



Navigating Permanent Residency Under the Cuban Adjustment Act

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Navigating the complexities of the United States immigration system presents distinct challenges for Cuban nationals seeking long-term stability. The federal framework known as the Cuban Adjustment Act provides a specific pathway to lawful permanent residency for eligible individuals who have resided in the country for at least one year following a lawful entry or parole. To assist families in navigating this process, De Maio Law, PLLC offers dedicated legal guidance tailored to the nuances of these immigration cases. The firm focuses on helping applicants understand their options, from verifying initial entry records to securing unconditional ten-year green cards.

The immigration framework establishes two primary pathways for obtaining status under the Cuban Adjustment Act. The first pathway applies directly to Cuban citizens or nationals who were inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States. Once an applicant meets the one-year physical presence requirement and demonstrates admissibility, they can apply for adjustment of status without the necessity of maintaining a continuous lawful immigration status or submitting an affidavit of support. The second pathway extends these benefits to the spouses of Cuban nationals who have adjusted their status. This allows non-Cuban spouses from various countries of origin to seek permanent residency based on their marriage,

avoiding the lengthy wait times typically associated with standard family-based visa categories.

Many families often weigh the benefits of applying under the Cuban Adjustment Act against other common immigration pathways, such as marriage to a United States citizen. While both avenues lead to permanent residency, the specific rules governing Cuban adjustment cases offer distinct procedural advantages. For instance, applicants utilizing this framework do not face the requirement of entering the country on a specific visa, as a lawful parole entry satisfies the initial threshold. Additionally, the resulting permanent residency status bypasses the conditional two-year period, granting an immediate ten-year green card upon approval. De Maio Law, PLLC reviews individual entry records, including Form I-94 documentation, to ensure that errors or inconsistencies are corrected before applications are submitted to federal authorities.

Because every immigration history is unique, careful documentation remains essential throughout the adjustment process. Reviewing prior immigration filings, travel records, and supporting evidence early can help prevent unnecessary delays, requests for additional evidence, or avoidable complications. Thorough preparation often contributes to a more efficient application review.

Beyond the final residency determination, applicants often require interim support to maintain their livelihoods while their cases are pending with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The legal process allows individuals to apply for employment authorization and advance parole travel permission concurrently with their residency applications. Properly managing these filings ensures that applicants can continue working legally and travel internationally without jeopardizing their pending status. Following five years of lawful permanent residence, individuals may also choose to pursue United States citizenship through the naturalization process, which requires a separate evaluation of statutory requirements and thorough interview preparation.

Based in Coral Gables, Florida, De Maio Law, PLLC provides immigration representation to clients locally and nationwide. The firm features a team of Cuban-born legal professionals who possess personal insight into the culture and specific challenges faced by the Cuban community. With decades of combined experience in family and humanitarian immigration, the bilingual team assists clients throughout the entire immigration journey, from initial entry evaluation to final citizenship. For more information, visit <https://www.demaio-law.com/en/ajustecubano> or contact the firm to discuss specific immigration needs.

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