

Services to U.S. Legal Permanent Residents

Abandoning Legal Permanent Resident:

If you no longer wish to be a U.S. Legal Permanent Resident, complete Form I-407 (Record of Abandonment of Lawful Permanent Resident Status) and schedule an appointment for a Notarial Service at our website: <https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=KHT&appcode=1>

Returning Resident Status:

If you are a U.S. Legal Permanent Resident who has been out of the United States for more than a year, it is possible that you may qualify for Returning Resident status. Returning Resident Status is for an alien who meets the following requirements:

- was a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States at the time of departure;
- at the time of departure, had the intention of returning to the United States;
- while residing abroad, did not abandon the intention of returning to the United States; and
- is returning from a temporary residence abroad from which the protracted stay was caused by reasons beyond his or her control.

To apply for returning resident status, complete the form DS-117 (Application to Determine Returning Resident Status) and schedule an appointment for a Notarial Service at our website: <https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=KHT&appcode=1>.

Information on the fee to file a DS-117 is available at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/fees/fees-visa-services.html>. **Note that the fee is non-refundable, even if the DS-117 is denied.**

Lost/Stolen Green Cards

Permanent Resident Alien Registration Cards (commonly known as Form I-551 or “green cards”) can be issued or replaced only by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). A Legal Permanent Resident whose green card has been lost /stolen while out of the U.S. for less than one year may apply for a boarding foil to return to the United States. In order for the Embassy to issue such a foil, the applicant must appear in person at the Embassy to be interviewed by a Consular Officer. This process can take several weeks.

Please note: If you have been outside of the U.S. for more than one year, you are likely not eligible for a boarding foil. Instead, you may apply for Returning Resident Status (see above). Information on maintaining permanent resident status can be found on the USCIS website.

In order to apply for a boarding foil, you must visit our embassy with the following required documents and schedule an appointment for a Notarial Service at our website:

<https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=KHT&appcode=1.>:

- Form I-131A: Application for Travel Document (Carrier Documentation) to Replace Permanent Resident Card. **Form I-131A is the only application form used for this service.** Consular sections will no longer accept Form I-90 in conjunction with boarding foil applications, and will instead require boarding foil applicants to complete Form I-131A.
- USCIS Fee receipt: There is a \$575 fee for this service, this fee must be paid through the USCIS online payment system (ELIS). Applicants will need their A number in order to pay the fee, which they may obtain from the nearest USCIS office. Applicants must have paid the fee *and bring the fee receipt with them* when they come to apply for the boarding foil.
- Non-immigrant visa Application Form DS-160 found in <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/forms/ds-160-online-nonimmigrant-visa-application.html> .
- Police Report: The applicant must provide a copy of the police report describing the circumstances under which the Form I-551 was lost or stolen, and proving that the applicant reported the loss/theft to the police. If the report is in a foreign language, please submit an English translation.
- A copy of applicant's lost/stolen I-551;
- Airline ticket/itinerary specifying applicant's past and future dates of travel;
- Passport; and
- Passport size photo. The photographs must be 2 inches x 2 inches (5 cm x 5 cm) in size, showing a full, front-face view against a white background, without eyeglasses.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT LOST AND STOLEN GREEN CARDS:

Can the I-131A fee paid to USCIS be refunded? The I-131A fee will only be refunded in the event of U.S. government error. USCIS will not process a refund if an applicant later determines that a LPR boarding foil was unnecessary. Please contact the relevant USCIS Field Office for more information.

What evidence can LPRs present at an airport, rather than applying for a boarding foil? To enter the U.S., a LPR may present at least one of the following items in place of a boarding foil:

1. An expired Permanent Resident Card with a 10-year expiration date;

or

2. A valid Permanent Resident Card (with a two-year validity), and a Form I-797, Notice of Action, indicating that status is extended;

or

3. Orders from the U.S. government (civilian or military) showing that time outside the U.S. was on official government business. These individuals should consult their air carrier prior to completion of an I-131A and payment of the fee.

Where can I obtain my A number or find out more information? Please direct your inquiries to the nearest USCIS field office location.