

# AFGHANISTAN RESOURCE GUIDE

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This document consolidates resources and information available about current ways to support friends and family in Afghanistan, as well as visa information to the United States and other countries. We will update this resource regularly.

Inside, you will find the following sections:

- A. In-Country Resources
- B. Staying Informed
- C. Visa Information for the United States
- D. Visa Information for Other Countries
- E. How to Help
- F. Other Resources

## A. IN-COUNTRY RESOURCES

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### **Awaaz Afghanistan:**

Humanitarian helpline connecting Afghans (IDPs, returnees) and refugees affected by conflict and natural disaster with information on assistance. It is a toll-free, confidential hotline that anyone with access to a mobile phone in Afghanistan can call for free to access information on and register feedback about the humanitarian response. It is open seven days a week, has female and male agents available, and agents speak Dari, Pashto, Urdu, English, and more. Call 410 for free. <https://awaazaf.org/>

### **Afghanistan Migrants Advice & Support Organization**

Updates/guidance on migration

Whats App: 0093 77 520 3201

<https://www.facebook.com/AmasoAfg/>

### **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

<https://help.unhcr.org/afghanistan/>

Protection hotline ☎ 0790691746 and ☎ 0704996168 (available on all working days)

Protection email (afgkaprt@unhcr.org)

Once Afghans have arrived in another country, they can register with UNHCR. Cannot register from within Afghanistan.

### **Organizations Continuing to Work In-Country:**

- Doctors Without Borders (Médecins Sans Frontiers)
  - <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/what-we-do/countries/afghanistan>
- International Rescue Committee
  - <https://www.rescue.org/country/afghanistan>
- EMERGENCY
  - <https://en.emergency.it/who-we-are/>
  - EMERGENCY is an independent and neutral international organization founded in 1994 to provide free, high-quality medical and surgical care to victims of war, landmines and poverty.

## B. STAYING INFORMED

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Some official information sources include:

[US State Department Press Releases](#)

[White House Press Releases](#)

[USAID Press Releases](#)

[US Embassy for Afghanistan](#)

[Pakistan Embassy for Afghanistan](#)

[India Embassy for Afghanistan](#)

[Tajikistan Embassy for Afghanistan](#)

## C. VISA INFORMATION FOR THE UNITED STATES:

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Note: Since information is changing rapidly, it is important to confirm any visa information with the country providing the visa.

### Resources for Visas and Relocation

- Refugee Council USA—Page dedicated to information and resources: <https://rcusa.org/afghanistan/>
- No One Left Behind—Information in Pashto and Dari about visas: <https://nooneleft.org/how-to-get-a-visa/>
- IRAP—Information about visa processes: <https://refugeerights.org/news-resources/legal-resources-for-afghans>
- UNHCR Information on Countries with Relocation Programs: <https://help.unhcr.org/afghanistan/relocation/>
- The Afghan Resources group (afghanresources2021@gmail.com) is a group of volunteer attorneys who are helping Afghans file for humanitarian parole, which is a way for Afghans to apply for temporary entry to the US who do not qualify for SIV or P-2 (for instance, if they are being threatened by the Taliban but were not directly employed by the USG).
- Resource for Afghans Unable to Reach Former Employers Due to Organization No Longer Being in Existence [Center for Governance and Markets Form](#) and cgm@pitt.edu

### Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs) Program (United States)

For civilians that assisted the U.S Government or contractors:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/special-immg-visa-afghans-employed-us-gov.html>

### Priority Refugee Claims – P-1, P-2, and P-3

- Please find official U.S. State Department Guidance on all Priority programs here: <https://2017-2021.state.gov/refugee-admissions/u-s-refugee-admissions-program-access-categories/index.html>

### **Priority 1 (P-1)**

- These are cases that are identified and referred to the United States Refugee Admissions Program directly from the UNHCR, a U.S. Embassy, or a designated non-governmental organization. The individuals requesting this status must be “known to Embassy Kabul.” The US Government Official must know the applicant already, otherwise an individual may seek the assistance of the UNHCR in putting forward a P-1 claim.
- What are the requirements for the P-1 status?
  - Individuals must be “known to the Embassy.” The requesting individual needs to have a direct contact at the Embassy. This direct contact is someone who can verify their identity and relationship to working at the Embassy or with the U.S. government directly.
  - Primarily P-1 status is used for individuals such as senior government officials, civil society leaders, well-known activists, particularly women’s rights advocates.
  - The only individuals eligible to refer a P-1 case are:
    - A USG Official at Embassy Kabul that knows the individual applying for P-1 status
    - The UNHCR – as the designated NGO
  - If a U.S. Embassy point of contact that is personally known to the individual is not available, an individual may seek out the assistance of the UNHCR office in Kabul and have them make the P-1 referral directly to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program on their behalf.
- Note: This category requires applicants relocate to a third country at their own expense during processing, which can take more than a year.

