

## **Trip Tips: Traveling with Advance Parole**

If you have decided to travel and received advance parole from USCIS, below are several tips that will help prepare you for the process of going abroad and returning to the United States.

### **I. Applying for Advance Parole**

1. **Be sure to *stay within the dates of approved travel*.** When applying for advance parole, we suggest that you give yourself a few extra days on either end of your trip to allow for contingencies.
  - a. Example - If my study abroad program goes from January 20, 2021 to May 15, 2021, I may want to apply for advance parole from January 14, 2021 to May 31, 2021.
2. **One application for multiple trips**– If you have multiple trips planned, you can apply for advance parole for these trips in one application.
  - a. Example - I have been approved for a research project that involves several trips to one country or visiting multiple countries. I can list *all* of these country visits in ONE Form I-131 with an explanation for the multiple trips. It is advisable to ask for advance parole from the start of the first trip to the end date of the final trip, and to list every country you might visit or have a layover in. Do keep in mind that you will not be granted advance parole beyond the expiry date of your current EAD.

### **II. Leaving the U.S. & Traveling to Your Destination**

1. **For travel to country of origin** - If you plan to travel to your country of origin, the only document you need for entry is a passport from that country that is valid for six months after the date of travel.
2. **For travel to a third country** - If you are traveling to a place that is NOT your country of origin, you will need to comply with any visa requirements of that country as they pertain to someone with your nationality. If you have any questions about the visa requirements, please talk with your attorney.
  - a. Example - I am a Salvadoran national traveling to Mexico. I will need a visitor visa required for a Salvadoran to enter Mexico. The best place to look for this information is the consulate website for the destination country, in this case, Mexico.

### **III. Returning to the United States**

**1. Re-entry documents** - In order to be fully prepared for any questions you may receive from Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), we suggest that you carry with you the following original documents:

- a. A passport from your country of origin that is valid for at least 6 months after the date of travel;
- b. Advance parole document;
- c. Evidence of reason for trip abroad (if traveling under DACA advance parole);
- d. Your current employment authorization card (if separate from your advance parole document);
- e. A copy of your DACA approval notice (if applicable)
- f. State I.D. or driver's license (if applicable); and
- g. Your attorney's business card with contact information (if applicable)

**Make copies of the documents above, keep a set with you, and leave one with someone you trust in the United States in case you lose the originals.**

**Re-entry questioning** - A CBP officer will likely take you to secondary screening and ask questions about your trip abroad when you are re-entering the U.S., such as:

1. What was the reason for your trip abroad?
2. For how long were you gone?
3. What countries did you visit and where did you stay?

A CBP officer may also ask questions about your residence in the United States, such as:

1. Where do you reside in the U.S.?
2. What do you do there?
3. Are you married to a U.S. citizen?

**You should be prepared to answer these questions. You should also allow yourself 2-3 hours to go through this secondary questioning process.**



**Proof of re-entry** - If you are returning to the United States over a land border, be sure that an immigration officer at the port of entry inspects you and stamps your passport. This proof of re-entry is evidence that you complied with the terms of your Advance Parole and may also be useful to you in the future if you ever apply for permanent residency through a family member.

If the CBP official does not give you an I-94 (white card) or you are entering through an airport, you can download a proof of entry here: <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/>

For more and latest information, please see USCIS website: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-131>

For help with your case, including consultations and/or to hire us for this or any other process, you can contact us here: <http://lallegal.com/contact-us/> or email us directly at [info@lallegal.com](mailto:info@lallegal.com)