



January 5, 2023

Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan Nationals Traveling to the United States with Advance Travel Authorization

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is expanding its parole process for certain nationals of Venezuela to now include certain nationals of Cuba, Haiti, and Nicaragua and their qualifying immediate family members, the opportunity to request advance authorization to travel to the U.S. to seek parole.

Each individual traveling under this process must be in possession of a valid, unexpired passport and have their own individual approved travel authorization.

Individuals not independently eligible under this process (i.e. non-Cuban, non-Haitian, non-Nicaraguan, or non-Venezuelan family members) must be accompanied by their principal family member to be allowed to travel to the U.S. to be considered for parole under this process.

Individuals seeking to travel to the U.S. under this process must be in possession of a valid passport but may not have a U.S. issued visa that is normally required for travel.

Carriers should not be accepting paper printouts of travel authorizations as the sole mechanism for issuing a boarding pass and allowing the traveler(s) to board the aircraft.

Carriers will be able to validate an approved travel authorization under the parole process using the same mechanisms that are currently in place to validate that a traveler has a valid visa or other documentation to facilitate issuance of a boarding pass for air travel.

Those air carriers participating in CBP's Document Validation (DocVal) will get the "A" code, authorization to board, to print a boarding pass, when the passport number submitted through APIS has a valid associated travel authorization on file.

If an air carrier is not participating in DocVal, they will get the "Z" code, not applicable response code and will go through their established processes for checking documents and determining eligibility to board.

If you encounter a minor with an approved travel authorization, in possession of their own valid passport but not traveling with their parent or legal guardian, contact CBP as indicated below.

All nationals traveling to the U.S. by air must adhere to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines regarding testing. Individuals traveling on an approved travel

authorization under this process will not be required to demonstrate proof of COVID-19 vaccination at time of boarding.

As a reminder specific to Venezuelan passports, consistent with the National Assembly decree of May 21, 2019, certain expired Venezuelan passports remain valid:

- Issued before June 7, 2019 (even if expired before this date), without a passport extension ("prorroga"), is considered valid and unexpired for five years beyond the expiration date printed in the passport.
- Issued before June 7, 2019 (even if expired before this date), with a "prorroga" issued before June 7, 2019, is considered valid and unexpired for five years beyond the expiration date of the "prorroga".
- Issued before June 7, 2019 (even if expired before this date), with a "prorroga" issued on or after June 7, 2019, is considered valid and unexpired through the expiration date of the "prorroga" or for five years beyond the expiration date printed in the passport, whichever is later.
- Issued on or after June 7, 2019, without a "prorroga" is not considered valid beyond the expiration date printed in the passport.
- Issued on or after June 7, 2019, with a "prorroga" issued on or after June 7, 2019, is considered valid and unexpired through the expiration date of the "prorroga".

If you have a question on boarding a traveler, it should be directed to the appropriate Regional Carrier Liaison Group (RCLG), Immigration Advisory Program (IAP) Officer or Joint Security Program (JSP) Officer.