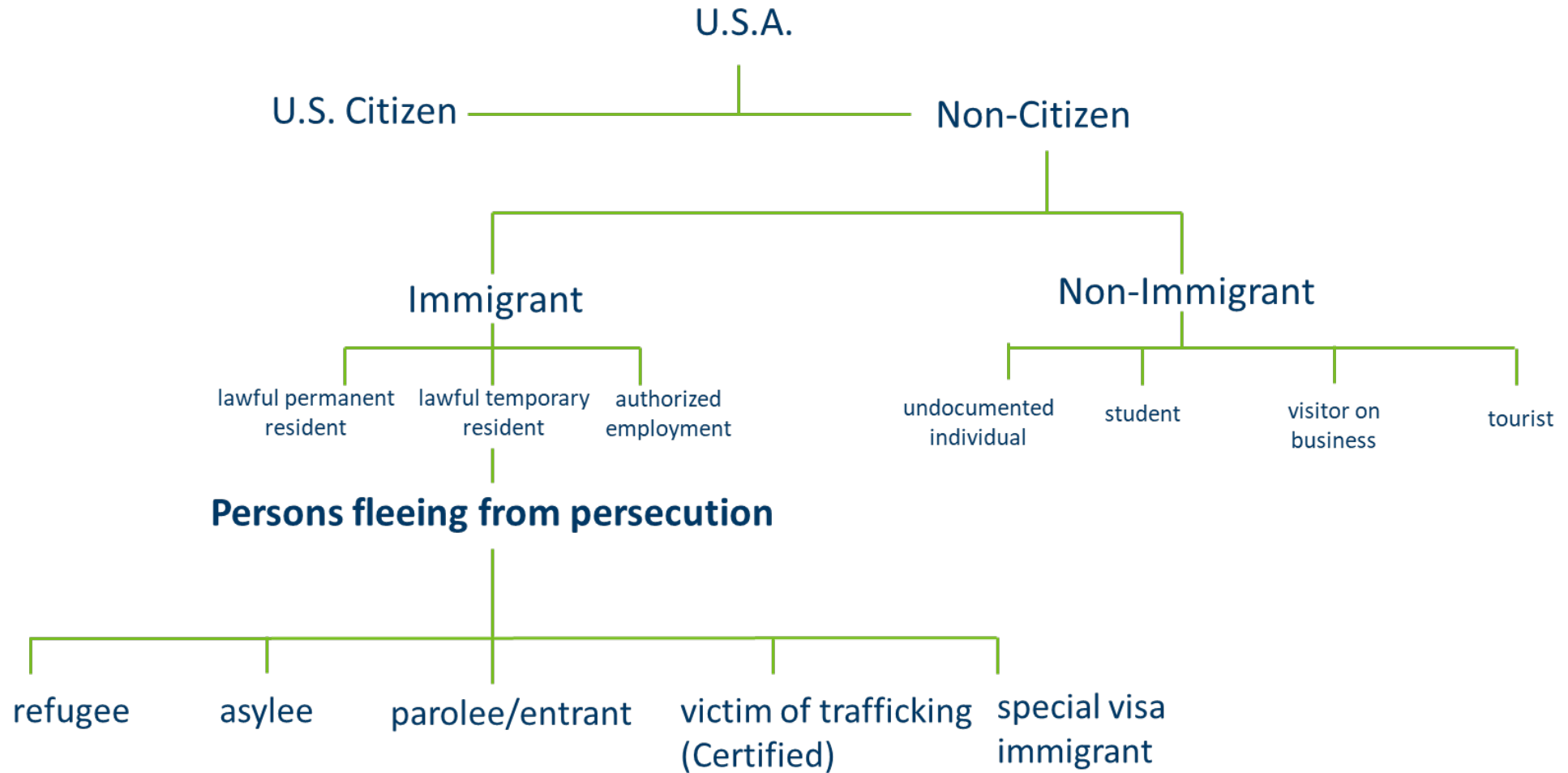


U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Visa Designations Persons Fleeing Persecution or Lawful Temporary Residents

Refugee Health Program
Cross-Cutting Epidemiology, Programs and Partnerships Section
Infectious Disease, Epidemiology and Prevention Division

USCIS Visa Designations



Who is an Immigrant?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ is defined by U.S. immigration law as a person lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the U.S.
- ☑ either arrives in the U.S. with an immigrant visa issued abroad, or adjusts their status in the U.S. from temporary to permanent resident
- ☑ may be subjected to a numerical cap

Who is a Refugee?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ cannot return to his or her country of origin because of a well-founded fear of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group

Refugee status is generally given:

- ☑ prior to entering the United States
- ☑ by the State Department or US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

Who is an Asylee?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ cannot return to his or her country of origin because of a well-founded fear of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group

Asylee status is generally given:

- ☑ after entering the United States
- ☑ By the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

Derivative Asylee status is generally given:

- ☑ before entering the United States
- ☑ for individuals sponsored by refugees or asylees
- ☑ by the State Department and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

Who is a Humanitarian Parolee/Entrant?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ has been given special permission to enter the United States:
 - under emergency conditions *or*
 - when that person's entry into the U.S. is considered to be in the public's interest

Who is an Amerasian?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ meets the criteria established in Public Law 97-359 (Act of 10/22/82)
- ☑ must have been born in Cambodia, Korea, Laos, Thailand, or Vietnam after December 31, 1950, and before October 22, 1982, and have been fathered by a U.S. citizen

Who is a Certified Victim of Trafficking?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ authorized by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (Public Law 106 – 386)
- ☑ is victim of severe form of trafficking
 - recruited, harbored, transported for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
 - recruited for commercial sex act induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or induced to perform such act before attaining 18 years of age.
 - willing to assist with investigation and persecution of traffickers, if able.
 - has applied for T (trafficking) nonimmigrant visa that is not denied.
 - has received continued Presence by the Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS).
- ☑ Certification issued by US DHHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)

Who is a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) Holder?

Foreign-born resident who:

- ☑ is not a United States citizen
- ☑ Provided services to the U.S. Armed Forces or Embassy
 - ☑ Interpretation or translation in Iraq or Afghanistan

SIV status is generally given:

- ☑ before entering the United States
- ☑ by the State Department and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

What is the Difference between Primary and Secondary Refugees?

Primary Refugees

- foreign-born persons who arrive directly from overseas to resettle in Minnesota
- arrival notification to Minnesota from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Secondary Refugees

- refugees who settled initially in one state but have moved to another
- health information can be requested from refugee's initial arrival state
- good practice to complete health screening if refugee has insurance coverage

*For monitoring/reporting purposes, the MDH definition of "refugee" includes primary refugees, asylees, parolees/entrants, Amerasians and Victims of trafficking

Benefits for Persons with Refugee* like Visa Holders

Refugees, Asylees, Parolees/Entrants*, SIV, Amerasians, Certified Victims of Trafficking qualify for:

- Refugee health assessments
- Health insurance (based on income)

*For monitoring/reporting purposes, the MDH definition of “refugee” includes primary refugees, asylees, parolees/entrants, Amerasians and Victims of trafficking