

Centro Comunitario CEUS

Tel: (201) 617-2466 - Fax: 866-317-6862 Email: info@ceusnj.org 4214 Kennedy Boulevard, Union City, NJ 07087

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What is the impact of the US governments announcement of a TPS extension?

On November 7, the United States National Registry published the announcement of a 9-month extension for the beneficiaries of the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program for the countries of El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti and Nepal.

Two days later, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (US CIS) also announced the automatic extension of the program for 9 more months, from January 4 to October 4, 2021.

This is good news for TPS beneficiary families. The extension of TPS will give them the security of continuing to work legally and living freely and legally in the United States for another 9 months.

This means that TPS beneficiaries, who have been working hard to achieve the extension of this work permit, will have additional time to continue pressuring Congress to pass legislation that would enable the legalization of thousands of people who have lived for years under the TPS program but now could face deportation if legislators do not act. Without the extension, the permits of many TPS holders would have expired in the first three months of 2020, leaving TPS holders with no legal status.

The last three have not been easy. But the united front of the National TPS Alliance, TPS-holders and local immigrant advocacy groups, such as Centro Comunitario CEUS, has been strong. We have raised our voices to demand protection from deportation and a path to residency for TPS holders. We have managed to challenge the current Trump administration through the courts, and we have organized marches and other activities to pressure politicians in Congress. (Read about the campaign in the page on the CEUS website here). Pro-TPS groups can now use the extra nine months to pressure for residency for TPS holders.

CEUS has been accompanying and organizing the community to achieve changes in immigration laws and seeking justice for the beneficiaries of the TPS protection program for many years. President Trump cancelled the TPS program in 2018.

What should TPS holders do now that the extension has been announced?

TPS holders should present the official communication announcing the extension of the TPS program (you can find it here) to their employer. Holders with a driving license should present the communication to the Department of Motor Vehicles, to verify that their driving license can be extended.

TPS holders also can apply for a renewal of their permit and receive a new employment ID that will show the new October expiration date.

To facilitate this process, CEUS is giving legal advice by phone on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m. For people who want or need to apply for the employment card, we will be giving appointments. Please call 201-617-2466 to make an appointment.

Also, we will provide TPS holders with a copy of the official US CIS statement on the automatic extension of TPS.

If you want more information, please send an email to: asalgado@ceusnj.org.