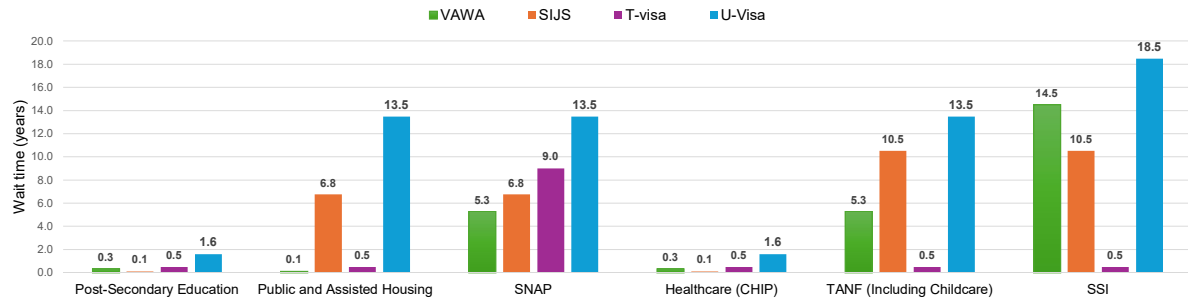


Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivor Children in Texas

By Sarah Register, Emma Buchanan, and Leslie E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Conditions Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.6	State	Must be lawfully present to receive state aid. Policies provide Students who are lawfully present are eligible for in-state tuition and access to financial aid and scholarships at public post-secondary educational institutions in Texas.
Public and Assisted Housing	0.1	6.8	0.5	13.5	Federal	VAWAs eligible upon filing, T visas, U visas and SIJS must be qualified immigrants.
SNAP	5.3	6.8	9.0	13.5	Federal / State	Must be lawful permanent residents. Must also be under 18, disabled, elderly who was lawfully residing in the U.S. on 8/22/96, have been a qualified immigrant for 5 years or a lawful permanent resident with 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit measured from the date they receive work authorization. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visa victims are exempt from the 5 year bar and 40 quarter requirement. SIJS and U visa victims who work become eligible 10 years after receiving work authorization and those who do not have 40 quarters of work credit when they become lawful permanent residents would need to wait to complete the 5 year bar. SIJS or U child who can use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less. Abused immigrant spouses and children eligible for VAWA immigration relief (VAWA self-petition as defined in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(51) and recipients of VAWA cancellation of removal or VAWA suspension of deportation) are exempt in Texas from 40 quarter requirements making them eligible for SNAP when they receive lawful permanent residency so long as 5 years has passed since receiving their prima facie determination.
Healthcare (CHIP)	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.6	State	Must be lawfully present. Income-eligible children under 19 who are lawfully present are eligible for state-funded medical assistance. Prenatal care and two post-partum care visits are available regardless of immigration status through the CHIP Perinatal program.
TANF (Including Childcare)	5.3	10.5	0.5	13.5	State	Must be lawful permanent residents. SIJS, and U Visas only eligible after lawful permanent residency, completing the 5-year bar, and they accrue with 40 work quarters of work credit after obtaining work authorization. VAWAs (VAWA self-petition as defined in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(51) and recipients of VAWA cancellation of removal or VAWA suspension of deportation) are exempt from the 40 quarter requirement. VAWAs who entered the U.S. after 8/22/96 must complete the 5 year bar. T Visa holders and bona fide applicants are only eligible during the first 4 years after obtaining status, unless obtained lawful permanent residency. Children are eligible for TANF-funded child care when eligible for TANF.
SSI	14.5	10.5	0.5	18.5	Federal	Must be a lawful permanent resident and have 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit, and subject to 5 year bar if arrived after 8/22/96. T visas exempt from 40 quarter and 5 year bar and are eligible for 7 years after becoming a qualified immigrant. Children can use credit from themselves and that their parents earned when they were under the age of 18. For children who use the work credit for themselves and a parent, the wait could be up to 5 years less. U visa victims eligible 5 years after lawful permanent residence if have earned 40 quarters work credit. VAWAs calculated as 10 years after attaining work authorization. Spouses of citizens will be eligible 3.4 years faster. 0.1 = immediately eligible at filing

