

PART 223—REENTRY PERMITS, REFUGEE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, AND ADVANCE PAROLE DOCUMENTS

Sec.

223.1 Purpose of documents.

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223.3 Validity and effect on admissibility.

AUTHORITY: 8 U.S.C. 1103, 1181, 1182, 1186a, 1203, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1251; Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, November 1, 1968, 19 U.S.T. 6223 (TIAS 6577).

SOURCE: 59 FR 1464, Jan. 11, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 223.1 Purpose of documents.

(a) *Reentry permit.* A reentry permit allows a permanent resident to apply for admission to the United States upon return from abroad during the period of the permit's validity without the necessity of obtaining a returning resident visa.

(b) *Refugee travel document.* A refugee travel document is issued pursuant to this part and article 28 of the United Nations Convention of July 28, 1951, for the purpose of travel. A person who holds refugee status pursuant to section 207 of the Act, or asylee status pursuant to section 208 of the Act, must have a refugee travel document to return to the United States after temporary travel abroad unless he or she is in possession of a valid advance parole document.

§ 223.2 Processing.

(a) *General.* An application for a reentry permit, refugee travel document, or advance parole document must be filed on Form I-131, with the fee required in § 103.7 of this chapter and with the initial evidence required on the application form.

(b) *Eligibility.* (1) *Reentry permit.* Except as otherwise provided in this section, an application may be approved if filed by a person who is in the United States at the time of application and is a lawful permanent resident or conditional permanent resident.

(2) *Refugee travel document.* Except as otherwise provided in this section, an application may be approved if filed by a person who is in the United States at the time of application, and either holds valid refugee status under section 207 of the Act, valid asylee status

under section 208 of the Act, or is a permanent resident and received such status as a direct result of his or her asylee or refugee status.

(c) *Ineligibility—(1) Prior document still valid.* An application for a reentry permit or refugee travel document shall be denied if the applicant was previously issued a reentry permit or refugee travel document which is still valid, unless it was returned to the Service or it is demonstrated that it was lost.

(2) *Extended absences.* A reentry permit issued to a person who, since becoming a permanent resident, or during the last 5 years, whichever is less, has been outside the United States for more than 4 years in the aggregate, shall be limited to a validity of one year, except that a permit with a validity of two years may be issued to:

(i) A permanent resident as defined in 8 CFR 211.1(b)(1)(ii) or 211.1(b)(4);

(ii) A permanent resident employed by a public international organization of which the United States is a member by treaty or statute, and his or her permanent resident spouse and children; or

(iii) A permanent resident who is a professional athlete who regularly competes in the United States and worldwide.

(3) *Permanent resident entitled to non-immigrant diplomatic or treaty status.* A permanent resident entitled to non-immigrant status under section 101(a)(15) (A), (E), or (G) of the Act because of occupational status may only be issued a reentry permit if the applicant executes and submits with the application, or has previously executed and submitted, a written waiver on Form I-508 required by section 247(b) of the Act and part 247 of this chapter and, if applicable, Form I-508F (election as to tax exemption under the Convention between the United States and the French Republic) required by part 247 of this chapter.

(d) *Effect of travel before a decision is made.* Departure from the United States before a decision is made on an application for a reentry permit or refugee travel document shall not affect the application.

(e) *Processing.* Approval of an application is solely at the discretion of the

Service. If the application is approved, the requested document shall be issued as provided in this part.

(f) *Issuance.* A reentry permit or refugee travel document may be sent in care of a United States Consulate or an overseas office of the Service if the applicant so requests at the time of filing. Issuance of a reentry permit or refugee travel document to a person in exclusion or deportation proceedings shall not affect those proceedings.

(g) *Appeal.* Denial of an application for a reentry permit or refugee travel document may be appealed to the Service's Administrative Appeals Unit.

§ 223.3 Validity and effect on admissibility.

(a) *Validity*—(1) *Reentry permit.* Except as provided in § 223.2(c)(2), a reentry permit issued to a permanent resident shall be valid for 2 years from the date of issuance. A reentry permit issued to a conditional permanent resident shall be valid for 2 years from the date of issuance, or to the date the conditional permanent resident must apply for removal of the conditions on his or her status, whichever comes first.

(2) *Refugee travel document.* A refugee travel document shall be valid for 1 year, or to the date the refugee or asylee status expires, whichever comes first.

(b) *Invalidation.* A document issued under this part is invalid if obtained through material false representation or concealment, or if the person is ordered excluded or deported. A refugee travel document is also invalid if the United Nations Convention of July 28, 1951, ceases to apply or does not apply to the person as provided in Article 1C, D, E, or F of the convention.

(c) *Extension.* A reentry permit or refugee travel document may not be extended.

(d) *Effect on admissibility*—(1) *Reentry permit.* A permanent resident or conditional permanent resident in possession of a valid reentry permit who is otherwise admissible shall not be deemed to have abandoned status based solely on the duration of an absence or absences while the permit is valid.

(2) *Refugee travel document*—(i) *General.* Every alien returning to the United

States who presents a valid unexpired refugee travel document shall be permitted to come physically within the territory of the United States to receive consideration of his or her application for admission in conformity with paragraphs (d)(2)(ii) and (d)(2)(iii) of this section.

(ii) *Inspection and immigration status.* Upon arrival, an alien who presents a valid unexpired refugee travel document shall be examined as to his or her admissibility under the Act. An alien shall be accorded the immigration status endorsed in his or her refugee travel document unless he or she is no longer eligible therefor, or he or she applies for and is found eligible for some other immigration status.

(iii) *Exclusion.* If an alien who presents a valid unexpired refugee travel document appears to the examining immigration officer to be excludable as provided in § 236.5(c) of this chapter, he or she shall be referred for proceedings under section 236 and 237 of the Act. Section 235(c) of the Act shall not be applicable.

PART 231—ARRIVAL-DEPARTURE MANIFESTS AND LISTS; SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Sec.

231.1 Arrival manifest for passengers.

231.2 Departure manifest for passengers.

231.3 Exemptions for private vessels and aircraft.

AUTHORITY: Secs. 101, 103, 212, 231, 238, 239, 66 Stat. 166, 173, 182, 195, 202, 203; 8 U.S.C. 1101, 1103, 1182, 1221, 1228, 1229.

§ 231.1 Arrival manifest for passengers.

(a) *Requirement for manifest.* The master, captain, or agent of every vessel or aircraft arriving in the United States from a foreign place or outlying possession of the United States shall present an arrival manifest to the immigration officer at the port of entry. The manifest must be in the form of a separate Arrival/Departure Record, Form I-94, prepared on board for each passenger except: United States citizens, lawful permanent resident aliens of the United States, and immigrants to the United States. In addition, a properly completed Aircraft/Vessel Report, Form I-