

## Qualifying VAWA Self-Petitioner Relationships

	Spousal Petitioner	Child Petitioner	Parent Petitioner
<b>Relationship to abuser</b>	must be spouse, intended spouse, or former spouse of USC/LPR -or- is spouse of abusive USC/LPR who abused spouse's child, who does not have to be USC/LPR's child	must be child* of a USC or LPR <i>*biological child, stepchild, or adopted child</i>  note: "intended spouse" provision does NOT apply to self-petitioning children	must be parent* of USC child that is 21 years or older  <i>*biological parent, stepparent, or adoptive parent</i>
<b>Abuse requirement</b>	battery or extreme cruelty during the marriage	battery or extreme cruelty during the parent/child relationship, when the child was under 21, & while the child was residing with or visiting the parent	battery or extreme cruelty during the claimed relationship & when the USC child was over 21 years old
<b>Joint residence requirement</b>	petitioner must reside or have resided with the abuser; joint residence does not have to have occurred during the qualifying relationship (i.e., the marriage)	petitioner must reside or have resided with the abuser  <b>**per USCIS, the abuse must have occurred when the child resided with the abusive parent, which includes any period of visitation</b>	petitioner must reside or have resided with the abuser; joint residence does not have to have occurred during the qualifying relationship (i.e., after the child turns 21)
<b>Good Moral Character</b>	required	required; presumption of GMC for children under 14 years old	required
<b>Derivatives possible?</b>	yes, petitioner's children can be included as derivative beneficiaries	yes, petitioner's children can be included as derivative beneficiaries	no, self-petitioning parents cannot include derivatives

*Note: This is not intended to serve as an exhaustive description of requirements for VAWA or for VAWA AOS.*

