



INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROJECT

المشروع الدولي لمساعدة اللاجئين (آيراب)

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 IRAQI NATIONAL WHO WAS EMPLOYED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THEN IRAP LAWYERS MAY BE ABLE TO HELP FOR FREE.

- 1) **IF YOU ARE AN IRAQI NATIONAL WHO WAS EMPLOYED BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN IRAQ, AND YOU HAVE ALREADY APPLIED FOR A SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISA (SIV), THEN IRAP MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST.**

Iraqis who were employed in Iraq by or on behalf the U.S. government (including for contractors) and who met certain requirements were permitted to file SIV applications to immigrate to the U.S. **The government stopped accepting new SIV on September 30, 2014.** Existing applications continue to be processed. Individuals with Chief of Mission (COM) denials can appeal within 120 days of receiving the denial.

- 2) **OR IF YOU ARE AN IRAQI NATIONAL WHO WAS AN INTERPRETER OR TRANSLATOR FOR THE U.S. MILITARY IN IRAQ, AND YOU HAVE ALREADY APPLIED OR WANT TO APPLY NOW FOR AN SIV, THEN IRAP MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST.**

Iraqis who were employed in Iraq by the U.S. military as interpreters or translators and who meet certain requirements can file new SIV applications under a different SIV program. Former interpreters must usually obtain a recommendation letter from a general or flag officer. This program is limited to 50 SIVs every year.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE IRAP ASSISTANCE, PLEASE EMAIL info@refugeerights.org

IRAP staff can assist by explaining the SIV process, attempting to locate required documentation, and in some cases, providing a U.S. attorney to prepare and file an SIV application or appeal. In your email, please include a brief description of your U.S. employment history and information about any past SIV applications. If your SIV 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 to wait to submit an appeal.

Please note that the SIV process is different than refugee resettlement. The refugee resettlement program for U.S.-affiliated Iraqis and their families (known as Iraqi P2-DAP) continues in certain countries and can accept new applications. There is no Iraqi P2-DAP processing in Turkey.