Public Benefits for Immigrant Child Survivors in Texas

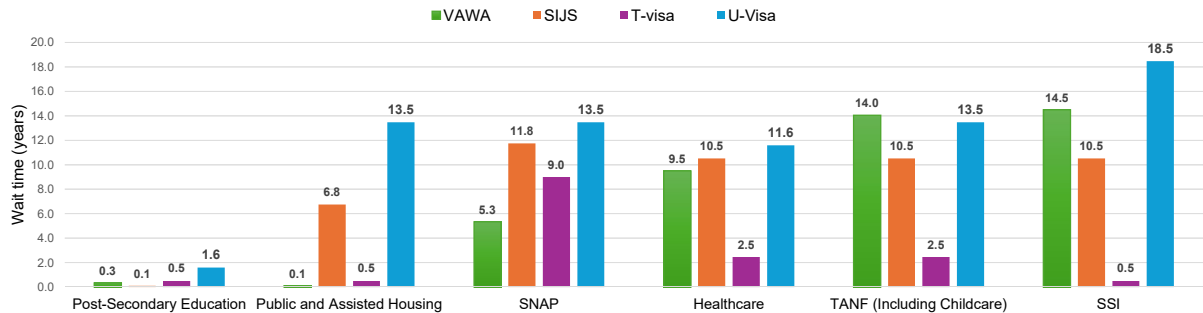


Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivor Adults in Texas

By Sarah Register, Emma Buchanan, and Leslye E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Conditions Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.6	State	Must be lawfully present to receive state aid. Policies provide Students who are lawfully present are eligible for in-state tuition and access to financial aid and scholarships at public post-secondary educational institutions in Texas.
Public and Assisted Housing	0.1	6.8	0.5	13.5	Federal	VAWAs eligible upon filing, T visas, U visas and SIJS must be qualified immigrants.
SNAP	5.3	11.8	9.0	13.5	Federal/State	Must be lawful permanent residents. Must also be under 18, disabled, elderly who was lawfully residing in the U.S. on 8/22/96, have been a qualified immigrant for 5 years or a lawful permanent resident with 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit measured from the date they receive work authorization. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visa victims are exempt from the 5 year bar and 40 quarter requirement. SIJS and U visa victims who work become eligible 10 years after receiving work authorization and those who do not have 40 quarters of work credit when they become lawful permanent residents would need to wait to complete the 5 year bar. SIJS or U child who can use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less. Abused immigrant spouses and children eligible for VAWA immigration relief (VAWA self-petition as defined in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(51) and recipients of VAWA cancellation of removal or VAWA suspension of deportation) are exempt in Texas from 40 quarter requirements making them eligible for SNAP when they receive lawful permanent residency so long as 5 years has passed since receiving their prima facie determination.
Healthcare	9.5	10.5	2.5	11.6	Federal/State	Must be lawful permanent residents. Abused immigrant spouses and children eligible for VAWA immigration relief (VAWA self-petition as defined in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(51) and recipients of VAWA cancellation of removal or VAWA suspension of deportation) are eligible once they are lawful permanent residents and 5 years have passed since their prima facie determination. VAWAs are exempt from the Texas from 40 quarter requirement. T Visa holders and bona fide applicants are only eligible during first 7 years after obtaining status, unless obtained lawful permanent residency. Prenatal care and two post-partum care visits are available regardless of immigration status through the CHIP Perinatal program.
TANF (Including Childcare)	14.0	10.5	2.5	13.5	State	Must be lawful permanent residents. SIJS, and U Visas only eligible after lawful permanent residency, completing the 5-year bar, and they accrue with 40 work quarters of work credit after obtaining work authorization. VAWAs (VAWA self-petition as defined in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(51) and recipients of VAWA cancellation of removal or VAWA suspension of deportation) are exempt from the 40 quarter requirement. VAWAs who entered the U.S. after 8/22/96 must complete the 5 year bar. T Visa holders and bona fide applicants are only eligible during the first 4 years after obtaining status, unless obtained lawful permanent residency. Eligible for TANF-funded child care when eligible for TANF.
SSI	14.5	10.5	0.5	18.5	Federal	Must be a lawful permanent resident and have 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit, and subject to 5 year bar if arrived after 8/22/96. T visas exempt from 40 quarter and 5 year bar and are eligible for 7 years after becoming a qualified immigrant. Children can use credit from themselves and that their parents earned when they were under the age of 18. For children who use the work credit for themselves and a parent, the wait could be up to 5 years less. U visa victims eligible 5 years after lawful permanent residence if have earned 40 quarters work credit. VAWAs calculated as 10 years after attaining work authorization. Spouses of citizens will be eligible 3.4 years faster. 0.1 = immediately eligible at filing

