



The International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) is an organization that is not part of the U.S. government, the Turkish government, ICMC, IOM, or UNHCR. We cannot make decisions to grant refugee status, speed up cases, or resettle refugees. We provide free legal assistance related to refugee resettlement and U.S. immigration law. We do not assist with any Turkish legal issues. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide financial assistance, find or pay for housing, or find jobs.

**IF YOU ARE AN AFGHAN NATIONAL WHO WAS  
EMPLOYED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE U.S.  
GOVERNMENT OR ISAF, AND YOU WANT TO APPLY  
FOR A U.S. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISA, IRAP  
LAWYERS MAY BE ABLE TO HELP FOR FREE.**

Afghan nationals who were employed in Afghanistan by or on behalf the U.S. government or by ISAF or a successor mission and who meet certain requirements may be eligible to apply for a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) to immigrate to the U.S.

Afghans who have applied for an SIV and who have received a denial from the Chief of Mission (COM) may file an appeal within 120 days of receiving the denial letter. Denied applicants may also be able to file a new SIV application if they meet current application requirements.

IRAP staff can assist by explaining the SIV process, attempting to locate U.S. citizen supervisors or U.S. companies to request letters that are necessary for an SIV application, and in some cases, providing a U.S. attorney to prepare and file an SIV application or appeal.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE IRAP ASSISTANCE, PLEASE EMAIL  
[info@refugeerights.org](mailto:info@refugeerights.org)**

In your email, please include a brief description of your U.S. or ISAF employment history and information about any past SIV applications. If your SIV COM application was denied, please send a picture of the denial letter. At the start of your message, please write “this is a response to IRAP’s leaflet”

An IRAP staffer will contact you to get more information about your case and see if we can assist. However, we have a large number of requests for assistance and it may take up to three weeks for us to contact you. IRAP attorneys can only assist a limited number of people in specific circumstances. Sending an email does not guarantee that you will receive legal assistance.

If your SIV COM application was denied and you want to appeal, you **must** submit an appeal within 120 days. If your deadline is approaching, please do **not** wait to submit an appeal.