



## Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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### General Information System (GIS) Message

#### Section 1

<b>Transmittal:</b>	25DC054 Upstate and New York City
<b>Date:</b>	August 5, 2025
<b>To:</b>	Subscribers
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Commissioners; SNAP Directors; TA Directors; HEAP Coordinators, Employment Coordinators, Fair Hearing Officers, Staff Development Coordinators, WMS Coordinators
<b>From:</b>	Valerie Figueroa, Deputy Commissioner Employment and Income Support Programs
<b>Subject:</b>	Termination of Federal Parole Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans and effect on PA and SNAP Benefit Eligibility
<b>Effective Date:</b>	Immediately
<b>Contact Information:</b>	Temporary Assistance Bureau at 518-474-9344 or <a href="mailto:tabureau@otda.ny.gov">tabureau@otda.ny.gov</a> and SNAP Policy Bureau at 518-473-1469 or <a href="mailto:SNAPBureau@otda.ny.gov">SNAPBureau@otda.ny.gov</a>

#### Section 2

The purpose of this GIS message is to inform social services districts (districts) that the United States (U.S.) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently terminated certain categorical parole programs established in 2022 and 2023 for non-citizens from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela. The processes were originally announced for Venezuelans on October 12, 2022, and for Cubans, Haitians, and Nicaraguans on January 5, 2023. The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) initially released guidance to districts on these parole programs via [GIS 23 TA/DC036](#).

The March 25, 2025, federal register notice issued by DHS titled “Termination of Parole Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans” (90 Federal Register 13611) terminates the categorical parole programs established in 2022 and 2023 for non-citizens from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela and their immediate family members (known as “CHNV parole programs”). Parole status for all non-citizens under the CHNV parole programs has been terminated effective immediately. Specifically, USCIS provided a litigation related update on June 6, 2025, to inform the public that a Supreme Court stay of a Preliminary Injunction issued

on May 30, 2025 (see *Noem v. Svitlana Doe*, 145 S.Ct. 1524 (2025)) allowed DHS to proceed with terminating parole granted under the CHNV parole programs and with revoking any employment authorization based on being paroled under the CHNV parole programs.

If a non-citizen's status as a parolee under the CHNV parole programs is revoked or expired and they are not in another qualifying status, they may not be eligible to receive Public Assistance (PA) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Those already enrolled in PA or SNAP may no longer be eligible for PA or SNAP. This will depend on the non-citizen's country of origin and whether or not they may be in another qualifying status.

## **Program Implications**

### **Cubans and Haitians**

Cubans and Haitians granted entry into the U.S., whether paroled through the CHNV parole programs or otherwise, who meet the definition of a Cuban or Haitian Entrant, are considered specially qualified non-citizens. A Cuban or Haitian Entrant is:

- A. Any individual granted parole status by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as a Cuban/Haitian Entrant (Status Pending) or granted any other special status subsequently established under the immigration laws for nationals of Cuba or Haiti, regardless of the status of the individual at the time assistance or services are provided; and
- B. Any other national of Cuba or Haiti:
  - 1. Who:
    - (i) was paroled into the United States and has not acquired any other status under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA); or
    - (ii) is the subject of exclusion or deportation proceedings under the INA; or
    - (iii) has an application for asylum pending with DHS; and
  - 2. With respect to whom a final, non-appealable, and legally enforceable order of deportation or exclusion has not been entered.

Cuban or Haitian Entrants are indicated in the Welfare Management System (WMS) with a Citizenship Code "H – Cuban/Haitian Entrant". If otherwise eligible, Cuban and Haitian Entrants are eligible for PA (Family Assistance (FA) and Safety Net Assistance (SNA)), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and SNAP. It is important to note that Cubans and Haitians who are paroled into the U.S. may be eligible for these same benefits, regardless of whether they arrived through the CHNV parole program or were granted parole in another way. Cubans and Haitians who entered the U.S. under the CHNV parole program may have been paroled into the U.S. for up to two years.

