

Registration Requirement

April 11, 2025

What is it? A rule goes into effect on April 11, 2025, that sets up a new process for non-citizen “registration” throughout the United States and requires individuals to carry proof of their registration. While the registration law has existed for over a hundred years, the government has not actually required anyone to register since the end of the Second World War, almost 80 years ago.

Who could this apply to: Noncitizens 14 years of age or older must apply for registration and fingerprinting, *unless already registered*.

Who does not need to register: Many people do not need to register because they are already considered “registered.” That includes some people who currently do not have valid immigration status. For example, green card holders, people who were granted parole, those who are already in immigration court proceedings, and anyone who has ever been granted a work permit (even if that authorization has since expired) are already registered. But don’t guess! Talk to an immigration attorney about your specific situation.

Should I register? The answer to that question is beyond the scope of this flyer. The decision to register is potentially complicated and depends on the specific facts of your situation. We urge you to consult with an immigration attorney. Because the deadlines are unclear, it is important to seek advice as soon as possible.

Is this registration requirement being challenged in court? Yes, there is at least one case challenging this requirement: *Coalition For Humane Immigrant Rights et al v. U.S. DHS et al.* filed in the District Court of D.C. on March 31, 2025. An early attempt to stop this new rule in that case was unsuccessful,¹ but other lawsuits may be filed later.

We recommend that you:

- **REVIEW** the registration requirements on <https://www.uscis.gov/alienregistration>.
- **EVALUATE** your immigration case to determine whether this new rule applies to you.
- **SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY** *before* registering.
- **BEWARE OF SCAMS:** Make sure that you seek help from someone who is licensed to practice immigration law and that you trust: American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA): <https://ailalawyer.com/> (or call 1-800-954-0254); DOJ Recognized organizations and accredited representatives: <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/recognized-organizations-and-accredited-representatives-roster-state-and-city> (or call 703-305-9029).

¹ Visit <https://www.aclu.org/cases/coalition-for-humane-immigrant-rights-v-u-s-department-of-homeland-security>.