



Department of Human Resources  
311 West Saratoga Street  
Baltimore MD 21201

**Family Investment Administration  
ACTION TRANSMITTAL**

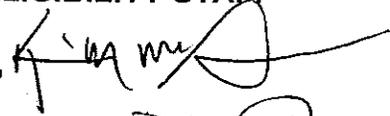
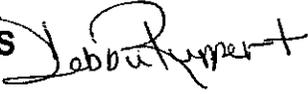
Control Number: #10-24

Effective Date: IMMEDIATELY

Supersedes AT 08-30 and AT 09-28

Issuance Date: March 15, 2010

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
ASSISTANT DIRECTORS OF ADMINISTRATION / FINANCE OFFICERS  
DEPUTY / ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT  
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

**FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,   
FAMILY INVESTMENT ADMINISTRATION  
DEBBIE RUPPERT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DHMH/OES **

**RE: ELIMINATION OF THE EIGHT-MONTH TIME LIMIT FOR IRAQI AND  
AFGHAN SPECIAL IMMIGRANTS**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: ALL PROGRAMS**

**ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS**

**SUMMARY:**

Action transmittals 08-30 issued April 28, 2008 and 09-28 issued March 16, 2009 described the immigration status for certain Iraqi and Afghan immigrants. Under this policy these immigrants were treated on the same basis as refugees admitted under section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) except this period of special eligibility was limited.

The Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2010 (Section 8120, P. L. 111-118) enacted on December 19, 2009, provides that Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants (SIVs) are eligible for federal public benefits to the same extent and for the same time period as refugees. The new legislation supersedes the policy in Action transmittals 08-30 and 09-28, which limited SIVs to refugee status for a specified period. The new legislation provides that SIVs are eligible for all available benefits to the same extent and for the same period of time as refugees pursuant to Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Provided that other eligibility requirements are met, refugees are eligible for benefits indefinitely.

**ACTION REQUIRED**

Consider SIVs as eligible for benefits to the same extent and for the same period of time as refugees pursuant to Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

### ACCEPTABLE VERIFICATION

Applicant	Documentation
Principal Applicant Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant	Iraqi or Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI1 or SQ1  and DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry
Spouse of Principal Applicant Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant	Iraqi or Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI2 or SQ2  and DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry
Unmarried Child Under 21 Years of Age of Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant	Iraqi or Afghan passport with an immigrant visa stamp noting that the individual has been admitted under IV (Immigrant Visa) Category SI3 or SQ3  and DHS stamp or notation on passport or I-94 showing date of entry
Principal Applicant Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant  Principal Adjusting Status in the U.S.	DHS Form I-551 ("green card") showing Iraqi or Afghan nationality (or Iraqi or Afghan passport), with an IV (Immigrant Visa) code of SI6 or SQ6
Spouse of Principal Applicant Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant in P6 Category	DHS Form I-551 ("green card") showing Iraqi or Afghan nationality (or Iraqi or Afghan passport), with an IV (Immigrant Visa) code of SI7 or SQ7
Unmarried Child Under 21 Years of Age of Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant in P6 Category	DHS Form I-551 ("green card") showing Iraqi or Afghan Nationality (or Iraqi or Afghan passport), with an IV (Immigrant Visa) code of SI9 or SQ9