

.01 Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR)

A Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) is admitted into the U.S. for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

This noncitizen is potentially eligible for benefits when they meet any of the following:

- They have been continuously [lawfully residing\(g\)](#) in the U.S. AND their date of entry is five years in the past or more.

NA EXCEPTION

LPR's MUST meet the [40 Quarter Requirement](#) to be potentially eligible for benefits. The LPR's date of entry is not an issue. (Also see the [NA Exception to the 40 Quarter Requirement](#) for LPR who are not required to meet the 40 Quarter Requirement.)

MA EXCEPTION

When the LPR's date of entry is after August 22, 1996, and they state they entered the U.S. PRIOR to that date, see [MA Continuously Residing](#) and Lawful Permanent Resident policy and procedures.

- They entered the U.S. as a noncitizen eligible for benefits in another [qualified noncitizen](#) status prior to becoming an LPR.
- They have a [military connection](#).
- They are American Indians born in Canada who possess at least 50 per centum of American Indian blood. These Noncitizens are recognized as LPR's.

NOTE There is NO 40 quarter requirement for NA applicants who meet this criteria.

For North American Indians born in other countries, see [U.S. Citizenship.](#))

These applicants normally have one of the following [USCIS](#) documents:

- [I-551 Resident Alien Card](#)
- [I-151 Alien Registration Receipt Card](#)

- [I-181a Memorandum](#) of Creation of Record of Lawful Permanent Residence
- [I-94](#) or unexpired passport with the words, PROCESSED FOR I-551. TEMPORARY EVIDENCE OF LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENCE. VALID UNTIL (date).

WARNING

When a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) receives their I-551 Card, the entry date displayed on the I-551 is the date the I-551 was issued. The Status Code displays their original entry status. Refugees, Asylees, Cubans, Haitians, and Amerasians have an earlier entry date than that displayed on the I-551