



*Embassy of the United States of America  
Bridgetown, Barbados*

**Q: How Do I Regain My Legal Permanent Resident Status?**

**A:** A former immigrant who has lost U.S. resident status and desires to return to the United States as an immigrant must obtain a new immigrant visa based on a new, approved **immigrant petition**. For information on immigrant and employment based petitions, please visit the [USCIS](https://uscis.gov) website.

Some former legal permanent residents may qualify for **returning resident status**. An application for returning resident status requires evidence 1) that the applicant has maintained continuing, unbroken ties to the United States, 2) that the stay outside the United States was beyond the applicant's control and 3) that the intent of the applicant was to always return to the United States. In order to schedule an appointment for a returning resident application, contact [BridgetownIV@state.gov](mailto:BridgetownIV@state.gov).