# State-Funded Public Benefits Comparison Chart

**By: Leslye E. Orloff**

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## State Funded Benefits – Comparison Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits Program</th>
<th>Prenatal Care Regardless of Immigration Status</th>
<th>Lawfully Present/Residing Immigrants: “Qualified” Abused Immigrants</th>
<th>“Qualified” Immigrants</th>
<th>PRUCOL</th>
<th>Other Categories of Immigrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| State Funded TANF                | MD, MN, WA                                   | NV, NJ, RI, TN, OR, IA                                       | CA, CT, GA, HI, ME, MD, NM, NY, OR, PA, UT, WA, WI, NY, WA | CA, ME, PA, NY         | - CA – U visa applicants, U visa holders, victims of human trafficking 
|                                   | Total: 3 States                              | Total: 6 States                                             | Total: 4 States                                                 |                         | - IL – Victims who have filed or are preparing to file T visa, U visa, or asylum cases and family members that they include in such applications  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - OR – Victims of domestic violence are eligible regardless of immigration status  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - WA – Survivors of who are preparing to file or have filed applications for T visas, U visas, or asylum and trafficking victims with the Office of Refugee Resettlement Certification  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - ME - Post July 1, 2011 qualified immigrants and PRUCOLs only qualify if they are survivors of domestic violence (includes child abuse), are seniors, persons with disabilities, persons waiting for employment authorization, or persons granted work authorization seeking employment. |
| State Funded Medical Assistance   | AR, CA, LA, MI, MN, MO, NE, NJ, NY, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, WA, WI | Children and pregnant women: AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, ME, MD, MA, NE, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, VT, VA, WV, WI | IL, NM                   | CA, MA, NY              | - CA – Survivors of human trafficking, U visa applicants, U visa holders, youth under the age of 26  
|                                   | Total: 16 States                             | Total: 2 States                                             | Total: 3 States                                                 | Total: 4 States                                                 | - CO – Lawfully residing immigrants under 250% of the federal poverty level (FLP) may be eligible for Colorado Indigent Care  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - DC - Regardless of immigration status adults may be eligible for DC Health Care Alliance and Children may be eligible for Immigrant Children’s Program  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - IL – Children 300% FLP and 65+ eligible without regard to immigration status; victims who have filed or are preparing to file T visa, U visa, or asylum cases; victims of torture  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - MD - Montgomery County low and moderate incomerresidents and Prince George’s County 250% FLP without regard to immigration status  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - MN – DACA and victims receiving services from the Center for Victims of Torture; lawfully present immigrants under 200% FLP through Minnesotacare  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - NY – All children regardless of immigration status covered by state Child Health Plus program  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - OR – Children regardless of immigration status  
|                                   |                                              |                                                              |                                                                     |                         | - PA – State-funded medical assistance is available to lawfully residing immigrants |

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### State Funded Medical Assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pregnant women: WY.</th>
<th>Total: 1 State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total: Children 31 States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant Women 23 States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- WA – Children under 215% FLP eligible for medical coverage without regard to immigration status. Survivors of abuse who are preparing to file or have filed application for T visas, U visas, or asylum and trafficking victims with the Office of Refugee Resettlement Certification eligible for medical assistance. Limited medical care for lawfully present seniors.

### State Funded Food Assistance

| MN14, WA | Total: 2 States |

- CA – Lawful temporary residents, victims of trafficking, U visa applicants, U visa holders
- CT - Immigrants ineligible for SNAP at 75% federal amount, must meet 6-month residency requirement if entered the U.S. on or after April 1, 1998.
- IL – Victims who have filed or are preparing to file T or U visa or asylum applications.
- ME – Immigrants ineligible for SNAP
- WA – Survivors of abuse who are preparing to file or have filed application for T visas, U visas, or asylum and trafficking victims with the Office of Refugee Resettlement Certification eligible.