### **P-2**

- This is defined as for use for groups of special humanitarian concern identified by the U.S refugee program. This was a new priority that was created on August 2, 2021 in response to the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. Information about the program is available on the Refugee Processing Center site: <https://www.wrapsnet.org/siv-iraqi-syrian-afghan-p2/>
- This should be used in lieu of the SIV application only if the applicant has less than 12 months of cumulative work under a USAID-contract or cooperative agreement or work directly under the US Government
- Additional Resources:
  - [https://www.wrapsnet.org/documents/Information%20for%20Afghan%20Nationals%20Regarding%20Priority%20\(P-2\)%20Designation.pdf](https://www.wrapsnet.org/documents/Information%20for%20Afghan%20Nationals%20Regarding%20Priority%20(P-2)%20Designation.pdf)
- Note: This category requires applicants relocate to a third country at their own expense during processing, which can take more than a year.

### **P-3**

- Priority 3 is for family reunification cases. P-3 is available to persons of Afghan nationality per the Department of State who wish to apply to bring their spouse and/or unmarried children under 21 and/or parents to the U.S. The family members that P-3 authorizes an individual to bring over are a spouse, unmarried children under the age of 21, and parents of persons lawfully

admitted to the US as refugees or asylees or permanent residents or U.S. citizens who previously had refugee or asylum status.

- What are the requirements of P-3? The principal refugee or asylee is the applicant (persons lawfully admitted to the US as refugees, asylees, permanent residents, or U.S. citizens), and the refugee/asylee status is not derivative – that is to say, that the applicant’s status is not obtained through a relative who applied on their behalf previously.
  - The P-3 applicant must have received their refugee or asylee status within the past two years or entered the US as a refugee within the last two years.
  - The family relationship must have existed before the applicant came to the US as a refugee or was granted asylum.
    - For a spouse- the applicant must have been married prior to entry as a refugee or grant of asylee status
    - For a child- the applicant must have conceived the child or the child must have been born before the applicant entered as a refugee or was granted asylum
- Official Information on P-3 eligibility and processing
  - <https://www.uscis.gov/family/family-of-refugees-and-asylees>
- Additional resources
  - <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/us-family-reunification.html>

### **Humanitarian Parole**

- This is typically a last resort – someone outside of the U.S. can apply to the USCIS for temporary entrance then seek/apply for asylum once they are in the U.S.
  - Typically for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit and only under exceptional circumstance and when someone has no viable alternatives for entry
  - Must have exhausted all other attempts to access other avenues of relief
  - Entry is temporary and may only be for a few months
  - Typically very difficult to get approved
  - Requires a sponsor in the United States that is a lawful permanent resident or citizen that will guarantee financial responsibility for the parolee.
- Please see the recently updated USCIS website regarding Humanitarian Parole for Afghans: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-parole/information-for-afghan-nationals-on-parole-into-the-united-states>
- For documentation required for Humanitarian Parole please see the following link: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/humanitarian-parole/guidance-on-evidence-for-certain-types-of-humanitarian-or-significant-public-benefit-parole-requests#DocumentstoSubmit>

## D. VISA INFORMATION FOR OTHER COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	REQUIREMENTS	HOW TO APPLY/GET INFO
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The UK government is working urgently to get the Afghanistan citizens' resettlement scheme up and running and we will announce further details as soon as possible. <a href="#">This page</a> will be updated with the latest information about the scheme, please check back regularly.</li> <li>▪ If you are a non-British national in Afghanistan, or are the family member of a non-British national in Afghanistan, and in need of assistance, call +44 2475 389 980 (or 02475 389 980 in the UK).</li> </ul>	
<b>Canada</b>	<p>At this time, Canada is prioritizing the following applications for Afghan nationals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ family reunification (sponsorship) – Canada will prioritize your application to sponsor eligible immediate family members who are Afghan nationals outside Canada if you're a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Canadian citizen or permanent resident</li> <li>▪ person registered under the Indian Act</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ permanent residence: We'll prioritize your application for permanent residence if <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ you're a Protected Person and your application includes dependent Afghan family members overseas</li> <li>▪ you're an Afghan refugee who has already been resettled in Canada and you're applying for one of your dependents</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ temporary residence (including extensions for Afghans currently in Canada): Canada will prioritize your application if <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ you're an Afghan national currently in Canada and you're applying to extend your current temporary resident status (as a temporary worker, student or visitor)</li> <li>▪ you're applying for temporary residence as a temporary worker, student or visitor, and you meet both of the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ you're an Afghan national outside Canada</li> <li>▪ you're an eligible family member of a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or person registered under the Indian Act</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	e-mail: IRCC.SituationAfghanistan.IRCC@cic.gc.ca.

