

PUBLIC BENEFITS TRAINING MATERIALS¹

Last updated: February 7, 2022

If you are a victim advocate, attorney, judge, or other professional working with an immigrant victim and you would like to receive case specific technical assistance on access to publically funded benefits and services that an immigrant crime victim or immigrant child would be eligible to receive in your state, please call NIWAP for technical assistance. (202) 274-4457 or email us at info@niwap.org. You can also visit the public benefits section of NIWAP's web library <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/topic/public-benefits/>

To receive updates, sign up for NIWAP's outreach list.

<https://secure.campaigner.com/CSB/Public/Form.aspx?fid=1682905&ac=fohe>

You can elect NIWAP's general outreach list to receive notices of trainings, webinars, new materials, resources and policies. Judges, court staff, law enforcement and prosecutors can sign up for lists exclusively open to staff working at one of these government agencies.

Public Benefits Interactive Maps and State Charts

- Interactive Public Benefits Map (232) <http://map.niwap.org/>
- All State Public Benefits Charts (193) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/>
- A Guide to Public Benefits Map for Immigrant Survivors of Crime (95) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/benefits-map-guide>
- State-Funded Public Benefits Comparison Chart (April 12, 2021) (2585) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/state-benefits-comparison-chart>

Webinars

- Immigrant Access to Federally Funded Housing Webinar: Collaboration with the National Housing Law Project (387) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/webinar-immigrant-access-federally-funded-housing/>
- Public Benefits and Services Legally Available to Immigrant Children and Victims - What Courts Need to Know? (201) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/public-benefits-courts-webinar-4-18-19/>
- Webinar: "And Legal Services For All: New 2014 Legal Services Corporation Regulations Implementing VAWA 2005's Immigrant Crime Survivors' Access To Legal Services" (October 30, 2014) (3302) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lsc-webinar/>
- Healthcare: Understanding the Affordable Care Act and How it Affects Immigrant Survivors (341) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/april2015healthcarewebinar/>
- Yes We Can!: Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivors (342) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/public-benefits-webinar/>

¹ This materials list includes publications issued by government agencies and materials produced by NIWAP in collaboration with national experts. Each of the materials included in this list developed with support from government funders contains government agency disclaimers.

Legal Rights Overviews and Brochures

- Multilingual Materials for Victims and Advocates (1317)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/topic/multilingual-materials-language/>
- World Language Identification Guide: I Speak (Raksha) (2419)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lang-tool-langidguide4-2006-2/>
- DHS Infographic: Protection for Immigrant Victims (January 12, 2017) (1688)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/dhs-protections1-6-links-121516/>
- Immigration Options for Victims of Crime – DHS Brochure (118)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/appendix-g-dhs-immigration-options-english>
- Information on the Legal Rights Available to Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence in the United States and Facts about Immigrating on a Marriage-Based Visa (318)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/marriage-based-legal-rights>
- Pathways to Immigration Relief for Students (June 20, 2014) (156)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/screening-students-for-immigraiton-protections/>

Regulations and Policies

- Annotated Statutes Related to Public Benefits Eligibility for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Human Trafficking (October 31, 2021) (12476)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/1641-1631-benefits-laws-annotated>
- Interim Guidance on Verification of Citizenship, Qualified Alien Status, and Eligibility Under Title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (November 17, 1997) (2494) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/interim-guidance-verification> (See, Exhibit B to Attachment 5—Aliens Who Have Been Battered Or Subjected To Extreme Cruelty Within The Meaning of Section 431 of The Act)
- Final Specification of Community Programs Necessary for Protection of Life or Safety Under Welfare Reform Legislation (January 16, 2001) (12560)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/protectionlifeorsafetyagreg>
- Request for Comments on the Attorney General’s Specification of Community Programs Necessary for the Protection of Life or Safety Under the Welfare Reform Act (September 15, 1997)(12559) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/life-and-safety-progs-comments-request>
- HHS Domestic Violence Fact Sheet: Access to HHS-Funded Services for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence (August 22, 2012) (12561) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/hhs-immigrant-domestic-violence-fact-sheet>

Public Benefits and Services for Immigrant Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Bench Cards, Flow Charts and Evidence Check Lists