Districts are reminded that the term "Cuban-Haitian Entrant" (CHE) is a reference to benefit eligibility rather than immigration status. The term is unrelated to CHNV parole status. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)'s June 6, 2025 release and the

DHS Notice of March 25, 2025, have no impact on the eligibility of CHEs for FA, SNA, HEAP, and SNAP.

When determining benefit eligibility for CHEs, districts should refer to the [LDSS-4579 Non-Citizen Eligibility Desk Aid](#), [GIS 23TA/DC036](#), [GIS 22TA/DC003](#), and [GIS 16 TA/DC048](#).

### **Treatment of Financial Support from U.S. Supporter for Cuban-Haitian Entrants**

CHEs who arrived in the U.S. through the new parole program for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans are required to have a supporter in the U.S. who agrees to provide them with financial support for the duration of their parole. Other parolees who enter the U.S. through another way may not be required to have a financial supporter. For parolees who have a supporter, districts must explore the financial assistance that was promised by the supporter, but only the assistance available and being provided to the non-citizens should be included in making the PA or SNAP eligibility determination. For PA and SNAP purposes, the U.S. supporters must not be treated as sponsors who sign the affidavit of support, I-864, as described in [99-ADM-02](#).

### **Nicaraguans and Venezuelans**

Nicaraguans and Venezuelans who entered the U.S. under the CHNV parole program or were granted parole in another way may have been eligible for public benefits, if otherwise eligible. Nicaraguans and Venezuelans paroled into the U.S. for less than one year may have been eligible for SNA, if otherwise eligible. Nicaraguans and Venezuelans paroled into the U.S. for one year or more may have been eligible for federal public benefits such as FA, SNA, HEAP, and SNAP. Please note that Nicaraguans and Venezuelans who entered the U.S. under the CHNV parole program may have been paroled into the U.S. for up to two years.

Nicaraguans and Venezuelans who entered the U.S. under the CHNV parole program may no longer be eligible for public benefits unless they have subsequently obtained another qualifying status. The DHS Notice of March 25, 2025, effectively revokes their status as a parolee, effective immediately. Nicaraguans and Venezuelans who were paroled into the U.S. under the CHNV parole program are no longer eligible for FA, SNA, HEAP, or SNAP based on that status alone and would have to document another non-citizen status that would be satisfactory for benefit eligibility to receive, or continue to receive, such benefits.

For information regarding documents that may be presented by non-citizens who were paroled into the U.S. under the CHNV parole program, please refer to [GIS 23 TA/DC036](#).

Please note that Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, or Venezuelan non-citizens paroled into the U.S. through other processes may have a general parole Class of Admission (COA) code, such as District/Port of Entry Parole (DT), indicating that parole was granted by US Customs and Border Protection at a port of entry or District Office, or Paroled, Non-Cuban or Haitian (PAR), indicating that parole was granted by USCIS. For guidance on common documentation for other types of parolees, districts should refer to the LDSS-4579.

### **Required Action**

#### **SNAP**

Effective immediately, districts must no longer approve SNAP benefits for non-citizens and any immediate family members paroled under the CHNV parole program who entered the U.S. from either Nicaragua or Venezuela, unless such individuals are in another qualifying status. For those already receiving SNAP benefits, districts must remove any non-citizens and any immediate family members paroled under a CHNV parole program who entered the U.S. from either Nicaragua or Venezuela from the SNAP household at the next recertification, unless such individuals are in another qualifying status. This does not apply to non-citizens from Nicaragua or Venezuela who were paroled into the U.S. under processes other than the CHNV parole program.

Cubans and Haitians paroled into the U.S., whether paroled through the CHNV program or otherwise, who meet the definition of a CHE are considered specially qualified non-citizens. If otherwise eligible, CHEs will continue to remain eligible for SNAP.

Note: Pursuant to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations at 7 CFR 273.12(a)(1), 7 CFR 273.12(d), and 7 CFR 273.18, households are not liable for a claim due to a change in circumstances the household is not required to report. Since households are not required to report a change in immigration status, non-citizens who lose SNAP eligibility at recertification due to termination of parole under the DHS Notice of March 25, 2025, are not subject to a claim for over issuance for the benefits received after their parole status was revoked.

