

Advocates say noncitizens should prepare for Trump

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Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

DETROIT – Immigration lawyers and advocates are preparing their clients ahead of President-elect Donald Trump assuming office in January.

Although details remain unclear, Trump promised on the campaign trail to conduct the “largest deportation operation in American history,” and has suggested using local law enforcement and the National Guard to implement that plan.

Immigrants who don't have citizenship but who have the legal right to stay in the U.S. may lose authorization if the incoming Trump administration ends or changes policies.

Here are some specific steps that the legal services nonprofit Michigan Im-

migrant Rights Center recommends noncitizens – which covers a broad spectrum of immigrants who don't have citizenship – can do now:

- Ensure U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has the correct mailing address if there's a pending application. People in removal proceedings, and who don't have representation, can file for a change of address at [respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov](https://www.dhs.gov/eoira-portal).

- Children or noncitizen parents should apply for or renew their U.S. passport at travel.state.gov. People in mixed-status households should secure passports from their countries of origin.

- Legal permanent residents should apply for citizenship now, MIRC recommends.

- Immigrants with work authorization that expires in the next six months

should apply for a renewal as soon as possible, the organization says.

DACA

Recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, a program that delays the deportation of undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children, should submit for a renewal if their DACA status expires within six months, MIRC says.

TPS

The federal government grants Temporary Protected Status, or TPS, to people who can't return safely to their home countries. MIRC suggests those with this status consider whether they are eligible for another immigration status and apply for that if they are.

Immigration parole

Individuals in immigration parole programs, particularly for Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Ukraine and Afghanistan, are legally present in the U.S. until their parole ends.

Asylum-seekers

People come to the U.S. every year seeking protection from persecution for a number of reasons, ranging from race and religion to nationality and political opinion. Asylum-seekers should apply for their first work permit, if they are eligible, even if they do not plan to work, according to the Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project, which MIRC cites. Asylum-seekers should renew their work permit if they have a two-year permit that will expire before 2028.