- Public Benefits Flow Charts: VAWA Self-Petition and Cancellation, U-Visas, T-Visas and SIJS (192)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/public-benefits-flow-charts/>
- Evidence Checklist For Battered Immigrant Women Seeking Public Benefits (2014) (382)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/evidence-women-seeking-benefits>
- Family Court Bench Card on Immigrant Crime Victim Access to Public Benefits and Services (5)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-bchcrd-pubbenefits/>
- Bench Card on Trafficking Victim Benefits Eligibility Process (18)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/bchcrd-trafficking-victim-benefits-eligibility-process/>
- Bench Card on U Visa Victim Benefits Eligibility Process (8)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/u-visa-benefits-benchcard/>
- Bench Card on VAWA Public Benefits Eligibility Process (9)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/vawa-eligibility-process/>

Overviews and Chapters, Multiple Benefits

- Public Benefits Toolkit (437) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-tkit-publicbenefits/>
- Economic Relief and Public Benefits materials List – Multi-State Judicial Training (329) (Albuquerque) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/2-economic-relief-and-public-benefits-4-15-18>
- Programs Open to Immigrant Victims and All Immigrants Without Regard to Immigration Status (231) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/programs-open-to-all-immigrants/>
- Anti-Discrimination Provisions that Apply to Programs Receiving Federal Funding Serving Victims of Violence against Women Crimes (100) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-tool-antidiscrimlaws/>
- Annotated Violence Against Women Act Self-Petitioner Definition INA 101(a)(51) (12517) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/vawa-self-petitioner-annotated-ina-101a51>
- Annotated Statutes Related to Public Benefits Eligibility for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Human Trafficking (12562) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/annotated-qualified-immigrant-statutes-survivors>
- Chapter 16.1 Appendix: HHS Funded Programs Open to All Immigrants (12476) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/hhs-funded-programs-immigrants/>
- Chapter 16: Access To Programs And Services That Can Help Victims of Sexual Assault (351) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch16-programaccessforsexassaultdvvictims/>
- Chapter 04.1: Access to Programs and Services that Can Help Battered Immigrants (347) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch4-1-access-to-services-helpbatteredimm/>
- Chapter 04.2: Public Benefits Access for Battered Immigrant Women and Children (348) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch4-2-public-bens-access-battered-immigrants/>
- Chapter 4.3 Barriers to Accessing Services: The Importance of Advocates Accompanying Battered Immigrants Applying for Public Benefits (357) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch4-3-importance-advocates/>
- HHS Administration for Children and Families Trafficking Victim Adult Certification Handout (12557) https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/adult_certification_handout

CARES ACT and COVID-19 Related Resources Accessible to Immigrant Victims

- Immigrant Crime Victim Access to Relief during the COVID-19 Crisis under the CARES and FFCRA Acts (May 20, 2020) (189) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/cares-act-unemployment-imm-victims-5-27-2020>
- Healthcare Available to Immigrant Crime Victims During the COVID-19 Pandemic (395) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/healthcare-available-to-immigrant-crime-victims-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>
- Resources to Support Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault During the COVID-19 Pandemic (743) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/other-resources-covid-19>
- Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition: Frequently Asked Question: Eligibility for Assistance Based on Immigration Status (May 5, 2020) (369) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/cares-act-immigrant-eligibility-faq>
- Safe Housing Partnerships: Federal Safe Housing Funding Resources - CARES Act (April 22, 2020) (447) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/federal-safe-housing-funding-resources-cares-act>
- Safe Housing for Immigrant Survivors: Legal Resources (744) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/safe-housing-for-immigrant-survivors-legal-resources>

- Tenant Rights of Domestic Violence Survivors During COVID – 19 (National Housing Law Project) (734) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/nhlp-housing-dv-covid>

Public Charge and Immigrant Victims

- Public Charge Test for Benefits Flow Chart (440) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/flow-chart-public-charge-test-housing-benefits>
- Infographic Public Charge Test for Housing Benefits (October 12, 2020) (408) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/infographic-public-charge-and-housing>
- The Impact of the 2020 Public Charge Rule on Transitional Housing (July 9, 2020) (2420) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/public-charge-and-transitional-housing>
- Post-VAWA 2013: Immigrant Crime Victims and Public Charge (1689) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/imm-tkit-publicchargepostvawa2013/>

Only Certain Law Enforcement and Benefits Workers Under Limited Circumstances Are Required Under Federal Law to Report Immigrants to DHS

- Privacy Protections for Immigrant Applying for Public Benefits (191) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/privacy-protections-reporting-and-public-benefits>

