Disclaimer: This list contains information and “lessons learned” by US military veterans trying to help our Afghan friends. Please use this as a resource and know we are doing our best to be helpful here. The situation in Kabul and elsewhere changes rapidly and we will try to keep this updated. We are very sorry our friends and allies are suffering right now.

Afghans Needing Evacuation

1. **BREAKING 8/22: HUMANITARIAN PAROLE IS OPENING.** Sponsors are needed to bring you in. Here is the link to the forms and procedure to apply for this if you do not yet have any visa: [https://www.uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/humanitarian-parole](https://www.uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/humanitarian-parole). We will update here as we have more clarity.

2. **Sign Up on Evacuation Lists** - We recommend adding your information into the sign-up lists created by government, nonprofits, and private citizens who are trying to get you out:
   - **US Embassy Kabul Repatriation Assistance Request** - Definitely sign up on the embassy’s official page. There is an option for “non-US citizen awaiting immigrant visa.” It says to await an email or call for evacuation.
   - **Allied Airlift 21 Support Request** - This has been built privately by US Military Academy alumni to help Afghan allies. Fill this out for them to help you.
   - **Nonprofit Coalition Evacuation List** - This is an evolving list consolidating some of the many lists that have been circulating the last few days. Fill this one out also.

3. **Reach Out to Organizations That Can Help You** - If you need visa help, resources for resettlement, information on how to protect yourself from Taliban searches and targeting, etc., please take the time to explore the resources below:
   - **Association of Wartime Allies** - Contact them with your SIV and P2 visa questions, and get in their closed Facebook group for realtime information on what is happening.
   - **No One Left Behind** - Read their online explainers of the SIV process and resources to help you resettle in the US and either sign up for their email list or reach out to them.
   - **Human Rights First** - Read their info relevant to what is happening now, and check out their pages on protecting yourself from Taliban searching you both in person and targeting you online to harm you.
4. **Understand US Visa Situation** - If you don’t have a US visa, don’t give up hope. If you’re lost, here are some basics:

- **Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)** - This is a 14-step process designed for translators who served with US/ISAF forces for a minimum of two years. It is a long and confusing process, and you may have been refused because your employment was terminated due to a whole host of reasons by the agency you worked for like MEP, or any other inexplicable reasons you’ll hear from so many applicants who served honorably as translators.

- **Priority 1 Visa (P1)** - This includes individuals referred by the US Embassy, UNHCR, or designated NGO for resettlement, with special consideration for those under especially severe threats, including women and girls, human rights defenders, journalists, and other civil society actors. Contact the US State Department office managing this at ATF-TF3@state.gov and (202) 485-1627.

- **Priority 2 Visa (P2)** - This includes “groups of special concern” for resettlement. Eligible Afghans who can apply for this visa include interpreters who do not meet requirements for the SIV; anyone who has worked for US agencies or organizations funded by US agencies; and anyone working in media organizations. Applicants for P2 are expected to go to a third country for processing of this visa.

- **IRAP Legal Resources for Afghans** - See some frequently asked questions and learn more about getting help with your visa application.

- **Pars Equality Center** - Request pro-bono (free) legal help with your visa application.

- **University of Pittsburgh Center for Governance and Markets Afghan Assistance Form** - Request free help with SIV or P2 visas.

- **US Department of State Refugee Processing Center Info** - Read the official details of the above programs.

- **Lessons Learned from Visa Programs for Afghans** - This is a clear, current overview of the problems involved with the above visa programs.

5. **Consider Immediate Options Outside of US** - As of this writing, the US has been very restrictive in its evacuations of individuals who are not US citizens/greencards. Here are some options you may want to consider outside of the US:
- **Humanitarian Parole** - The US right now is taking applications for Humanitarian Parole IF they are made in a “third country” (that is, a country other than Afghanistan or US who will accept you). Application for Humanitarian Parole can be made at the US embassy in that country. Below is a listing of some of the countries accepting Afghans (note that some restrictions apply):
  - Uzbekistan - E-visa
  - Tajikistan - E-visa
  - Kyrgyzstan - E-visa
  - Antigua and Barbuda - E-visa
  - Benin - E-visa
  - Cape Verde - Visa on arrival - 3 months
  - Comoros - Visa on arrival - 45 days
  - Dominica - Visa free entry - 21 days
  - Ethiopia - E-visa - 90 days
  - Maldives - Visa on arrival - 30 days
  - Qatar - E-visa

- **Leaving Afghanistan** - This is a detailed info sheet on visa and evacuation policies for many countries. Please definitely look here if you are seeking options with any country other than the US.

- **EXIT SOS Afghanistan** - This is another very good listing of info and contacts for many countries, including in Europe.

6. **Understand Situation at Hamid Karzai International Airport** - Thousands of Afghans have been waiting outside this massive airport at the multiple gates. The situation changes there constantly and many risks are involved in attempting to access the airport. Here is a summary of what we’ve experienced:

- **Taliban Checkpoints** - Many checkpoints are set up all along the perimeter of the airport and routes to the airport. The US agreement with Taliban is for them to not block access to Afghans with travel documents. However, there are reports of Taliban searching possessions, searching phones, and blocking movement of anyone not a US citizen, greencard holder, or visa holder. They may also be using checkpoints to identify US-affiliated Afghans for future retribution.

- **Local Government Forces (LGF)** - Outer gate areas have been guarded by uniformed Afghans who appear to be remnants of military and police units (NOTE: as of 8/21, some of these forces are now being identified as Taliban). Sometimes they can be approached for information, sometimes they are seen firing into the air to frighten and disperse crowds, sometimes they are whipping or beating people waiting for entry, and often they are limiting access to gates to only individuals who are US citizens and greencard holders, or sometimes visa holders. They may ask for bribes from individuals holding access passes from the
embassy or boarding passes. They may block individuals who were told to go to specific gates. People do get through, but the number is limited. We do not have guidance for getting past these forces.

- **US and UK Military** - Currently the interior of the gates are manned by US and UK troops at various locations, and they conduct screenings for those who make it past LGF and ultimately manifest passengers for evacuation flights.

- **Gate Closures and Curfews** - Gates typically open up at 6:00am local time and close in the evening, after which forces will attempt to disperse crowds. It is DANGEROUS outside gates at night. Gates have also been closing off and on throughout any given day. Guidance has been that early morning is best for attempting to access any gate, and the wait can be long and chaotic.

- **Different Gate Locations** - Individuals may be directed to different gates at different times. Most commonly, visa holders are being directed to Camp Sullivan for entry. Scroll down for a map identifying the gates you may be directed to:

![Hamid Karzai International Airport Map](image)

7. **Situation Keeps Changing, and More May Become Possible.** It is scary and very dangerous out there. Please stay safe and don’t give up. There may not be a way out for you yesterday or today, but so many of us are hoping it will change tomorrow or the next day as our nation understands we must fulfill our promises to you. We are wishing for you to get to safety as soon as possible.