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The Office of New Bostonians

HAITIAN TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

What is Haitian Temporary Protected Status (TPS)?

In response to the catastrophic earthquake in Haiti, President Barack Obama and Secretary of Homeland Security Jane Napolitano have announced that TPS will be granted to Haitians **already in the United States** as of January 12, 2010, **for a period of 18 months, from January 21, 2010 until July 22, 2011**. Deportations of Haitians will be stopped, and Haitians granted TPS will be allowed to obtain employment authorization.

When can I apply for TPS?

The registration period for Haitian TPS will begin on January 21, 2010 and end on July 20, 2010

Who is eligible for Haitian TPS? To qualify for Haitian TPS, you must:

1. Be an Haitian national or a person who last habitually resided in Haiti;
2. Have continuously resided in the U.S. since January 12, 2010;
3. Have been continuously present in the U.S. since January 21, 2010;
4. Meet certain other immigration admissibility requirements and TPS requirements; and
5. Satisfactorily complete the TPS application procedures.

How do I prove continuous physical presence and continuous residence in the United States?

Examples of documents you can submit include: job letters from your current and former employers showing where you have worked, rent receipts, payroll stubs, bank statements, school records, or any other documents you may have showing your continuous physical presence and continuous residence in the U.S

What do I need to apply?

1. Proof of Haitian citizenship or nationality (Birth Certificate, Passport, etc.)
 2. Proof of residence and presence in the U.S. (Passport with entry stamp, bills or receipts showing residence, other documentation)
 3. Two passport photos
 4. TPS application (Form I-821, dated 10/17/07 or later)
 5. Employment authorization application (Form I-765, dated 5/27/08 or later)
- Forms I-821 and Form I-765 are available by calling toll-free USCIS Form Hotline (800-870-3676)

Who is NOT eligible?

Warning: You may not be eligible to apply for TPS if certain grounds of inadmissibility apply to you or if you have been convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors. **You should obtain the advice of an attorney prior to filing for TPS if you have ever been charged with a crime.**

How much are filing fees and what if I cannot afford to pay for filing and/or biometrics (finger printing) fees?

TPS application (Form I-821):	\$50
Biometrics:	\$80
Employment authorization (Form I-765):	\$340

If you are unable to afford any of the above fees, you may submit a fee waiver request with **proper documentation** of inability to pay. Such documentation would include:

- Receiving a federal/state benefit that is determined by your level of income, or
- Evidence of household income that is below Federal poverty guidelines; or
- Evidence of extraordinary expenses incurred when compared to income such as high medical bills

Fee waivers may also be given for humanitarian reasons such as disability, homelessness or age. Documentation must also be provided to support these claims. All documentation must be in English or translated into English.