<b>Mexico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Type of visa:</b> 6-month tourist visa</li> <li>▪ <b>Required documents</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Valid passport with at least 6 months of validity.</li> <li>○ Certificate of employment</li> <li>○ Bank account statements (last 3 months). If under 25, can use parents' account statements</li> <li>○ Application form</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>France</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All visa applications from Afghan and third country nationals should be lodged with the French Embassy in New Delhi or Tehran. eVisas from Afghanistan are not being processed.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://france-visas.gouv.fr">https://france-visas.gouv.fr</a>
<b>Pakistan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Application Guide:</b> <a href="https://visa.nadra.gov.pk/downloads/application_guide.pdf">https://visa.nadra.gov.pk/downloads/application_guide.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ <b>Type of visa:</b> Tourist visa</li> <li>▪ <b>Cost: \$8.18</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Required Documents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Photograph</li> <li>○ Passport</li> <li>○ Hotel booking Details</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Applicants pursuing this option should note that Pakistan is intended to be a transit point, not a final destination.</li> <li>▪ Note: There has been mention of Pakistan offering a humanitarian visa, but details are not available yet.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://visa.nadra.gov.pk/tourist-visa/">https://visa.nadra.gov.pk/tourist-visa/</a>
<b>Tajikistan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Type of visa:</b> Single entry tourist visa</li> <li>• <b>Cost:</b> \$30 for application fee via e-visa site</li> <li>• <b>Required documents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Letter of Invitation.</b></li> <li>• <b>Passport with validity of 6 months from arrival date.</b></li> <li>• <b>COVID 19 test negative taken within 72 hours</b> – it is not clear whether they will provide COVID 19 test at the airport upon arrival if this test cannot be taken in Kabul.</li> <li>• Have a <b>travel document (passport)</b> valid for at least 6 months from the intended date of entry to Tajikistan</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.onlinevisa.com/tajikistan-visa/?from=AF">https://www.onlinevisa.com/tajikistan-visa/?from=AF</a>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Provide the physical address in Tajikistan</b> at which they are staying when applying. You will also need to provide a contact person name and phone number.</li> <li>• <b>Current email address.</b> This is where you will receive the e-visa. E-visa may go to “junk” mail – please be sure to check junk folder.</li> </ul>	
<b>Uganda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Type of visa:</b> Single-entry tourist visa</li> <li>▪ <b>Cost:</b> \$50</li> <li>▪ <b>Required documents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Passport copy</li> <li>○ Recent photo</li> <li>○ Yellow fever vaccination certificate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="https://visas.immigration.go.ug/">https://visas.immigration.go.ug/</a>
<b>Albania</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Citizens of Afghanistan must apply for a visa in person at the closest diplomatic mission (located in Istanbul, Turkey)</li> </ul>	
<b>North Macedonia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Visa applications must be submitted in person at least 15 days prior to the start of the trip at the nearest consulate</li> <li>▪ In addition to a visa, citizens of Afghanistan need prior approval from the Ministry of Internal Affairs</li> </ul>	
<b>Kosovo</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Citizens of Afghanistan must apply for a visa in person at the closest diplomatic mission (located in Istanbul, Turkey)</li> </ul>	
<b>Australia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Requires passport photos, copies of IDs, statement of danger in staying, completed application</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-and-support/afghanistan-update">https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-and-support/afghanistan-update</a>
<b>India</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emergency E-Visa available (called the “e-Emergency X-Misc Visa”)</li> <li>▪ Says it takes around 72 hours, although some have been waiting more than 2 weeks, so delays are likely</li> <li>▪ No cost</li> <li>▪ Valid for 6 months</li> <li>▪ Application requires passport photo, scan of passport, and scan of national ID card (Tazrika)</li> <li>▪ All family members require e-visa</li> <li>▪ Will need to print the authorization to travel and carry it with you</li> <li>▪ Will need to know which airport you will arrive at</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Link to Application Page</a>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each application requires the name, phone number, and address of one reference person in India and on reference person in Afghanistan</li> </ul>	
Uzbekistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ e-Visa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Type of visa: Single entry tourist visa</li> <li>▪ Cost: \$20</li> <li>▪ Required documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recent photo</li> <li>○ Copy of passport</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="https://e-visa.gov.uz/main">https://e-visa.gov.uz/main</a>
Kyrgyzstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ e-Visa</li> <li>▪ Electronic visa holders must arrive via Manas or Osh airports or through land crossings with China (at Irkeshtam and Torugart), Kazakhstan (at Ak-jol, Ak-Tilek, Chaldybar, Chon-Kapka), Tajikistan (at Bor-Dobo, Kulundu, Kyzyl-Bel) and Uzbekistan (at Dostuk).</li> </ul>	<a href="https://evisa.e-gov.kg/index.php">https://evisa.e-gov.kg/index.php</a>
Antigua and Barbuda	<p>e-Visa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Type of visa:</b> single entry visitor, 6 months</li> <li>• <b>Cost:</b> \$100</li> <li>• <b>Required documents</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Passport with validity of 6 months from arrival date</li> <li>○ Recent photo</li> <li>○ Evidence of proposed journey into and out of Antigua and Barbuda</li> <li>○ Proof of accommodation or letter of invitation from your sponsor</li> <li>○ Proof of funds to finance the trip (i.e. bank statements from the previous two months)</li> <li>○ Birth certificate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<a href="https://evisa.immigration.gov.ag/agEvisa-app/">https://evisa.immigration.gov.ag/agEvisa-app/</a>
Benin	e-Visa	<a href="https://evisa.gouv.bj/en/">https://evisa.gouv.bj/en/</a>
Cape Verde	Visa on arrival at Sal, Boa Vista, São Vicente or Santiago international airports. — 3 months	
Comoros	Visa on arrival — 45 days	
Dominica	Visa free entry — 21 days	
Ethiopia	e-Visa — 90 days Not eligible for visa upon arrival	e-visa website is under construction.
Maldives	Visa on arrival — 30 days	



