



June 15, 2006

Press Release

DHS Announces Publication of Notice in the Federal Register for 12 Month Extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Nationals of El Salvador

Employment Authorization Documents Automatically Extended to March 9, 2007

WASHINGTON – The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) today announced the publication of a Notice in the Federal Register designating a 12-month extension of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for nationals of El Salvador until September 9, 2007. Under this extension, those who have already been granted TPS are eligible to live and work in the United States for an additional 12 months and continue to maintain their status. DHS has also automatically extended the validity of Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) for eligible El Salvadorans for 6 months until March 9, 2007. This will allow sufficient time for eligible TPS beneficiaries to receive their extension sticker or an EAD without any lapse in employment. There are approximately 225,000 nationals of El Salvador (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in El Salvador respectively) who may be eligible for re-registration.

The extension of TPS for nationals of El Salvador is effective September 9, 2006, and will remain in effect until September 9, 2007. Nationals of El Salvador who have been granted TPS previously must re-register for the 12-month extension during the 60-day re-registration period, which begins July 3, 2006 and will remain in effect until September 1, 2006. To facilitate processing of their applications, applicants are strongly encouraged to file as soon as possible after the start of the 60-day re-registration period. This re-registration period is for eligible El Salvadoran TPS beneficiaries only.

To re-register for TPS under the extension, a TPS beneficiary must submit Form I-821 (Application for Temporary Protected Status) without the filing fee and Form I-765 (Application for Employment Authorization). If the applicant is only seeking to re-register for TPS and not seeking an extension of employment authorization, he/she must submit Form I-765 for data-gathering purposes only but is not required to submit the I-765 filing fee. All applicants seeking an extension of employment authorization until September 9, 2007 must submit a \$180 filing fee with Form I-765. The \$70 biometric service fee must be submitted by all re-registrants age 14 and older, as well as re-registrants under age 14 who are requesting an EAD. Applicants may request a fee waiver in accordance with the regulations. The biometric fees, however, cannot be waived. Failure to submit the required filing fees will result in the rejection of the re-registration application.

More information can be obtained from the USCIS National Customer Service Center toll-free number: 1-800-375-5283. TPS forms are available from the toll-free USCIS Forms line, 1-800-870-3676, or from the USCIS Web site: www.uscis.gov.

-USCIS-

On March 1, 2003, U.S Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) became one of three former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.