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## **Episode #248**

Obtaining a **Green Card**:  
Becoming a U.S. Permanent  
Resident

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Are you interested in becoming a permanent resident of the U.S.? Today I will discuss how to obtain a **Permanent Resident Card**, commonly called a **green card**. This document allows you to **live and work in the U.S. indefinitely**. And with a mini-story, you will practice your speaking skills.

Hi! I'm Georgiana. Thanks for joining me for another episode of the podcast. My mission is to help you **improve your fluency**.

If you want to help me, please **share** the podcast. That would mean a lot. Thanks!

Remember that you can get the text of this episode on my website [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com)

*Okay! Let's start!*

A "**green card**" is a plastic card with the individual's biographic information, photo, fingerprint, and expiration date issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The card once called the "green card" has kept its nickname, even though it is now yellowish and has a barcode on the back.

The **Permanent Resident Card is valid for ten years and must be renewed**. However, the cardholder's status as a "permanent resident" remains valid unless the status is abandoned or revoked by the U.S. government.

Becoming a **permanent resident** gives you the right to live in the U.S. permanently, work in any legal job you are qualified for, be protected by all U.S., state, and local laws, and vote in local elections that don't require U.S. citizenship.

There are several other ways of obtaining it, but the most common way to get the **Permanent Resident**  
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**Card** is through **family sponsorship**. If you have a U.S. citizen relative, they can submit a petition to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on your behalf. The petition must be accepted before you can apply for the card.

Another common way to get a **green card** is through **a job offer**. An American employer can file a petition to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in your favor if they can prove that no other qualified American workers can fulfill the role and that you are the best fit for the job.

As you can see, obtaining a green card can be a long and complex process. That's why it's important to consult an **immigration lawyer** to understand the steps and see if you are eligible. With the proper guidance, you can make your dream of living and working in the U.S. a reality.

#### **Examples** of Immigrants Obtaining a Green Card:

1. A Filipino engineer who came to the U.S. on a work visa, worked for a few years and then obtained a green card through **employment-based immigration**.
2. Maria from Mexico obtained a **Permanent Resident Card** through the **family reunification process**, as her husband was a U.S. citizen.
3. Li, from China, immigrated to the U.S. with a **student visa**. She obtained a **green card** through **employment-based immigration** due to her education and experience.

Are you having fun? Let's continue with a mini-story.

# Mini-Story

(Practice your speaking)

I will tell a story, by asking simple questions. I use this technique extensively in my [premium courses](#) as it is highly effective.

First, I say a phrase with information. Next, I ask some questions. After each question, there is a pause. It's your turn to answer! After each pause, I will give a correct answer. That's how I build the story.

And if you want to improve your fluency much faster, check out my [Premium Courses](#) at: [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses](https://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses)

There are several levels.

Okay! Let's start!

Daniel needs a green card if he wants to live and work in the U.S. indefinitely.

**Daniel, do you need a card?**

Yes. I need a card.

**What kind of card do you need? A red card?**

No. No. Not a red card. I need a green card.

**Do you need a green card to prove that you are eco-friendly?**

No. No. I need a green card to live and work in the U.S.

**Can you live and work in the U.S. indefinitely without a green card?**

No. No. Without a green or Permanent Resident Card, I can't live and work in the U.S. indefinitely.

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People usually get a green card through family sponsorship or a job offer.

**Can you get a green card through family sponsorship?**

Yes. I can get a green card through family sponsorship.

**Can you get a green card through a job offer?**

Yes. I can get a green card through a job offer too.

**What is the most common way to get a green card? Through lottery?**

No. No. The most common way to get a green card is through family sponsorship or a job offer.

Daniel is happy because he got a call about a job offer in a new office in New York.

**Daniel, are you sad?**

No. No. I'm not sad. I'm happy.

**Are you happy because you won the lottery?**

No. No. I'm not happy because of that. I'm happy because I got a call about a job offer.

**Did you get a call or an email?**

A call. I got a call about a job offer.

**Where is the job offer from? Australia?**

No. No. Not Australia. I got a job offer in a new office in New York.

Daniel should consult an immigration lawyer to understand the steps and eligibility requirements.

**Daniel, should you become a consultant?**

No. No. I shouldn't become a consultant.

**Should you consult an employment lawyer?**

No. No. I should consult an immigration lawyer. Not an employment lawyer.

**Do you need to climb any steps?**

No. I need to understand the steps and eligibility requirements.

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With the proper guidance, Daniel can get a green card and make his dream of living and working in the U.S. a reality.

**Daniel, do you need guidance?**

Yes. I need proper guidance.

**Can you get a green card with the proper guidance?**

Yes. With the proper guidance, I can get a green card.

**Is it your dream to live and work in the U.S.?**

Yes. Living and working in the U.S. is my dream.

**Can your dream become a reality?**

Yes. Living and working in the U.S. can become a reality. With the proper guidance, I can get a green card and make my dream a reality.

Well, this is the end of this short exercise.

As you can see, answering many simple questions can improve your speaking, just like in a real-life conversation.

This is one of the powerful techniques I use extensively in my [premium courses](#). These are complete programs designed to improve your fluency dramatically.

The courses contain hundreds of hours of questions and answers endpoint of view lessons. Imagine a podcast episode multiplied by 100!

So, if you are **serious** about **learning English**, I recommend my premium [English courses](#)



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That's all for today.

I will be back next week!

Bye! Bye!



*Georgiana*

founder of  
[SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com)