

Trump revokes humanitarian visas: Cuban migrants in the gray area



Tens of thousands of Cubans in the United States face deportation starting in April (source: [Alejandro Cartagena/Unsplash](#))

The administration of US President Donald Trump has announced that it will revoke the temporary legal status of more than 530,000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans under a sponsorship process initiated by former President Joe Biden. This is according to a [notice](#) published in the Federal Register on Friday and signed by Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem.

The order ends the two-year [“Parole” program](#) from the Biden era, which had allowed more than half a million people who had come to the United States with financial support since October 2022 to obtain two-year work permits. The program [officially ended](#) on March 25. Noem's announcement stated that the individuals [will lose](#) their right of residence on April 24.

The new rule affects more than 110,980 Cubans who [entered](#) the U.S. under the program through October 2024. It follows an earlier decision by the Trump administration to end the “widespread abuse” of humanitarian parole, a long-standing legal tool that presidents have used to allow people from countries at war or experiencing political instability to enter and temporarily reside in the United States.

During his election campaign, Donald Trump had promised to deport millions of people residing illegally in the United States. As president, he also ended legal avenues for immigrants to enter and remain in the United States.

Under the new directive, individuals with probation status must leave the country before the end of the probation period if they have no legal basis for staying in the United States.

“Probation is by nature temporary and by itself does not establish a basis for immigration status,” the Department of Homeland Security stated.

The Trump administration's decision could expose those affected to deportation if they remain in the US after the cut-off date and cannot prove any other legal residence status. The Trump administration is thus explicitly not targeting criminal or illegal immigrants, but people who entered the US through regular and orderly channels. ([Cubaheute](#))