Central American Minors (CAM) Affidavit of Relationship Fact Sheet

What is CAM?

The **Central American Minors (CAM) program** is a legal pathway through which children and other family members in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras can reunite with parents who are lawfully present in the United States.

Who Can File?

Any **parent or legal guardian 18 years or older** who has authorized presence in the United States in one of the following categories:

- Lawful Permanent Resident
- Temporary Protected Status
- Parolee
- Deferred Action, DACA
- Deferred Action, Non-DACA
- Deferred Enforced Departure
- Withholding of Removal Grantee
- Pending I-589 Asylum Application
- Pending I-918 U Visa Application
- Pending I-914 T Visa Application **(NEW!)**
   *I-589, I-918 & I-914 must have been filed before **April 11, 2023***

For whom can I file?

Your **qualifying minor child** who is a national of and is currently residing in El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras:
- **Qualifying Minor Child (QCH):** Unmarried biological, adopted and step-children under 21 years old

If your qualifying child has the following **relatives**, they may be eligible to be included in the AOR:
- Your qualifying child's **unmarried children** under 21
- Your child's other parent/your **current legal spouse**
   - Your spouse's unmarried children under 21 years old
- Your qualifying child's **biological parent** (not married to you)
   - The legal spouse of your qualifying child's biological parent
   - Unmarried children under 21 years old of the qualifying child's biological parent
- Your qualifying child's **primary caregiver** over 18 years old that is related to you or your child biologically or by marriage
   - The legal spouse of your qualifying child's primary caregiver
   - Unmarried children under 21 years old of the qualifying child's primary caregiver
- **Siblings of your qualifying child** that are 21 years or older and/or married
   - The legal spouse of your qualifying child's sibling
   - Unmarried children under 21 years old of the qualifying child's sibling

All of the above-mentioned relatives must live with your qualifying child EXCEPT the siblings of your qualifying child.

Understanding the DNA Test Requirement

DNA testing will be required if there is a parent-child relationship between you (the qualifying parent/legal guardian) and family members on the application. The cost of the test will be paid by the US Government. A positive DNA match will not guarantee that the family will be approved for resettlement

How are CAM AORs filed?

How to file your CAM Affidavit of Relationship (AOR), Filing Form DS-7699

Beware of Notarios and other immigration scams! The AOR may be filed through a designated refugee resettlement agency authorized by the US Department of State in your area. The organization **Kids In Need of Defense (KIND)** has also been authorized by the Department of State to prepare CAM AORs for resettlement agencies to file. There is **NO FEE** to prepare or file Form DS-7699.

To start the CAM application process, **please fill out the KIND CAM Referral Form by scanning this QR code**. KIND will then contact you and will screen your case. If you are eligible, KIND will be able to help you prepare a CAM AOR. Once KIND has prepared your CAM AOR, it will be sent to a resettlement agency for filing.

Preparing supporting documents

Once you have connected with KIND to help you prepare your Form DS-7699, you should be ready to provide KIND with:

- Proof of your immigration status as a qualifying parent/legal guardian
- Birth certificates for all applicants
- Accurate and complete names of relatives
- Correct overseas addresses

- Marriage certificates
- Family relationships
- Adoption or legal guardianship papers, if applicable
- Passport style photograph(s) for each qualifying child and family member

After filing an AOR, what does the application process look like?

1 **Pre-screening**: After KIND has prepared your application and your CAM AOR has been filed by a Resettlement Agency, your child and family members in Central America will undergo a pre-screening interview by the International Organization for Migration ("IOM"). IOM is a contractor of the U.S. Department of State.

2 **DNA test:** If you are claiming a parent-to-child biological relationship, you and your family member will take a DNA test to prove your relationship.

3 **Interview**: Your child and family members will be interviewed in the country that they are in by USCIS if CAM processing is available there. CAM processing will be available in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.

4 **CAM Decision**: USCIS decides whether your child and family members may enter on refugee status or parole status.

If USCIS decides that your child and family members can enter as a **refugee**, it means that USCIS thinks that they are afraid of persecution or have been persecuted in their home country because of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. Refugee status is permanent permission to live in the United States.

If USCIS decides that your child and family members can enter on **parole status**, that means they will have temporary permission to join you in the United States. Parole status will usually last three years.

5 **Medical Exam**: Your children and family members must complete a medical exam. Those traveling on parole status will have to pay for all fees related to the medical exam.

6 **Travel and Entry to the United States**: Your children and family members travel to the United States.

If they were approved for refugee status, IOM will assist with travel arrangements. The local refugee resettlement agency will provide them with resettlement services when they arrive in the United States.

If they were approved for parole status, you will be responsible for coordinating travel arrangements with IOM and for all travel fees. At the United States port of entry, Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) will make the final decision on whether your children and family members will be given parole and for how long.