Public Benefits for Immigrant Adult Survivors in Texas

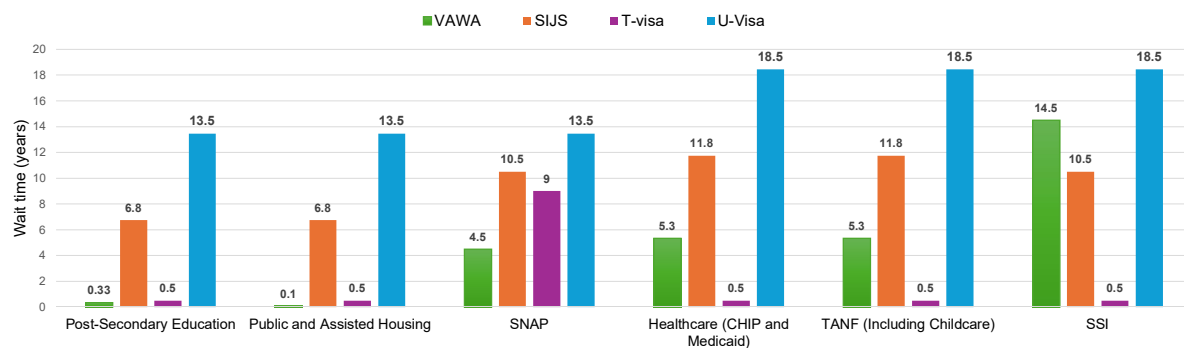


Federal Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivors

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (May 12, 2026)

	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.33	6.8	0.5	13.5	Federal	Must be qualified immigrants.
Public and Assisted Housing	0.1	6.8	0.5	13.5	Federal	VAWA self-petition eligible upon filing; T visa, U visa and SIJS must be qualified immigrants.
SNAP	4.5	10.5	9	13.5	Federal	Must be lawful permanent residents. Must also be under 18, disabled, elderly who was lawfully residing in the U.S. on 8/22/96, have been a qualified immigrant for 5 years or a lawful permanent resident with 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit measured from the date they receive work authorization. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visa victims are exempt from the 5 year bar and 40 quarter requirement. SIJS and U visa victims who work become eligible 10 years after receiving work authorization and those who do not have 40 quarters of work credit when they become lawful permanent residents would need to wait to complete the 5 year bar. SIJS or U child who can use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less.
Healthcare (CHIP and Medicaid)	5.3	11.8	0.5	18.5	Federal	Must be qualified immigrants. If entered the U.S. before 8/22/96 subtract 5 years. (T visa exempt from bar)
TANF (Including Childcare)	5.3	11.8	0.5	18.5	Federal	Must be qualified immigrants. If entered before 8/22/96 have a 5 year bar. (T visa exempt from bar)
SSI	14.5	10.5	0.5	18.5	Federal	Must be a lawful permanent resident and have 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit, and subject to 5 year bar if arrived after 8/22/96. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visas exempt from 40 quarter and 5 year bar and are eligible for 7 years after becoming a qualified immigrant. Children can use credit from themselves and that their parents earned when they were under the age of 18. Children who use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less. U visa victims eligible 5 years after lawful permanent residence if have earned 40 quarters work credit. VAWAs calculated as 10 years after attaining work authorization. Spouses of citizens will be eligible 3.4 years faster.

