

**Proposals Affecting Special Immigrant Visas—
CBO’s Estimate of the President’s Fiscal Year 2021 Budget**

Special immigrant visas (SIVs) are available to certain Afghan nationals 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 and asylees (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.

These estimates are based on CBO’s baseline budget projections as of March 6, 2020, which do not incorporate changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation arising from the recent and rapidly evolving public health emergency related to the novel coronavirus.

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In Millions of Dollars, by Fiscal Year

March 25, 2020

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2021- 2025	2021- 2030
Increases in Direct Spending Outlays												
Premium Tax Credits^a												
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	10	23	28	28	28	30	31	33	61	211
Estimated Outlays	0	0	10	23	28	28	28	30	31	33	61	211
Medicaid and CHIP												
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	10	23	28	28	28	30	31	33	61	211
Estimated Outlays	0	0	10	23	28	28	28	30	31	33	61	211
SNAP												
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	6	17	20	16	16	15	15	15	43	120
Estimated Outlays	0	0	6	17	20	16	16	15	15	15	43	120
SSI												
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	5	19
Estimated Outlays	0	0	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	5	19
Child Nutrition												
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	5	17
Estimated Outlays	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	5	17
Total												
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	28	67	80	76	77	80	83	87	175	578
Estimated Outlays	0	0	28	67	80	76	77	80	83	87	175	578

These estimates are based on CBO’s baseline budget projections as of March 6, 2020, which do not incorporate changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation arising from the recent and rapidly evolving public health emergency related to the novel coronavirus.

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

The proposal would increase by 4,000 the number of Special Immigrant Visas 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 visas, not subject to limitation, are available to certain relatives of those employees who themselves received visas.

CHIP = Children’s Health Insurance Program; SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

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