



Factsheet on Deferred Enforced Departure

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Deferred Enforced Departure (DED):

The President of the United States has the authority to announce Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) for a country under his constitutional powers to conduct foreign relations. The designations are provided in the event of a civil, political, and humanitarian crisis affecting a country that make it unsafe to return individuals. Individuals from countries designated receive benefits—however, DED does not grant permanent immigration status.

Benefits under DED:

The benefits of DED depend on the executive order issued by the President, but will usually involve authorization to live in the United States, protection from deportation, and the ability to apply for a work permit. The benefits may also include travel authorization.

The benefits for individuals from each country designated are listed in the directive published following the official announcement, which can be found in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Who qualifies for benefits under a DED designation:

Information on who is eligible and who does not qualify is often provided in the announcement of DED and in more detail on the <u>Federal Register</u>. Eligibility is usually based on country of origin, date of arrival in the United States, and continuous residency in the United States.

What is the process to apply for benefits under a DED:

There is no requirement to fill out an application to qualify for benefits under DED. However, if the benefits provided include the ability to obtain work authorization, you must file an Application for Employment Authorization (Form I-765) to obtain a work permit. If the benefits provided include the ability to file for travel authorization, you must file an Application for Travel Document (Form I-131) in order to travel.

What is the difference between DED and Temporary Protected Status?

DED is granted through presidential powers and does not exist under our immigration laws. An individual granted DED will not be removed or deported from the United States. However, DED does not provide a path to citizenship or other legal status.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is granted through the Secretary of Homeland Security's decision, and is relief available under the Immigration and Nationality Act. TPS provides temporary immigration status.

DED and TPS largely supply the same benefits and are both temporary without a path to citizenship.

Countries currently designated for DED:

The countries currently designated include **Hong Kong** and **Liberia**.

The <u>TPS-DED AAC</u> is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.

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