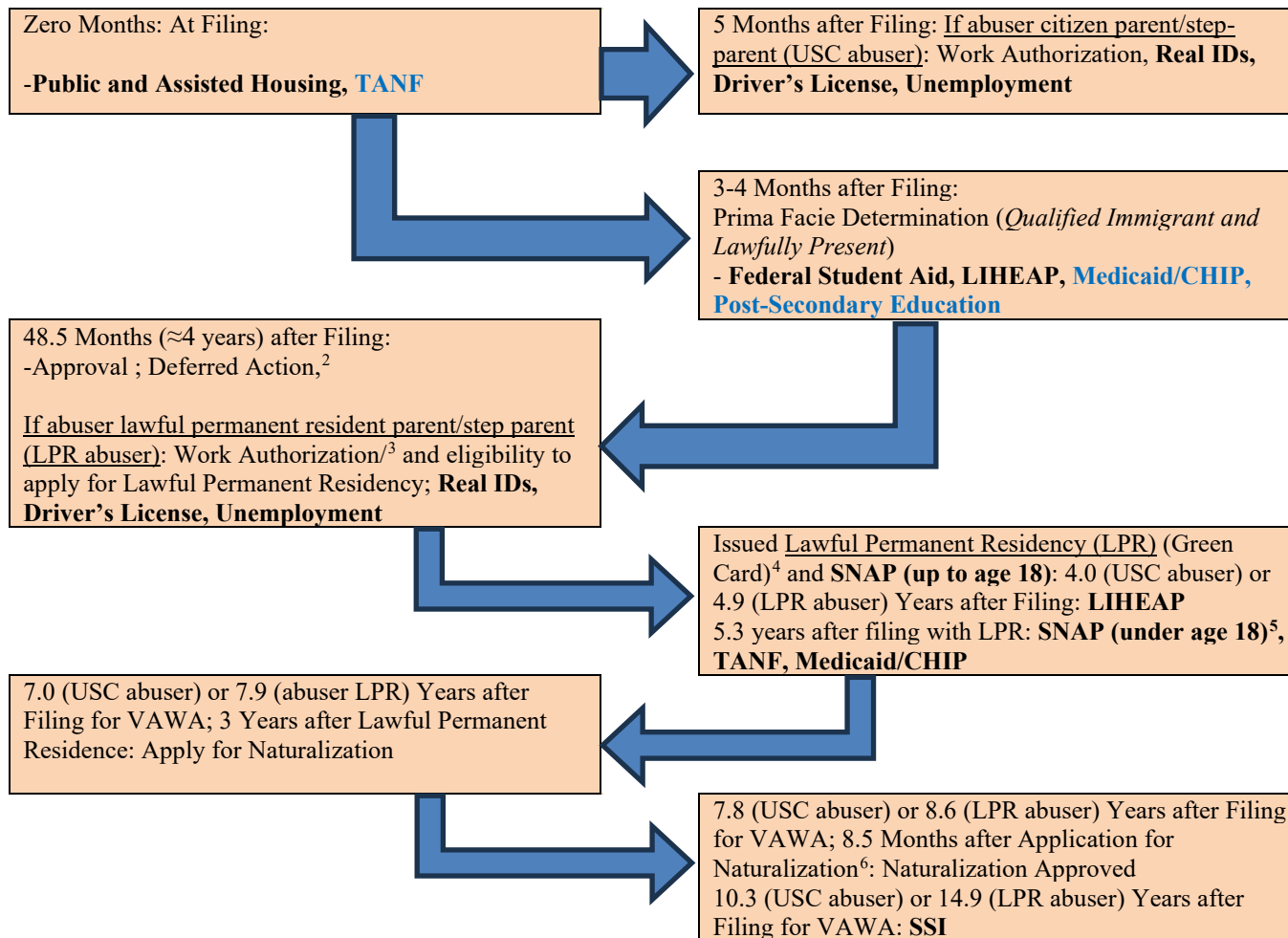


Pennsylvania Benefits Infographic – VAWA

Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho and Leslye E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

VAWA Children¹

- All children are eligible for Post-Secondary In-State Tuition at Penn State University.
- All persons are eligible for state funded CHIP up to age 21.
- All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status.



*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. Philadelphia Field Office wait time is 11 months and 9 months for the Pittsburgh Field Office.

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 Wait time is 8 months at the Philadelphia Field Office and 9 months for the Pittsburgh Field Office.

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Pennsylvania Benefits Infographic – VAWA,
Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho and Leslye E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

VAWA Adult

- All adults are eligible for **Post-Secondary In-State Tuition at Penn State University.**
- All pregnant persons are eligible for **state funded medical assistance.**

Zero Months: At Filing:

-Public and Assisted Housing, TANF

5 Months after Filing: If abuser citizen parent/step-parent (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, Medicaid/CHIP, Post-Secondary Education

48.5 Months (~4 years) after Filing:

-Approval; Deferred Action,⁷

-If abuser lawful permanent resident parent/stepparent (LPR abuser): Work Authorization/⁸ and eligibility to apply for Lawful Permanent Residency;

Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment

Issued Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) (Green Card)⁹ 4.0 (USC abuser) or 4.9 (LPR abuser) years after Filing for VAWA: **LIHEAP, SNAP¹⁰**

5.3 years after filing: **Medicaid¹¹, TANF**

7.0 (USC abuser) or 7.9 (abuser LPR) Years after Filing for VAWA; 3 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence: Apply for Naturalization

7.8 (USC abuser) or 8.6 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA; 8.5 Months after Application for Naturalization¹²: Naturalization Approved

10.3 (USC abuser) or 14.9 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA: **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/>

⁷ Formal protection from removal/deportation

⁸ If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition

⁹ If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition. Wait time is 11 months at the Philadelphia Field Office and 9 months for the Pittsburgh Field Office.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ Eligible for federal Medicaid 5 years after receiving VAWA prima facie determination. Starting October 1, 2026 will also require lawful permanent residency.

¹² Wait time is 8 months at the Philadelphia Field Office and 9 months for the Pittsburgh Field Office.