## **PA**

Cubans and Haitians paroled into the U.S., whether paroled through the CHNV program or otherwise, who meet the definition of a CHE are considered specially qualified non-citizens. If otherwise eligible, CHEs continue to remain eligible for PA.

Effective immediately, districts must no longer approve PA benefits for non-citizens who entered the U.S. from either Nicaragua or Venezuela based on parole under the CHNV parole programs, unless they obtained another non-citizen category/status that is satisfactory for PA benefit eligibility.

For those already receiving PA benefits based on parole under the CHNV parole programs, districts must take appropriate action to determine whether non-citizens paroled under a CHNV program who entered the U.S. from either Nicaragua or Venezuela remain eligible for PA. Districts should note that PA recipients whose parole has been terminated under the CHNV parole programs may have another lawful basis to remain in the U.S. and may also continue to retain benefit eligibility and/or be employment authorized. PA should be redetermined accordingly. If PA benefits were previously granted on the basis of CHNV parole, then prior to taking adverse action, districts must explore whether the non-citizen may remain eligible for PA. This includes exploring whether the non-citizen has another non-citizen category/status that is satisfactory for PA benefit eligibility, and providing them the opportunity to present documentation that supports another non-citizen category/status within a reasonable timeframe, prior to taking adverse action. As per PA policy, households must report changes, including immigration/citizenship status changes, to their district worker within 10 days of the change. If districts determine that PA benefits were granted to a non-citizen who is no longer eligible due to their non-citizen status, districts must establish an overpayment, and those non-citizens must be removed from the PA case.

## **SAVE System Verification**

SAVE has created a new “Status Change Report” that allows users to review SAVE cases affected by DHS parole terminations. This self-service report can be generated by SAVE users when logged into SAVE using a web browser and allows users to identify SAVE cases created for one or more benefit applicants whose parole has been terminated by DHS. As DHS data is continuously updated, users should consider running this report on a regular basis. A user’s ability to generate this report and view cases will depend on their user role in SAVE.

To generate a report using this new feature, a user would log in to their SAVE account, go to the “Reports” screen, and click “Run Report” on the Status Change Report section. Users will be prompted to choose the Revocation Date from among a list of dates. After making a selection and clicking “Generate Report”, if the report has generated successfully, a “Report Creation Successful” banner in SAVE will be shown, and the report can be downloaded as a CSV file to view the data.

Note: Benefit applicants whose parole has been terminated may have another lawful basis to remain in the U.S. and may also continue to be employment authorized and/or retain benefit eligibility based on another immigration status or category or a pending application.

SAVE verifies current immigration statuses or categories and pending applications. Districts must not make an eligibility determination based solely on the information provided by the SAVE “Status Change Report”. Districts are instructed to refer to the Required Action section above for further guidance on eligibility determinations for those non-citizens paroled under the CHNV parole programs. To receive the most current information about a non-citizen, users must create a new SAVE case. SAVE does not automatically update past SAVE cases when there is a change in immigration status.

Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan non-citizens paroled into the U.S. through other processes will typically have a general parole COA, such as DT or PAR.

As a reminder, in accordance with [13-ADM-07](#), when determining PA and SNAP eligibility, districts must use the SAVE system to verify the immigration documentation presented by the non-citizen applicant or recipient. Benefits must not be delayed, denied, reduced or terminated pending verification of a non-citizen’s documentation through the SAVE system. If all other factors of eligibility have been established and the non-citizen is otherwise eligible, benefits must be granted while awaiting a response from the SAVE system.

In instances where a non-citizen applies for PA, HEAP, and/or SNAP and is denied because they are unable to provide immigration documentation that supports a non-citizen status that would be satisfactory for benefit eligibility, districts are encouraged to direct those non-citizens to contact an immigration attorney and/or call the New York State Office for New Americans (ONA) hotline: 1-800- 566-7636.