

Alien Registration Requirement

General information on the Alien Registration Requirement announced by USCIS on Feb. 25, 2025, and the Interim Final Rule published on March 12, 2025

❖ The Alien Registration Requirement Rule is in effect as of April 11, 2025

A lawsuit was filed on March 31, 2025, by several non-profit organizations challenging this new rule, but the lawsuit has **not** stopped this rule from going into effect.

On **February 25, 2025**, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) published the **Alien Registration Requirement** following President Trump's "Protecting the American People Against Invasion" executive order. On **March 12, 2025**, the Interim Final Rule for the alien registration process was published and announced that the rule would go into effect on April 11, 2025.

This document shares what we know now about this requirement through the information provided by USCIS (<https://www.uscis.gov/alienregistration>).

The announcement of the Alien Registration Requirement leaves many questions unanswered. It is important to not speculate or guess about what USCIS will or will not do. Be a good neighbor, and only share accurate, verified information from trusted sources.

The term "alien":

The term "alien" a legal term that refers to any person present in the United States who is not a native-born or naturalized citizen of the United States. We use the term "alien" in this document to ensure that we share this information accurately.

The Catholic Church does not commonly use this language when speaking of our brothers and sisters who are migrants and refugees.

What we know so far:

- Registration will have no cost as of April 11, 2025.
- The formal process by which to register has been announced, please see below.

What can we do?

1. **Remain calm** and do not speculate or guess what USCIS will do or won't do. Accompany those who are worried about what this means for them and their families, reassure them that they are not alone. God is always with us.

2. **Stay informed** through trusted and reliable resources such as the DISN and CLINIC or other reputable non-profit organizations specializing in immigration.
3. **Be a good neighbor**, share accurate information and avoid sharing information from unreliable resources. This is a stressful time for so many who are wondering how they will be impacted by this new requirement, avoid creating panic or adding to the stress.
4. **Refer those who are potentially impacted, to trusted immigration legal service providers**

Who must register? In general, as of February 25, 2025, the Immigration Naturalization Act 262 and the March 12, 2025, Federal Rule:

- it is the duty of every alien now or hereafter is in the U.S., (1) who is 14 years of age or older, (2) has not been registered or fingerprinted when applying for a U.S. visa, and (3) remains in the U.S. for 30 days or longer, to apply for registration and to be fingerprinted before the expiration of those 30 days.
- it is the duty of every parent or legal guardian of any alien now or hereafter in the U.S. who (1) is less than 14 years of age, (2) has not been registered or fingerprinted when applying for a U.S. visa, and (3) remains in the U.S. for 30 days or longer, to apply for registration of such alien before the expiration of those 30 days.
- an alien who turns 14 years of age or older in the U.S., must within 30 days afterwards, apply in person for registration and to be fingerprinted.

Who is considered to not be registered?

- Aliens present in the United States without inspection and admission or inspection and parole, such as undocumented immigrants
- Canadian visitors who entered the U.S. at land ports of entry and were not issued evidence of registration, and
- Aliens who submitted one or more benefit requests to USCIS such as applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or Temporary Protected Status (TPS), or who were not given evidence of registration.

Who has already met the registration requirement:

- Lawful permanent residents (green card holders)
- Aliens admitted into the U.S. who were issued a Form I-94 (Travel Record for U.S. Visitors)
- Aliens present in the U.S. who were issued a visa prior to arrival
- Aliens who are in removal or deportation proceedings
- Aliens who have been issued an employment authorization document (work permit)
- Aliens who have applied for lawful permanent residence (green card) through:
 - adjustment of status



- prior amnesty programs
- special agricultural worker program

Please seek legal advice from a licensed immigration attorney or DOJ-accredited representative before completing the Alien Registration.

How do you register?

Beginning February 25, 2025, aliens required to register should create a USCIS online account in preparation for the registration process.

- To create a USCIS online account: <https://myaccount.uscis.gov/create-account>
- Fill out and submit form G-325R

What information will be submitted on Form G-325R?

- Name
- Mailing and physical address, and address history for the past 5 years
- Date of birth and country of birth
- Country of citizenship or nationality
- Immigration history, including date of arrival in the U.S.
- "Activities" the person has done in the U.S. and activities they plan to do in the future, and how long the person expects to stay in the U.S.
- Biographic information including gender, ethnicity, race, height, weight, and eye and hair color
- Detailed criminal arrest and conviction history
- Detailed biographic information regarding the person's spouse, father, and mother; including name, date of birth, and country of birth

What does registration mean?

USCIS has stated that registration does not grant a lawful immigration status. The proof of registration or registration document provided by USCIS does not establish employment authorization or any other right or benefit under the Immigration Naturalization Act or any other U.S. law.

Registered immigrants over the age of 18 must carry and keep in their possession at all times the evidence of registration issued by the Department of Homeland Security.

What happens after I register:

- After registering, you will receive a Certificate of Alien Registration or an Alien Registration Receipt Card.
- Every registered person, who is 18 years of age and over, must at all times, carry and have in their personal possession any certificate of alien registration or alien registration receipt card
 - Not complying with this is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for no more than 30 days.
- Every registered person must notify the Department of Homeland Security, in writing, of their change of address within 10 days of the change.

What happens if I don't register?

USCIS has stated that failure to register will result in criminal and civil penalties, up to and including misdemeanor prosecution and the payment of fines. Failure to comply will be treated as a civil and criminal enforcement priority. Penalties include:

- a fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for up to 6 months, or both
- attempts at procuring registration with false information is subject to criminal prosecution
- a conviction of fraudulent registration is a ground for deportability

Immigration Legal Resources:

Please schedule an appointment with an immigration attorney or accredited representative for questions about whether a person must register and questions about a person's particular immigration situation:

- **Northern Valley Catholic Social Service:** 530-824-4039
- **Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services:** 916-313-7604
- **Catholic Charities of Yolo-Solano:** 707-649-1615 (Vallejo); 530-214-4081 (Woodland)
- **Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. Affiliate Directory:**
<https://www.cliniclegal.org/find-legal-help/affiliates/directory>