Florida Benefits Infographic – VAWA

Sarah Register, Juliana Nascimento, and Leslye E. Orloff (August 10, 2026)

VAWA Children[1]

- **In Florida all children without regard to immigration status are eligible to purchase health insurance at full cost under KidCare.**
- **All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status**

Zero Months: At Filing:
-Public and Assisted Housing, Purchase KidCare Child Health Insurance at full cost.

5 Months after Filing: If abuser citizen parent/stepparent (USC abuser): Work Authorization, **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment**

3-4 Months after Filing:
Prima Facie Determination (*Qualified Immigrant and Lawfully Present*)
- Federal Student Aid, LIHEAP, CHIP (up to age 19), In-State Tuition, State Financial Aid and Scholarships.

48.5 Months (≈4 years) after Filing:
-Approval ; Deferred Action,[2]
If abuser lawful permanent resident parent/step parent (LPR abuser): Work Authorization/[3] and eligibility to apply for Lawful Permanent Residency;
Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment

Issued Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) (Green Card)[4] and **SNAP (up to age 18)** [5]: 4.0 (USC abuser) or 5.4 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing
5.3 years after filing (LPR + completed 5-year bar):
TANF, Medicaid 19+[6],

7.0 (USC abuser) or 8.4 (abuser LPR) Years after Filing for VAWA; 3 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence: Apply for Naturalization

7.9 (USC abuser) or 9.3 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA; 10 Months after Application for Naturalization[7]: Naturalization Approved

10.3 (USC abuser) or 15.4 (LPR abuser) or 10 Years after work authorization (unless naturalize): **SSI**

*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/

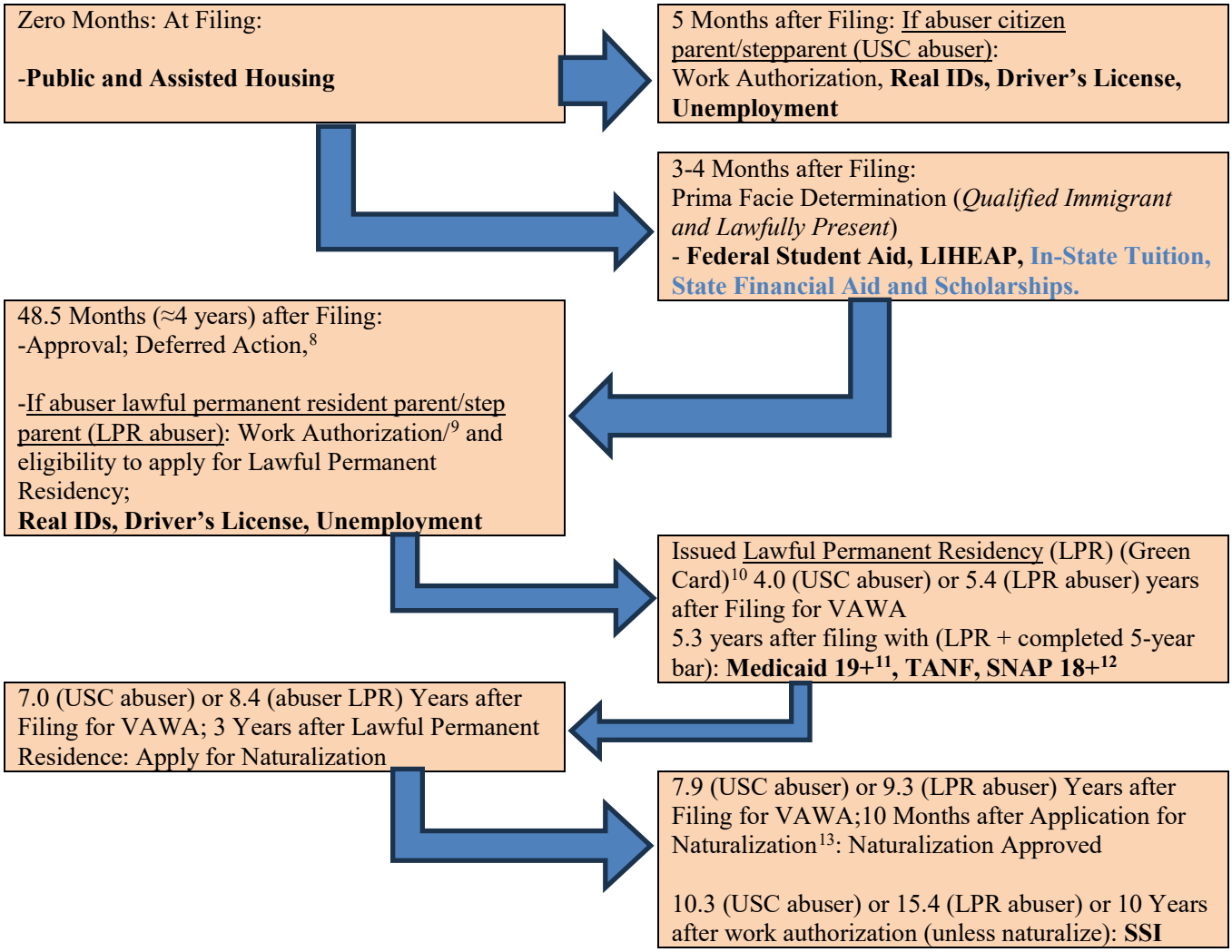
[1] Child is up to age 21 under immigration law. For public benefits age limit varies by benefits program see state public benefits charts.
[2] Formal protection from removal/deportation.
[3] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition.
[4] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition. Wait time is an average of all Florida field offices 16.4 months with a range of 13 to 23 months.
[5] Must be under age 18, disabled, met the 5-year bar, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.
[6] Eligible for federal Medicaid 5 years after receiving VAWA prima facie determination. Starting October 1, 2026 will also require lawful permanent residency.
[7] Based on the average from all Florida Field Office/Service Centers of 10.3 months, wait times range from 7 months to 13.5 months.

NIWAP, American University, Washington College of Law
4300 Nebraska Avenue NW N100B · Washington, D.C. 20016
(o) 202.274.4457 · niwap@wcl.american.edu · wcl.american.edu/niwap · https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/

© 2026 NIWAP, American University Washington College of Law. This publication was developed under grant numbers SJI-24-T-046 and SJI-26-T-006 from the State Justice Institute. The points of view expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute.

Florida Benefits Infographic – VAWA,
Sarah Register, Juliana Nascimento, and Leslye E. Orloff (August 10, 2026)

VAWA Adults



*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/

[8] Formal protection from removal/deportation
[9] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition
[10] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition. Wait time is an average of all Florida field offices 16.4 months with a range of 13 to 23 months.
[11] Eligible for federal Medicaid 5 years after receiving VAWA prima facie determination. Starting October 1, 2026 will also require lawful permanent residency.
[12] 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.
[13] Based on the average from all Florida Field Office/Service Centers of 10.3 months, wait times range from 7 months to 13 months.