Qatar	e-Visa Requires flight and hotel reservations, tax returns, travel history document, letter of invitation	<a href="https://www.visitqatar.qa/en/plan-your-trip/visas">https://www.visitqatar.qa/en/plan-your-trip/visas</a>
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## E. HOW TO HELP

ORGANIZATION	NEEDS	CONTACT INFO
Afghanaid	Accepting donations to provide families with funds, kitchen items, solar powered lamps, and other goods	<a href="#">Afghanaid Crisis Appeal</a>
Afghan Diaspora for Equality and Progress	Seeking donations to cover costs of humanitarian parole visa applications	<a href="https://adepgress.org/">https://adepgress.org/</a>
Afghan Institute of Learning (AIL) through Creating Hope International (a registered 501 ©3)	Accepting donations for emergency response efforts for the refugees arriving at AIL facilities	<a href="#">Afghanistan Institute of Learning Donation Page</a>
Afghan Journalists Safety Committee (Partnered with International Media Support)	AJSC (Afghan Journalists Safety Committee) is accepting funds to bring journalists to safety and keep independent media outlets operational	<a href="#">Support Afghanistan's Journalists</a>
Afghanistan Women's Regional Network	Accepting donations--seeking support to protect the lives of Afghan women human rights defenders who have been working on the frontlines to uphold democracy in Afghanistan	<a href="https://gofund.me/423dddab">https://gofund.me/423dddab</a>
Aschiana Foundation	Emergency food and necessities for children and their families	<a href="#">Aschiana Foundation</a>
Bayat Foundation	Accepting donations for immediate domestic needs	<a href="#">Bayat Foundation Donation page</a>
City of Fremont's Human Services Department	Accepting donations to provide direct assistance to Afghan refugees who are arriving to the Tri-City area from Afghanistan	<a href="#">City of Fremont CA Donation Page</a>
Commonwealth Catholic Charities	Accepting donations for providing resettlement services and childcare to SIV holders from Afghanistan in Fort Lee, Virginia	<a href="#">CCC Donation Page</a>
Ding	Recharge Afghanistan mobiles online.	<a href="https://www.ding.com/countries/asia/afghanistan">https://www.ding.com/countries/asia/afghanistan</a>
FLYAWAY: EMERGENCY AFGHAN RESCUE MISSION	Accepting donations for emergency flight rescues of Afghans on the ground	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/f/flyaway-emergency-afghan-rescue-mission">https://www.gofundme.com/f/flyaway-emergency-afghan-rescue-mission.</a>