### Access to Driver’s Licenses by State for Immigrant Survivors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Authorization</th>
<th>Deferred Action</th>
<th>VAWA and Trafficking Victims</th>
<th>State Driver’s License Available to Immigrant Who Meet State Criteria</th>
<th>Driver’s Licenses Only Provided for Limited Groups of Immigrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When States Provide Driver’s Licenses to Immigrants</td>
<td>At Work Authorization: AK, FL, GA, ID, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, WV, WI, WY</td>
<td>With Deferred Action which can be before receipt of work authorization: KS, MO, VA</td>
<td>With VAWA Prima Facie Determination: ME</td>
<td>CA, CT, CO, DE, DC, HI, IL, MD, NM, NV, VT, UT, WA Total: 13 States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State driver’s license prior to immigrant eligibility federally recognized driver’s license at work authorization: CA, CT, CO, DE, DC, HI, IL, MD, NV, NM, VT, UT, WA Total: 13 States</td>
<td>Total: 3 States</td>
<td>Trafficking Victim HHS Certification Letter: ME</td>
<td>Total: 13 States</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AZ,15 MS, OH, TX, AK Total: 4 States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. Details on each state’s driver’s license laws and requirements for immigrant eligibility are contained in NIWAP’s state-by-state benefits charts [https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts](https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts). See also, Acceptable Forms of Documentation and Identification for State Driver’s License/Identification Cards (September 5, 2014) [https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/drivers-license-access](https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/drivers-license-access).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immigrant Survivors by Benefits Category</th>
<th>Immigrant Victims Eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Lawfully present immigrants \(^{16}\)  | • VAWA self-petitioners, VAWA cancellation of removal and VAWA suspension of deportation applicants with prima facie determinations  
• T visa holders  
• U visa holders  
• Victims with deferred action status include:  
  o Approved VAWA self-petitioners  
  o Wait-list approved U visa applicants  
• Special Immigrant Juvenile Status applicants |
| Qualified Abused Immigrants           | • VAWA self-petitioners, VAWA cancellation of removal and VAWA suspension of deportation applicants with prima facie determinations  
• Abuse victims \(^{17}\) who fall into the following categories: \(^{18}\)  
  o Victims with approved family based visas (I-130) filed by their abusive citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse, parent or step-parent  
  o T visa applicants with bona fide determinations  
  o Lawful residents  
  o Conditional permanent residents  
  o Asylees, refugees, persons paroled into the U.S., or granted withholding of removal |
| Qualified Immigrants \(^{19}\)         | • VAWA self-petitioners, VAWA cancellation of removal and VAWA suspension of deportation applicants with prima facie determinations  
• Victims with approved family based visas (I-130) filed by their abusive citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse, parent or step-parent  
• T visa applicants with bona fide determinations  
• T visa holders  
• Trafficking victims with continued presence and an HHS certification letter (received benefits to the same extent as refugees and thus are qualified immigrants)  
• Lawful residents  
• Conditional permanent residents  
• Asylees, refugees, persons paroled into the U.S., or granted withholding of removal |
| PRUCOL                                 | Persons Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL) is a benefits eligibility category. The term generally means that the DHS is aware of the immigrant’s presence in the U.S. and does not have plans to deport or remove them from the U.S. This term would include immigrant who have pending or approved applications for:  
• VAWA self-petitions  
• U visas  
• T visas  
• Continued Presence (trafficking victims)  
• Special Immigrant Juvenile Status  
• Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)  
• Family based visa petitions  
• Asylum  
• Work visa holders  
• Many other forms of immigration relief |

\(^{1}\) Once immigrants attain lawful permanent residents to qualify for TANF they must take steps toward becoming citizens.  
\(^{2}\) To qualify, abused immigrants must fall into one of the following categories: Lawful permanent residents, conditional residents, asylum applicants, VAWA self-petitioners, VAWA cancellation of removal, or VAWA suspension of deportation applicants with prima facie determinations or approvals, or applicants with a pending or approved I-130 family based visa petition. Parents and children included in such applications are also eligible.
Up to 200% FLP.

State premium assistance available to assist with purchase of health care on the health care marketplace for lawfully present immigrants under 100% of the federal poverty level.

Qualified, lawfully present or PRUCOL eligible if 1) seniors or persons with disabilities up to 100% FLP; 2) children under age 19 and 300% FLP; 3) children ages 19 or 20 and 150% FLP. Regardless of immigration status: 1) children eligible for primary and preventative care through Children’s Medical Security Plan; 2) pregnant women eligible for full scope medical care. Lawfully present non-pregnant adults eligible for ConnectCare. PRUCOL adults eligible for MassHealth Benefits (excluding long-term care).

Also lawfully residing before August 22, 1996.

Lawfully residing persons who were in the U.S. before August 22, 1996 and who were residents of Rhode Island before July 1, 1997 are covered.

Texas denies federal Medicaid to most qualified immigrant adults who enter the country on or after August 22, 1996 for 5 years after they become qualified immigrants.

Wyoming denies federal Medicaid to most non-pregnant lawful permanent residents who do not have 40 quarters of work history in the U.S.

Same as footnote 6.

Same as footnote 6.

If entered before August 22, 1996.

Prenatal care, long term care, breast and cervical cancer treatment and certain other medical services available regardless of immigration status.

Must be 50 or older or receiving TANF and must take steps toward citizenship.

Arizona will not provide driver’s license to any immigrant where the basis for work authorization is deferred action.

https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/pb-gov-bhslawfullyresidingmedicaid-07-01-10-also-in-qualified-immigrants


Only the categories that most commonly include survivors of domestic violence and child abuse are listed.

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