



**TROW & RAHAL, P.C.**  
EXCELLENCE · EXPERTISE · EMPATHY

---

## Immigration Newsletter

October 2024

In this month's newsletter, T&R provides updates and information about (1) Immigration Policies of Presidential Candidates; (2) Emergency Assistance for Foreign Nationals from and in Lebanon due to ongoing conflict; (3) November 2024 visa bulletin; and (4) Diversity Green card Lottery Open until November

---

### IMMIGRATION POLICIES OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

The U.S. presidential election is less than two weeks away and immigration is one of the top issues. We understand that there is a lot of anxiety and nervousness about this topic by many of our clients, as well as by employers and foreign nationals in the United States and abroad. With either candidate, we expect to see changes and initiatives regarding immigration. Below are some links that outline what we might expect on immigration policies under both candidates.

- <https://www.piie.com/blogs/realtime-economics/2024/trump-vs-harris-immigration-future-policy-proposal>
- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2024/trump-harris-immigration/>
- <https://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/en/commentaries/trump-vs-harris-where-they-stand-on-immigration/>
- <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/immigration-and-the-macroeconomy-after-2024/>
- <https://immigrationimpact.com/2024/08/23/what-project-2025-says-about-immigration/>

T&R is here to answer questions or concerns about your immigration case.

We will keep you updated on any changes to business immigration policies after the election as we expect that there will be changes from both candidates.

---

## **SPECIAL IMMIGRATION PROVISIONS FOR LEBANESE NATIONALS**

Due to the ongoing armed conflict and extraordinary conditions in Lebanon, there are several measures to assist Lebanese nationals currently in the United States or seeking visas abroad.

**TPS for Lebanon:** The Biden Administration announced that Lebanese nationals (and individuals without nationality who last resided in Lebanon) are eligible for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as follows:

- Continuous residence in the United States since October 16, 2024;
- Meet all requirements of TPS, including background checks and other security measures.

What is TPS? It is a temporary immigration status provided to nationals of countries that the government has designated as facing ongoing armed conflict, natural disasters, or extraordinary and temporary conditions that make returning unsafe. It allows beneficiaries protection from deportation, work authorization in the United States, and possibly the ability to travel abroad with advance permission.

**Expedited Processing of I-130 and Immigrant visas at the U.S. embassy in Lebanon:** The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) liaison to the U.S. Department of State (DOS) provided these updates from a meeting with DOS:

1. **Immigrant Visa (IV) Processing:** The U.S. embassy in Beirut continues to process immigrant visas for immediate relatives (spouses and children under age 21 of U.S. citizens). The U.S. embassy will also accept direct filings of Form I-130 used to petition/sponsor an immediate relative. Any petition or immigrant visa process already underway can be requested to be expedited. And Lebanese nationals can process at any U.S. embassy for immigrant visas if they are anywhere else in the world.
2. **Nonimmigrant visa (NIV) Processing:** The U.S. embassy in Lebanon is NOT taking any nonimmigrant visa applications at this time.

---

## **NOVEMBER 2024 VISA BULLETIN**

U.S. Department of State (DOS) released the November 2024 visa bulletin; USCIS will honor dates of filing. There is essentially no movement in either the Final Action Dates or the Dates of Filing from the October to November visa bulletin. This is disappointing for most foreign nationals who remain in the queue for an immigrant visa number to become available so that they can file an application to adjust status. Full charts can be found [here](#).

---

## DIVERSITY "GREEN CARD" LOTTERY OPEN UNTIL NOVEMBER 5

The Diversity Lottery, known as the green card lottery, and administered by the U.S. Department of State opened on October 2, 2024, at noon Eastern Time and will close on Tuesday, November 5 at Noon, Eastern time. The lottery program makes up to 55,000 green card numbers available through random selection. The results will be announced in May 2025. Foreign nationals selected in the lottery can submit their green card applications starting on October 1, 2025.

The application can be done online and you do not need an attorney to do it. But you do need to follow the instructions carefully to ensure that the application is submitted correctly. For information and application process visit the [DV Program website](#).

---

## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

T&R sends out this newsletter once a month, but posts almost daily on social media including immigration alerts, updates, and other information. To get all T&R information, please connect with us on social media using the links below.



3 Bethesda Metro Center | Suite 610 | Bethesda MD 20814

[Click Here to Unsubscribe](#)

*Copyright © 2023 Trow & Rahal, PC, All Rights Reserved*