

Rhonda Prodzinski
Authorized Signature

Number: SS-PT-09-016
Issue Date: 05/07/2009

Topic: Other

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New Policy
 Policy Change
 Policy Clarification
 Executive Letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual Update
 Other: _____

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

Policy/Rule Title:	Guidance on Afghan Special Immigrants		
Policy/Rule Number(s):	461-120-0125 ; 461-135-0082 ; 461-135-0900 ; 461-193-0031	Release No:	
Effective Date:	Immediately Upon Receipt	Expiration:	N/A
References:	SS-AR-08-002 ; SS-PT-08-011 , Family Services Manual Chapter 5: REF; Chapter 9: Noncitizens C , F and WG-NC#1		
Web Address:			

Discussion/Interpretation: Per Public Law 111-08, the Afghan Special Immigrant (SIV) eligibility period has been increased from six to eight months for refugee assistance, entitlement programs, and other benefits granted to refugees, except Food Stamps. Please see SS-AR-08-002 and SS-PT-08-011 for direction regarding Afghan SIVs for Food Stamps.

No provision has been made for retroactive benefits for Afghan SIVs who arrived in the U.S. prior to August 1, 2008. Their benefits and services end after six months.

Afghan SIVs who arrived on or after August 1, 2008, are eligible for eight months of benefits and services that are provided to refugees. If a case closed because the six-month time limit was reached and the Afghan SIV arrived on or after August 1, 2008, they may be eligible for additional benefits.

After the eight-month time limit has been reached, the Afghan SIV must be treated according to Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR) policy for each program. For guidance on how to treat LPRs for each program, please refer to the Family Services Manual.

If there are any questions regarding Afghan SIV eligibility or other issues, please contact the appropriate policy analyst.

Implementation/Transition Instructions: Review this policy transmittal and apply this policy to determine if an Afghan Special Immigrant meets the citizenship/alien status requirements.

Training/Communication Plan: Local offices to review the policy transmittal with all Case Managers and FS/ERDC/medical workers.

Local/Branch Action Required: Please review applications or denial actions for Afghan Special Immigrants who applied for benefits prior to receipt of this policy transmittal. If eligible, restore benefits back to the correct date. If benefits were approved, review the certification period to ensure the end date is correct.

Central Office Action Required:

- Amended OAR 461-120-0125; 461-135-0082; 461-135-0900; and 461-193-0031
- Updated FSM – Chapter 5: REF; Chapter 9: Noncitizens (Section C, F, and WG-NC#1)
- Provide follow-up information and technical support through questions and answers.

Field/Stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

Filing Instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

Contact(s):	Refugee Program (REF/REFM) (503) 947-5261 Tony Scott (503) 945-6101 (Salem) Neeru Kanal (971) 673-5774 (Portland) Food Stamp Program (FS) (503) 945-6105 Anne Hilgers (503) 945-7018 Dawn Myers (503) 945-6220 Sarah Lambert (503) 947-5105 Eliza Devlin
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