<https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-or-significant-public-benefit-parole-for-individuals-outside-the-united-states>

# The Need for a Sponsor

One important factor we consider in determining whether to exercise discretion to authorize parole is whether the beneficiary will have a means of support while in the United States. We require evidence of a sponsor to provide financial support to the parolee in the United States. Lack of evidence of financial support while in the United States is a strong negative factor that may lead to a denial of parole. We will take into account the [Health and Human Services Federal poverty guidelines](http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-research) along with any special circumstances related to the beneficiary’s need for care in assessing whether there are sufficient funds in place to adequately support the beneficiary once in the United States.

**Requirements for Sponsors**

The sponsor is the individual who agrees to provide financial support to the beneficiary while they are in the United States for the duration of the parole authorization period. The financial sponsor may or may not be the same person or entity as the petitioner. The sponsor must submit a [Form I-134, Affidavit of Support (PDF, 463.53 KB)](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-134.pdf) for each parole request to establish whether they have enough financial resources to support the parolee during their stay in the United States, and if the funds are overseas, access to those funds for the parolee’s stay in the United States.

Though there is no requirement regarding the sponsor’s immigration status in the United States, a sponsor who has a more permanent status in the United States, such as lawful permanent residence or is a U.S. citizen, may more readily be able to establish the ability to support the parolee in the United States. Evidence of the sponsor’s immigration status or citizenship in the United States may be relevant to the sponsor’s ability to support the beneficiary. Therefore, the petitioner should generally include evidence of the sponsor’s immigration status or citizenship in the United States, such as the sponsor’s permanent residence card, naturalization certificate, birth certificate or passport with the parole request.

**It is important to read the**[**Form I-134 instructions (PDF, 371.05 KB)**](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-134instr.pdf)**carefully for information about what kind of evidence is required to demonstrate sufficient income and financial resources.** Some examples of evidence that is helpful in demonstrating financial resources include pay stubs, last filed tax return or a letter from a sponsor’s employer.

Multiple Sponsors

When determining a sponsor, the petitioner must take into account the Health and Human Services Federal [poverty guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility), and any special needs of the beneficiary. If the petitioner is unable to identify a sponsor who alone has sufficient means to support the beneficiary in the United States, the petitioner may indicate more than one sponsor if they have the means and agree to support the beneficiary while paroled in the United States. In this situation, the petitioner must submit a [Form I-134, Affidavit of Support (PDF, 463.53 KB)](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-134.pdf), along with the proper supporting documentation, from each sponsor.

Self-Sponsor

A beneficiary may also demonstrate that he or she is financially self-sufficient by submitting a [Form I-134, Affidavit of Support (PDF, 463.53 KB)](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-134.pdf), with supporting financial documentation.

Organization as a Sponsor

Occasionally, a non-profit organization or medical institution may serve as a sponsor on a parole application. In those instances, if an employee of the organization cannot complete a [Form I-134, Affidavit of Support (PDF, 463.53 KB)](https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-134.pdf), the petitioner should include with the parole application, a letter from the organization committing to support the beneficiary.