

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE TPS AUTOMATIC EXTENSION

Temporary Protected Status (“TPS”) is a program run by the federal government providing for temporary legal status to immigrants from certain designated countries. TPS designation is generally provided when the conditions in a certain country (or area within a country) are unsafe for its residents, including when there is ongoing armed conflict within the country, an environmental disaster (such as a hurricane or earthquake), epidemic, or other extraordinary and temporary conditions.

The Trump Administration announced the termination of TPS designation for El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua and Sudan. This update informs you about what you need to know about the status of TPS.

A Court Order Blocked the Termination of TPS for El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, Sudan and Honduras.

A court order in the *Ramos v. Nielsen* lawsuit blocked the termination of TPS for El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua and Sudan. The original termination dates, that have now been stopped, are:

El Salvador: TPS ends on September 9, 2019 but extended by court order.

Haiti: TPS ends on January 22, 2019, but now extended by court order.

Nicaragua: TPS ends on January 9, 2019, but now extended by court order.

Honduras: TPS designation was set to terminate on January 5, 2020.

The court order in *Ramos v. Nielsen* has STOPPED the termination of TPS for El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Sudan. The same court order has stopped the government from making a decision to terminate TPS for Honduras. The government appealed the court order in *Ramos* and we are expecting a decision from the court of appeal on whether the terminations of TPS remain blocked.

Automatic Extensions of TPS Work Permits to Jan. 2, 2020

The federal government issued a notice automatically extending work permits for TPS holders from El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua and Sudan to January 2, 2020 based on the *Ramos* court order. This means that TPS holders from El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Sudan can legally work in the U.S. even if their work permits have a date on them that has already expired. Work permits for Honduras are valid through January 5, 2020.

What If An Employer Asks To Check A TPS Holder’s Work Permit

Should an employer seek to reverify the work authorization of a beneficiary in TPS status from El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, or Sudan, that worker can show his/her employer a copy of the applicable Federal Register Notice to show automatic extension of their work permits. The Federal Register Notice can be found at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/03/01/2019-03783/continuation-of-documentation-for-beneficiaries-of-temporary-protected-status-designations-for-sudan>

Workers do not need to present any additional documentation for the automatic extension.

TPS Holders Should Seek Immigration Advice

It is important for individuals in TPS status to investigate whether they may be eligible for any other type of immigration relief.