

District of Columbia Benefits Infographic – T Visa,
Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye Orloff (July 16, 2026)

T Visa Children¹

- Graduates who attended a D.C. high school for 3 years are eligible for in-state tuition and state financial aid regardless of immigration status.
- Children under age 21, regardless of immigration status can receive healthcare through the Immigrant Children's Program.
- All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status

Zero Months: At Filing: **In-state tuition and state financial aid; Child healthcare up to age 21.**

6 Months after Filing:
Bona Fide Determination (*Qualified Immigrant and Lawfully Present*)
- Work Authorization, **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment, Public and Assisted Housing, - LIHEAP, Federal Student Aid, Medicaid 21+², SSI³, TANF**

29.5 Months (2.5 years) after Filing:
Approval

29.5 to 66 Months (2.5 to 5.5 years) after Filing for T Visa: 36 Months (3 Years)⁴ after Approval: Can Apply for Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card)

6 to 9 Years after Filing for T Visa; 29.5-42.5 Months⁵ after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence:
Issued Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card)
-SNAP (up to age 18)

11 to 14 Years⁶ after Filing for T Visa; 5 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence:
Can Apply for Naturalization

11.9 to 14.9 Years⁷ after Filing For T Visa; 10.5 Months After Applying for Naturalization⁸:
Naturalization Approved

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and/or lawful permanent residence requirements.
State funded blue font – State benefits charts <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/>

¹ Child is up to age 21 under immigration law. For public benefits age limit varies by benefits program see state public benefits charts.

²Victims with T visa bona fide determinations or T visas eligible with no 5-year bar. After October 1, 2026 will require lawful permanent residence.

³ Eligible only for the first 7 years after T visa receipt or bona fide determination.

⁴ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

⁵ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

⁶ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

⁷ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

⁸ Wait time is 10.5 months at the Washington, DC Field Office.

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T Visa Adults

- Graduates who attended a D.C. high school for 3 years are eligible for in-state tuition and state financial aid regardless of immigration status.
- Adults age of 21-25 and those over age 21 who were enrolled before 10/1/25 are who are ineligible for Medicaid are eligible regardless of immigration status for coverage through DC Health Care Alliance.

Zero Months: At Filing: **In-state tuition and state financial aid; Healthcare for adults ages 21-25 and 26+ adults enrolled before 10/1/25.**

6 Months after Filing:
Bona Fide Determination (*Qualified Immigrant and Lawfully Present*)

- Work Authorization, **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment, Public and Assisted Housing, - LIHEAP, Federal Student Aid, Medicaid 21+⁹, SSI¹⁰, TANF**

29.5 Months (2.5 years) after Filing:
Approval

29.5 to 66 Months (2.5 to 5.5 years) after Filing for T Visa: 36 Months (3 Years)¹¹ after Approval:
Can Apply for Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)

6.0 to 9.0 Years after Filing for T Visa; 29.5-42.5 Months¹² after Filing for T Visa; 42.5 Months after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence:
Issued Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card) -**SNAP 18+¹³**

11.0 to 14.0 Years¹⁴ after Filing for T Visa; 5 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence:
Can Apply for Naturalization

11.9 to 14.9 Years¹⁵ after Filing For T Visa; 10.5 Months After Applying for Naturalization¹⁶:
Naturalization Approved

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/>

⁹Victims with T visa bona fide determinations or T visas eligible with no 5-year bar. After October 1, 2026 will require lawful permanent residence.

¹⁰ Eligible only for the first 7 years after T visa receipt or bona fide determination.

¹¹ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval

¹² Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

¹³ Must have met 5-year bar, be disabled, elderly if entered the US before 8/22/96, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.

¹⁴ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

¹⁵ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

¹⁶ Wait time is 10.5 months at the Washington, DC Field Office.