

Illinois Benefits Infographic – T Visa,
Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye Orloff (May 26, 2026)

T Visa Children¹

- All children are eligible for All Kids healthcare coverage regardless of immigration status.
- All pregnant individuals are eligible for prenatal care, full scope health care, 12 months post-partum care and newborn care without regard to immigration status.
- Eligible for in-state tuition, financial aid and scholarships regardless of immigration status if graduated in Illinois or received equivalent degree, after attending 3 years of high school in-state
- All Illinois residents are eligible for state issued driver's licenses and IDs.
- All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status.

Zero Months: At Filing:

TANF*, SNAP if in the process of filing for a T visa *

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, SSI²**

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)³ after Approval: Can Apply for Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card)

6.0 to 9.0 Years after Filing for T Visa; 29.5-42.5 Months⁴ after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence:
Issued Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card)
-SNAP (up to age 18)

11.0 to 14.0 Years⁵ after Filing for T Visa; 5 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence:
Can Apply for Naturalization

11.6 to 14.6 Years⁶ after Filing For T Visa; 7.5 Months After Applying for Naturalization:
Naturalization Approved⁷

*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.

² Eligible only for the first 7 years after T Visa receipt or bona fide determination.

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

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 Wait time is 7.5 Months at the Chicago Field Office.

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T Visa Adults

- All pregnant individuals are eligible for prenatal care, full scope health care, 12 months post-partum care and newborn care without regard to immigration status.
- Low-Income Adults over age 42 eligible for state-funded healthcare regardless of immigration status.
- Eligible for in-state tuition, financial aid and scholarships regardless of immigration status if graduated in Illinois or received equivalent degree, after attending 3 years of high school in-state.
- All Illinois residents are eligible for state issued driver's licenses and IDs.

Zero Months: At Filing:

TANF*, SNAP if in the process of filing for a T visa *

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, Medicaid⁸, SNAP, SSI⁹**

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)¹⁰ 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 Months¹¹ after Filing for T Visa; 42.5 Months after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence:
Issued Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card)

11.0 to 14.0 Years¹² after Filing for T Visa; 5 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence:
Can Apply for Naturalization, **Medicaid¹³**

11.6 to 14.6 Years¹⁴ after Filing For T Visa; 7.5 Months After Applying for Naturalization:
Naturalization Approved¹⁵

*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/>

⁸Victims with T visa bona fide determinations or T visas eligible with no 5-year bar. After October 1, 2026 will require lawful permanent residence.

⁹ Eligible only for the first 7 years after T Visa receipt or bona fide determination.

¹⁰ Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval

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 After October 1, 2026, eligible for federal Medicaid having attained lawful permanent residence and having completed the 5 year bar.

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

¹⁵ Wait time is 7.5 Months at the Chicago Field Office.