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>NEEDS</b>	<b>CONTACT INFO</b>
Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security	Accepting donations--To Make a Gift to Support Humanitarian Visas and Immediate Evacuation of High-Risk Afghan Women, or Emergency Humanitarian Aid	<a href="#">How to Save the Lives of Afghan Women – GIWPS (georgetown.edu)</a>
Homes Not Borders	Providing support to refugees settling in the DC area	<a href="https://www.homesnotborders.org/">https://www.homesnotborders.org/</a>
Human Rights First	Accepting donations as the organization mobilizes to evacuate Afghans as the U.S. leaves	<a href="#">Human Rights First</a>
International Medical Corps	Accepting donations to help train healthcare workers in emergency situations and provide healthcare services	<a href="#">IMC Donation Page</a>
International Refugee Assistance Project	IRAP provides direct legal services, litigation, and advocates for vulnerable Afghans	<a href="#">IRAP</a>
International Rescue Committee	IRC is aiming to raise \$10 million to deliver life-saving aid humanitarian assistance including shelter, education, clean water, health support etc	<a href="#">IRC</a>
Institute for Economic Empowerment of Women	Accepting donations to provide safety and support for women entrepreneurs	<a href="#">IEEW Donation Page</a>
Islamic Relief USA	Seeking donations to provide food aid to displaced families in Afghanistan	<a href="https://irusa.org">https://irusa.org</a>
Lamia Afghan Foundation	Humanitarian aid for needy families	<a href="#">Lamia Afghan Foundation Website</a>
Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA)	Accepting donations	<a href="#">Donate Online   Families &amp; Children in Washington DC, Maryland &amp; Virginia (lssnca.org)</a>
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	Accepting donations, and directing volunteers to its location-based sign up to assist Afghan refugees with travel	<a href="#">LIRS Connect</a>
Miles4Migrants	Accepts donations of airline miles, travel vouchers, and cash. All donations will be used to support our most urgent flight requests, which includes assisting Afghan families.	<a href="https://miles4migrants.org/donate/">https://miles4migrants.org/donate/</a>
New American Pathways	Accepting donations to welcome Afghan SIVS in the coming months in Atlanta, GA	<a href="#">New American Pathways Donation Page</a>
No One Left Behind	Accepting donations to provide emergency financial aid and used vehicles to newly arrived	<a href="https://nooneleft.org">https://nooneleft.org</a>

ORGANIZATION	NEEDS	CONTACT INFO
	interpreters; organization advocates to streamline SIV process and timelines	
Refugee Council USA	Searchable map of United States to find local organizations needing support and volunteers.	<a href="https://rcusa.org/afghanistan/support-or-volunteer/">https://rcusa.org/afghanistan/support-or-volunteer/</a>
US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants	Accepting donations for Afghanistan assistance	<a href="https://www.uscra.org/donate">DONATE- Afghanistan Assistance - USCRI (refugees.org)</a>
Women for Afghan Women	Accepting donations for shelter, resources, aid (including Paypal for currency other than USD)	<a href="https://lnkd.in/eW4yZqwK">https://lnkd.in/eW4yZqwK</a>
Women for Women International	Accepting donations for safe spaces, support networks, sponsorship	<a href="https://lnkd.in/e7kQqh38">https://lnkd.in/e7kQqh38</a>
Women's Initiative to Strengthen and Empower (WISE)	Emergency food and relief, assistance distribution	<a href="#">WISE website</a>

### Advocacy Resources

- US Congress Switchboard – 202 224-3121 – Ask for your representative’s office
- White House email: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>
- US Women Peace and Security Caucus - <https://waltz.house.gov/wps/>
- If you are a U.S. citizen, you can reach out to your members of Congress and encourage them to support our Afghan allies. You can [click here](#) for an automated message creator. You can either use their template or edit it for yourself.
- UK MP information line – 020 7219-4272
- Number 10 Downing Street – <https://email.number10.gov.uk/>
- Demand Peacekeepers – <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/contact>
- International Committee of the Red Cross – <https://www.icrc.org/en/contact>

## F. OTHER RESOURCES

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**Backpack App: Preservation of Records** - for those in fear who are destroying important documents such as visa applications, their diplomas, IDs, educational records and other important documents, they can use this app to upload them and create a digital copy that is secured in a cloud:

<https://backpack.ucdavis.edu/user/register>

**Strommen Translation** is offering FREE certified document translation for Afghan Refugees (USCIS certified) with a notarized certification, they can be reached at: <https://strommeninc.com/free-certified-document-translation-for-afghan-refugees-uscis-certified/>