Non-Work Social Security Numbers

- Obtaining Non-work Social Security Numbers Needed by VAWA Self-Petitioners to Maintain Public and Assisted Housing (736) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/non-work-ssns-va-wa-self-petitioners>
- Request That SSA Issue A Non-Work SSN to a Benefits Eligible Immigrant (June 2014 - Washington State Sample) (443) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/sample-non-work-ssn-request-form>
- Social Security Administration Program Operations Manual System (POMS) (July 2017) (452) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/non-work-ssns>
- Triagency Letter: Citizenship Immigration Status and Social Security Numbers (457) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/triagency-letter-hhs-ag-citizenship-immigration-status-and-social-security-numbers/>
- Evidence Checklists for Work with Immigrant Survivors – Includes Benefits and Non-Work Social Security Numbers (383) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/evidencechecklists/>
- Obtaining Non-Work Social Security Numbers (422) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-tool-memononworkssns-11-17-00/>

Legal Services Corporation Funded Assistance for Immigrant Victims

- Legal Services Access for All: Implementing the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 (1868) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/and-legal-services-for-all/>
- Access to Publicly Funded Legal Services for Immigrant Survivors (188) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lsc-tool-accesspubliclyfundedls/>
- Legal Services Corporation Immigrant Representation Regulations 45 C.F. R. 1626, April 18, 2014 (604) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lsc-gov-ecfr1626restrictionslegalassistancetoaliens-8-18-14/>
- Legal Services Corporation Program Letter 14-3 (416)

- <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lsc-program-letter-14-3/>
- Legal Services Corporation (LSC) Funded Legal Services Newsletter (June 2016) (415)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lsc-newsletter-final-june-2016-update>
- Permissibility of Providing Legal Services to Noncitizen Parents and Noncitizen Guardians of Children Seeking Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (513)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/lsc-non-citizen-parent-guardian-sijs-ao-2016-002/>
- Webinar: “And Legal Services For All: New 2014 Legal Services Corporation Regulations Implementing VAWA 2005’s Immigrant Crime Survivors’ Access To Legal Services” (October 30, 2014) (490)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/lsc-webinar/>

Child Care

- Immigrant Crime Victim Child Care Access Chart (403)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-chart-childcare/>
- Head Start Programs Memo (505)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-gov-hhsmemopolicyheadstartservices-05-02-08/>
- Clarification of Interpretation of “Federal Public Benefit” regarding Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Services (359)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/public-benefit-ccdf-services/>

Driver’s Licenses

- Driver’s License Documentation Requirements by State (330)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/drivers-license-access>
- State-Funded Public Benefits Comparison Chart (April 12, 2021) (2585)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/state-benefits-comparison-chart>

Education

- National Findings on University and College Responses to Foreign-Born Student Victims (595)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/handout-on-national-findings-of-foreign-born-student-victims/>
- Interim and Supportive Measures to Help and Protect Foreign Born Student Victims of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Stalking and Sexual Harassment (April 2, 2018)(410)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/title-ix-foreign-students>
- Foreign Born Student Victims of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Harassment: Special Needs of “M” Visa Holders (393)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/interim-measures-for-m-visa-holders/>
- Foreign Born Student Victims of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Harassment: Special Needs of “J” Visa Holders (392)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/interim-measures-for-j-visa-holders>
- Foreign Born Student Victims of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Harassment: Special Needs of “F” Visa Holders (391)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/interim-measures-for-f-visa-holders>
- Student Aid Eligibility – Title IV Aid for “Battered Immigrants-Qualified Aliens” as provided for in VAWA- U.S. Department of Education Letter (798)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/student-aid-eligibility-titleiv/>
- Eligibility for Title IV Aid for “Battered Immigrants-Qualified Aliens” as Provided For in the Violence Against Women Act, Department of Education Policy (376)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-gov-memovawapetitionsgrantsloans-6-4-10>
- Federal Student Aid Handbook – Immigration Status Eligible Students (358)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/fed-student-aid-citizenship-chapter/>

- Chapter 13: When Foreign Students or Their Family Members Are Sexually Assaulted: Immigration Implications of the Student and Exchange Visitor System (585)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch13-foreign-students-sexually-assaulted/>

Health Care

- Healthcare Access for Immigrants who are NOT Eligible to Access the Healthcare Exchanges (394)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/healthcare-access-for-immigrants-who-are-not-eligible-to-access/>
- Immigrants' Access to Programs and Services Necessary to Protect Life and Safety and Post-Assault Health Care (405)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/imm-access-services-necessary/>
- Pre-Natal Care for Immigrant Victims – All States (355)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch17-4-prenatal-care>
- Post Assault Healthcare and Crime Victim Compensation for Immigrant Victims and Children– All States (354)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch17-3-postassault-healthcare-compensation>
- Emergency Medicaid for Immigrant Victims – All States (352)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch17-1-emergencymedicaid>
- Coverage for Forensic Costs for Immigrant Victims – All States (353)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch17-2-forensiccoverageimmvictims>
- Chapter 17: Access to Health Care for Immigrant Victims of Sexual Assault (356)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch17-accesshealthcare/>
- Domestic Violence Factsheet: HHS (12561)
http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/domestic-violence-fact-sheet-_-hhs/
- State-Funded Public Benefits Comparison Chart (April 12, 2021) (2585)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/state-benefits-comparison-chart>
- NILC: Medical Assistance Programs for Immigrants in Various States (July 2021) (12564)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/med-services-for-imms-in-states-2021>

