

What is the VAWA Self-Petition?

<p><u>Who can apply?</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> You are/were the legal spouse of an abusive United States Citizen (USC) or Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) OR <input type="checkbox"/> As a parent of an adult (over 21 years old) abusive U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident OR <input type="checkbox"/> As a child (under 21 years old) of an abusive U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident parent/step-parent</p>
<p><u>What else do I have to show?</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> You were subjected to battery and/or extreme cruelty by the abusive US citizen or LPR (No report of the abuse is required) <input type="checkbox"/> You reside or have resided with your USC or LPR abuser <input type="checkbox"/> You are a person of good moral character (e.g. no criminal history) for the 3 years preceding the filing of your application <input type="checkbox"/> If you are married you must also show you entered into the marriage in good faith</p>
<p><u>When do I have to apply?</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> If you are married to an abusive US citizen or legal permanent resident spouse and got divorced, you <u>must</u> apply within 2 years of the final divorce date. Additionally, if your spouse dies, you must apply for your VAWA petition within 2 years of their death <input type="checkbox"/> If you have been abused by an abusive parent, you <u>must</u> apply while under the age of 21 years old <input type="checkbox"/> <i>*If you are over 21 but under 25 and can demonstrate that the abuse by a U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident Parent is a reason for not filing your petition, you may still qualify. **</i> <input type="checkbox"/> If you have been abused by your abusive U.S. citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident child you can <u>only</u> apply after they turn 21 years old</p>
<p><u>Who can I include in a VAWA application?</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Self-petitioning spouses and children may include their child(ren) as derivative beneficiaries on the self-petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Derivative children must be unmarried and less than 21 years old at the time of filing and otherwise qualify as the self-petitioner's child under immigration law</p>
<p><u>Criminal Convictions/Immigration violations</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Having been arrested, charged, or convicted of any crime or having any immigration violations such as multiple entries to the country without permission or prior deportations may impact your eligibility. <input type="checkbox"/> You may be eligible for a waiver of certain grounds of inadmissibility. Please note that any arrests, charges, or convictions of any crime or having any immigration violations may also impact your derivative's eligibility. We recommend that you seek legal advice to determine whether you are eligible to file a waiver.</p>
<p><u>Where can I find more information?</u></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> You can find more information on this relief on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service's website using this link here: https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-3-part-d-chapter-2 https://www.uscis.gov/i-360</p>