

**Proposal for Special Immigrant Visas—
CBO’s Estimate of the President’s Fiscal Year 2019 Budget**

Special immigrant visas (SIVs) are available to certain Afghan citizens who were employed by or on behalf of the U.S. government or the International Security Assistance Force (or any successor name for such force) at any point since 2001 and who have experienced or are experiencing an ongoing serious threat as a consequence of that employment. Additional SIVs, not subject to limitation, are available to certain relatives of those employees who themselves received SIVs.

Like refugees (but unlike most other categories of alien), Afghan special immigrants are eligible upon entry into the United States for all federal benefit programs if they meet the other eligibility standards for those programs. CBO uses a variety of administrative and survey data to estimate Afghan special immigrants’ usage rates and per capita costs for federal benefit programs.

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In Millions of Dollars, by Fiscal Year

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2019- 2023	2019- 2028
Increases in Direct Spending Outlays												
Marketplace Subsidies^a												
Estimated Budget Authority	9	24	21	19	17	17	17	17	17	17	90	176
Estimated Outlays	9	24	21	19	17	17	17	17	17	17	90	176
Medicaid												
Estimated Budget Authority	9	24	21	19	17	17	17	17	17	17	90	176
Estimated Outlays	9	24	21	19	17	17	17	17	17	17	90	176
SNAP												
Estimated Budget Authority	8	21	19	16	14	14	14	13	13	13	78	144
Estimated Outlays	8	21	19	16	14	14	14	13	13	13	78	144
SSI												
Estimated Budget Authority	4	11	11	12	10	9	10	10	9	10	49	97
Estimated Outlays	4	11	11	12	10	9	10	10	9	10	49	97
Total												
Estimated Budget Authority	29	80	73	67	59	58	58	57	57	57	307	594
Estimated Outlays	29	80	73	67	59	58	58	57	57	57	307	594

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

The proposal would increase by 4,000 the number of SIVs available to certain Afghans who were employed by or on behalf of the U.S. government or the International Security Assistance Force (or any successor name for such force) at any point since 2001. Additional SIVs, not subject to limitation, are available to certain relatives of those employees who themselves received SIVs.

This estimate reflects the estimated cost of the SIV proposal if it were enacted before and separately from proposals in the President's budget for the health insurance marketplaces established under the Affordable Care Act and the Medicaid program. If those proposals were enacted before or simultaneously with the SIV provision, the estimated cost of the SIV provision would decline by \$189 million over the 2019-2028 period.

SIV = Special Immigrant Visa; SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Subsidies for health insurance purchased through marketplaces established under the Affordable Care Act.