section codes are being added to KEES to accommodate VLP results for Afghan and Ukrainian humanitarian parolees. For Afghan parolees section codes CQ1-3 and OAR were added, and for Ukrainian parolees, section codes UHP and U4U were added. Additional section codes will be added as well, but these are some typical section codes that would be returned by VLP for members of these two groups.

As a reminder, eligibility staff should rely on the Verify Lawful Presence (VLP) interface for medical eligibility for section codes returned, i.e., whether the 5-year bar applies, is met, etc. VLP should issue correct results for these individuals from DHS; however, if KEES does not grant correct eligibility for them, see the KEES User Manual for the appropriate workaround. If it is unclear what the eligibility should be based on VLP results, the [A-1 Non-citizen Qualification Chart](#), or KFMAM 02040 and subsections, reach out to KDHE.MedicaidEligibilityPolicy@ks.gov for assistance.

NOTE: At this time, the only humanitarian parolees considered to have a qualifying status for Medicaid and CHIP without meeting the 5-year bar are those from Afghanistan and Ukraine. Other applicants may have a humanitarian parolee status, but they are not automatically eligible to the extent of refugees for medical programs.

For questions or concerns related to this document, please contact the KDHE Medical Policy Staff at KDHE.MedicaidEligibilityPolicy@ks.gov.

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Questions regarding any KEES issues are directed to the KEES Help Desk at KEES.HelpDesk@ks.gov.