Housing – Shelter and Transitional Housing

- Joint Agency Letter On Shelters and Transitional Housing (Web Page August 12, 2016) (412)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/joint-agency-letter-shelters-transitional-housing/>
- Webinar-Immigrant Crime Victim Access to Federally Assisted Housing (February 22, 2017) (1319)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/webinar-immigrant-crime-victim-access-federally-assisted-housing-february-22-2017/>
- HUD-HHS-DOJ Letter Regarding Immigrant Access to Housing and Services (230)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/hud-hhs-doj-letter-regarding-immigrant-access-housing-services/>
- HUD, SNAPS, The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 and HUD's Homeless Assistance Programs (Aug. 16, 2016) (428)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/prwora-fact-sheet/>
- NIWAP, Brochure for Transitional Housing (456)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/transitionalhousingbrochure/>
- NIWAP, Fact Sheet: Immigrant Access to Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing (Oct.23, 2016) (449)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/shelter-trans-housing-advocacy-steps>

- What Shelter and Rental Housing Assistance are Available to Immigrant Survivors During COVID-19? (September, 2021) (12563) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/faq-immigrant-survivors-housing-september-2021>
- VAWA Home: Rights for Survivors in LIHTC (The Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program) <https://www.vawahome.com/>

Housing – Public and Assisted

- Access to Public and Assisted Housing VAWA Self-Petitioners –Webpage (January 26, 2017) (94) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/access-public-assisted-housing-vawa-self-petitioners/>
- HUD, Memo for Secretary Julian Castro from Tonya Robinson, Acting General Counsel re: Eligibility of Battered Noncitizen Self-Petitioners for Financial Assistance Under Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980 (Dec. 15, 2016) (377) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/eligibility-of-vawa-self-petitioners-2016-12-15/>
- HUD, Notice PIH 2017-02 (HA), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Self-Petitioner Verification Procedures (Jan. 19, 2017) (791) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/hud-vawa-self-petitioner-verification-procedures/>
- Annotated Section 214 of the Housing Act: 42 U.S. Code § 1436a – Restriction on Use of Public and Assisted Housing By Immigrants (October 31, 2021) (12558) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/annotated-housing-section-214>
- NHLP, Memo: HUD Housing Covered by Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act (1849) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/nhlp-housing-covered-by-section-214-feb-2017/>
- NHLP, Chart on Federally Assisted Housing and Immigrant Eligibility (Jan. 2018) (425) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/nhlp-federally-assisted-housing-and-immigrant-eligibility-jan-2018-1/>
- NIWAP, How to Advocate for Public and Assisted Housing for Your Battered Immigrant or Trafficking Survivor Client (Feb. 8, 2017) (398) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pub-asst-housing-advocacy/>
- NIWAP & Legal Momentum, HUD Programs and Immigrant Eligibility, Chapter 16.2 (Feb. 8, 2017) (350) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ch16-2-hud-programs-imm-eligibility/>

Low-Income Home Energy and Weatherization Assistance Programs

- Low-Income Home Energy (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Assistance Programs (WAP) (417) http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/liheapwap_pp150-51_053006/

SNAP- Food Stamps

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Guidance on Non-Citizen Eligibility (455) <http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/imms-snap/>
- NILC: State-Funded Food Assistance Programs (April 2020) (12564) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/statefundedfoodprograms>
- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAP), The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 and HUD’s Homeless Assistance Programs (August 16, 2016) (428) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/prwora-fact-sheet>
- State-Funded Public Benefits Comparison Chart (April 12, 2021) (2585) <https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/state-benefits-comparison-chart>

TANF

- Domestic Violence Factsheet: HHS
http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/domestic-violence-fact-sheet-_hhs/
- NILC: State-funded TANF Replacement Programs (April 2020) (454)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-chart-replacementprogramstanf/>
- Eligibility for State Funded TANF Replacement Programs for Immigrant Crime Victims (375)
<http://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-chart-tanf/>
- State-Funded Public Benefits Comparison Chart (April 12, 2021) (2585)
<https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/state-benefits-comparison-chart>