

Immigration Training FAQs

Question	Answer
How does CBP1 app work for immigrants arriving in US?	The immigrants wait in Northern or Central Mexico for an appointment. This process can take months. They take a photo of the immigrant, and the immigrant can add their family members onto the appointment. Once they are able to make the appointment, they must travel to the port of entry where they will be inspected and interviewed by Customs and Border Patrol. If allowed entrance, they will be provided with a notice to appear in immigration court and allowed to pursue their asylum claim.
Can presumptive participants be changed to non-presumptive easily?	This question appears to relate to EA eligibility, which is a question for HLC!
Can a green card be used to hire an employee while waiting for a work card / permit with current expiration date for participants?	A person with a green card is entitled to work legally as a result of having their green card. As long as the green card is not expired, they can work without a separate work authorization card.
Is there a schedule of the lawyer for a day program happening at welcome centers?	Unfortunately, this program is only for families who are not in a shelter yet. We cannot take families who are in a shelter at this program.
Will we be completing this section on all families moving forward? Do we need to back track?	This form is for emergency immigration cases. You will complete the immigration section at each family's next quarterly Re-Housing Assessment and it will tell you if you need to complete the referral form. OR if you have already done the Assessment and you know a family has a new emergency (as defined in this session) you can complete the referral form at any time.
Is it the same procedure for court dates outside of Massachusetts?	Yes, the referral form will collect the state the immigration court is in and we will provide the relevant guidance in either case.
Any chance that the current Legal Assistance services will be offered in the near future at the EA Shelter sites?	Yes, we are working to expand legal services to the shelters where needed. However, as stated in the meeting, legal services are extremely limited.
Are the immigration appointments virtual? Most of the families with court or ICE appoints are from other states.	Out of state court hearings can usually be virtual and we have a procedure for this. For hearings in Massachusetts, we ask that clients be transported to court to appear in person.
Is there always an A#?	No, if a client has not filed any documents with USCIS, did not receive an NTA, and has not encountered immigration officials at any time they would not have one. This should be very rare.

<p>Are you able to tell us how to change the address for a family for immigration and court?</p>	<p>Changing addresses without a formal change of venue can cause serious consequences to clients. The decision to change venue is one that an attorney must make. Please don't change addresses, instead fill out the discussed referral form from this meeting, and we will ask a lawyer to help if the court date is in the next 12 weeks. If not, the issue can wait until closer to the court date.</p>
<p>Should the entire family go to court or just the person with the court date? Family members sometime have different entry dates and different court dates.</p>	<p>The entire family. After the first appearance, the family can ask the Judge whether the children need to appear. Adults always need to appear, and children need to go unless the Judge specifically says otherwise.</p>
<p>If there is an undocumented client seeking asylum, and has been here for more than a year, can I consider that an emergency?</p>	<p>Yes, this should go in as "other emergency" and ORI will provide referrals. However, we cannot place all the asylum cases we have in the system so please be patient with us.</p>
<p>Does a person with a green card need a work permit?</p>	<p>If a person has a green card, they don't need to apply for a work permit since the green card provides work authorization.</p>
<p>A family was denied benefits because they are from Venezuela and are not priority, what can be done?</p>	<p>Reach out to DTA for denial of benefits and see if they can get qualified, as a new state law expanded eligibility for DTA benefits which should help some Venezuelans. Decisions aren't made entirely on nationality; it also can be dependent on how they enter the US. For example, Venezuelans can enter the United States using the CBP One app but for some reason, many do not. If they enter using the app, they are qualified for immediate work authorization and other benefits based on being parolees.</p>
<p>If somebody has an EAD that is expiring, but doesn't have an asylum case (they have met with a lawyer and this is what they were advised), what do we do as a stabilization agency when we put them into housing and then a bit down the line they lose their work authorization and so cannot find legal work and lose all benefits etc.? What is the housing recommendation for them so we don't create an eviction crisis when they lose housing because they cannot find work/pay their portion?</p>	<p>HLC is working on some guidance on this, follow up to come.</p>
<p>Should we submit the request for any of our clients that currently do</p>	<p>No, this does not qualify as an emergency. In May 2024, that would qualify as an emergency.</p>

<p>not have an application for asylum? Even if their year deadline is not until August 2024?</p>	
<p>If client came through lottery visa and wanted to see if they are eligible for refugee resettlement program, do we still use this online application?</p>	<p>No, they should be referred to a resettlement agency Here is a list: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/policy-guidance/state-massachusetts-programs-and-services-locality</p>
<p>Do you have an update on TPS re-qualification or renewal for this year?</p>	<p>Not yet. This information will be published on the USCIS website when it becomes available.</p>
<p>At a prior HLC training with MIRA, the Trainer expressed that they had doubt that Parole Statuses would be renewed, is this true?</p>	<p>There is an opportunity to renew parole. DHS indicates that it can be done on a “case by case” basis (rather than universal parole). We are hoping that with ongoing cooperation from DHS that this can become an option and exploring what that looks like.</p>