



# THE LIBERIAN REFUGEE IMMIGRATION FAIRNESS (LRIF) PROGRAM

Enacted on December 20, 2019, the [Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness](#) program gives eligible **Liberian nationals and certain family members** in the United States a one-year window, **until December 20, 2021**, to apply for adjustment of status (green card).

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

### The Applicant Must Be:

- A Liberian national;
- Living in the United States since November 20, 2014, and not been absent from the United States for more than 180 days total prior to filing; AND
- Generally admissible (eligible for permanent residency in the United States).
  - Interactions with law enforcement (arrests, citations, detentions) can impact admissibility if they are for crimes that require waivers.



### Proof of Liberian Nationality

- What proof do I need to show that I am a Liberian national?
  - Unexpired Liberian passport; OR
  - Liberian birth certificate issued by the proper civil authorities.

### Proof of Continuous Residence in the United States

- What proof do I need to show that I have been living in the United States?
  - There are no mandatory documents, but it is recommended to include tax transcripts, passport with visa and entry stamps, school records, and medical records, if available.

### Proof of Lawful Entry Into the United States

- What if I didn't enter the United States lawfully?
  - This does not disqualify you from applying. You can still apply if you have proof that you first entered the United States by November 20, 2014.

### Spouses and Children

- Can my spouse and my children apply even if they are not Liberian nationals?
  - Yes! Spouses and unmarried children under 21 years of age can apply. They do not need to be Liberian nationals.
- If I apply with my whole family, does everyone need to show continuous presence since November 20, 2014?
  - No. Only the principal applicant needs to show continuous presence. Spouses and unmarried children under 21 years of age do not need to show continuous presence since November 20, 2014.
- Eligible family members only need to prove that the qualifying relationship exists.

### Public Charge and Public Benefits

#### Does public charge apply?

No. Under the LRIF there is no requirement to submit Forms I-864 or I-944. There is no sponsorship required. The use of public assistance such as SNAP, Medicaid, subsidized medical insurance, TANF, Section 8 housing, etc. does not impact the application.

#### What if I've been arrested?

All arrests must be disclosed; however, this does not necessarily disqualify you. Speak to an attorney about any arrests or convictions. They will let you know whether you should apply, and whether you need a waiver. Provide the attorney with certificates of disposition to review any arrests, detentions, etc.

#### Can I apply if I already have a case pending in immigration court?

This does not disqualify you from applying. Talk to your lawyer about next steps, including informing the court that you want to apply for adjustment of status under the LRIF.

## WHAT KEMPSTER, CORCORAN, QUICENO, LENZ-CALVO, LTD IS DOING

If you believe that you qualify for adjustment of status under the LRIF program, we encourage you to contact our office at (312) 341-9730 and schedule a consultation with one of our attorneys.