

# ASYLUM PROCESS INFORMATION

Updated on May 10, 2021

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**ALERT:** All legal services provided by California Welcoming Task Force organizations are FREE OF CHARGE. If someone asks for money for these services, beware, it is a scam. Before you share any personal information or sign up on any sort of list, make sure you understand the purpose for which the information will be used, which organization or agency is requesting the information, and the reason for the need to share your information or register on any sort of list. This will help you avoid scams or harm. Be wary of rumors from coyotes. Information on how to contact CA Welcoming Task Force organizations for legal help is included below.

- Immigrant Defenders Law Center: +1 (619) 560-2243
  - Al Otro Lado WhatsApp:
    - Active MPP cases: +52 664-194-6209
    - Non-active MPP: +52 664-816-3846
    - On Asylum Waitlist (Metering List): +52 664-732-0303
    - No MPP & No Waitlist: +52 664-814-9696
  - Al Otro Lado information, forms and resources:
    - <https://linktr.ee/alotrolado> (For MPP cases)
    - <https://linktr.ee/alotroladoasiloinfo> (Non-MPP Cases)
  - Fill this out if you are at risk of harm or have a serious physical or mental health condition:
    - In Spanish: [bit.ly/AOLencuesta](http://bit.ly/AOLencuesta)
    - In Haitian Kreyol: [bit.ly/AOLrisksondaj](http://bit.ly/AOLrisksondaj)
  - Updated info available here:
    - <https://www.facebook.com/EspacioMigranteOrg>
    - [www.rapidresponsesd.org/cawtf](http://www.rapidresponsesd.org/cawtf)
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## If You Have an Active MPP Case:

- The Migrant Protection Protocols, or MPP, is a U.S. policy that forced asylum seekers to wait in Mexico for U.S. asylum hearings. New asylum seekers are no longer being entered into MPP.
- An “active MPP case” is defined as a case pending before the immigration court, or with an appeal pending before the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA).
  - The U.S. government began limited processing of people with active MPP cases into the U.S. on Friday, February 19 at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana.
  - International agencies UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, & ICRC manage processing in Mexico.
  - Persons with active cases SHOULD NOT travel to the Port of Entry. Persons will be admitted to the Port of Entry by appointment only.
- To make an appointment, please register at <https://conecta.acnur.org>
- Contact UNHCR via WhatsApp at +52 55 2535 2950

- When you speak to UNHCR, you must tell them if you or your family are in imminent danger in Mexico, have a serious medical issue or disability, need help traveling to your processing appointment, or have immediate family members who have a closed case or are not in MPP.
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### **If You Have a Non-Active MPP Case:**

- You have a non-active MPP case if you were enrolled in MPP but were ordered deported OR your case was terminated, and there is no appeal pending:
    - You are not yet eligible for processing, but might be included at a later date.
  - If you could not get to your court hearing and were ordered deported in your absence:
    - You may be able to reopen your case
    - Please complete the AOL Encuesta form which you can access here:  
[Bit.ly/AOLencuesta](https://bit.ly/AOLencuesta)
  - If your MPP case was closed, but you have another family member with an active case, you may be able to be processed with them. Contact UNHCR via WhatsApp at +52 55 2535 2950.
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### **If You Are on the Asylum Metering List (Asylum Waitlist):**

- The asylum metering list, or asylum waitlist, was a list that asylum seekers could put their name on in Tijuana to wait for their turn to enter the U.S. and begin the asylum process. If you are on the list, you should have received a number.
  - Since March 2020, due to COVID, no one has been called from or added to the waitlist in Tijuana
  - As of today, we do not know when the ports of entry will re-open or whether the waitlist will become operational again. More information should be available soon.
  - The existing waitlist is being kept by Grupo Beta. It has not been destroyed. No alternate waitlist exists - it is NOT currently possible to sign up for any official waitlist.
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### **If You Are Not in MPP and Not on the Waitlist but Hoping to Enter the United States:**

- As of January 21, 2021, people are no longer being enrolled in the MPP program.
  - Border processing for asylum seekers remains closed. There is currently no official "waitlist."
  - The only way to legally enter the U.S. to seek asylum right now is through humanitarian parole. More info about humanitarian parole below.
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### **Information About Humanitarian Parole:**

- Extremely vulnerable individuals may be eligible for humanitarian parole. If you are granted humanitarian parole, you will be allowed to enter the U.S. and begin an asylum case.
  - Parole applies to asylum seekers who have serious medical issues or are at imminent risk of harm.
  - If you have a serious medical issue or are at risk of harm, fill out this form: [Bit.ly/AOLencuesta](https://bit.ly/AOLencuesta)
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## **What May Happen Now if You Enter The U.S. between Ports of Entry (not at an official entry)**

- Citing the COVID pandemic, the U.S. government continues to quickly expel people at the border without a chance to seek asylum or other protection. This policy is called Title 42.
  - You and your family could be quickly removed back to Mexico (or put on a flight directly back to your country of origin) if you attempt to cross the U.S. border. Some individuals and families are allowed to stay in the United States, but there are no clear guidelines.
  - Families with very young children are still being expelled to Mexico.
  - If you have already been rapidly expelled under Title 42, this does not count as a deportation and should not affect your eligibility for asylum in the future.
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## **Is there news about the opening of the border? Is there any news for asylum seekers?**

- As of today, there has been no official announcement about the reopening of the border.
- Several legal organizations have filed federal cases in the U.S. challenging the border closures.
- The Biden Administration has said it will reopen asylum processing, but they say it will take time
- Currently there is no priority access to the US asylum system by staying near the port of entry.