Public Benefits for Immigrant Children and Adults- Federal Law



VAWA - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Texas

By Sarah Register, Emma Buchanan, and Leslye E. Orioff (June 9, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years citizen spouse/parent/ stepparent	Total years LPR spouse/parent/ stepparent	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category		
Filing VAWA Self-petition	0						VAWA self-petitioners who are abused by citizens can file their green card applications at the same time as they file their self-petitions.	PRUCOL		
Prima Facie Determination	3 to 4 Months			0.33	0.3	0.3	VAWA self-petitioners abused by citizens who file green card applications together with their VAWA self-petition receive work authorization in a similar time frame.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
VAWA Self- Petition Approval	48.5 Months			4.04	4.0	4.0	All VAWA self-petitioners receive deferred action a formal protection against deportation.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Apply for Green Card	0			0.00	4.0	4.0	VAWA self-petitioners who are abused by lawful permanent residents receive work authorization and are eligible to file green card applications once their self-petition is approved.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Green Card Approval	10.90 Months	average		0.91	4.0	5.0	Lawful Permanent Residence	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant	average	4.5
Apply for Naturalization	3 Years			3	7.0	8.0		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Naturalization approval	9.10 Months	average		0.76	7.8	8.7	Naturalized Citizen	Citizen		
Naturalization (N-400)	months									
Dallas, TX	10									
El Paso, TX	8.5									
Harlingen, TX	8									
Houston, TX	10									
San Antonio, TX	9									
Green Card (I-485)	months									
Dallas, TX	10									
El Paso, TX	10.5									
Harlingen, TX	9									
Houston, TX	12.5									
San Antonio, TX	12.5									

SIJS - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Texas

By Sarah Register, Emma Buchanan, and Leslye E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category
Judicial Findings						Must obtain judicial findings before the child turns the age of majority in the state.	None
Filing for SIJS	0				0.1	Must file before child turns age 21.	Lawfully Present
SIJS Adjudication - Approval	6	Months		0.50	0.5		Lawfully Present
Apply for Green Card	40	Months		3.33	3.8	The SIJS applicant's priority date is date USCIS accepts the SIJS application for processing.	Lawfully Present
Green Card Approval	35.0	Months		2.92	6.8	When SIJS applicants are granted lawful permanent residence they are work authorized and receive protection from deportation.	Qualified Immigrant
Apply for Naturalization	5	Years		5.00	11.8		Qualified Immigrant
Naturalization approval	9.10	Months	average	0.76	12.5	Naturalized Citizen	Citizen
Naturalization (N-400)	months						
Dallas, TX	10						
El Paso, TX	8.5						
Harlingen, TX	8						
Houston, TX	10						
San Antonio, TX	9						
Green Card (I-485)	months		*SIJS is employment based				
SCOPS	35						

T Visa - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Texas
By Sarah Register, Emma Buchanan, and Leslye E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years if trafficking case is completed when victim is granted a T visa	Total years if case not completed	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category		
T visa Declarations							Best practice (not required).	None		
Filing for T visa	0			0.00				PRUCOL		
Bona Fide Determination	6 Months			0.50	0.5	0.5	Includes deferred action a formal protection against deportation and work authorization .	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
T Visa Adjudication - Approval	29.5 Months			2.5	2.5	2.5		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Apply for Green Card	3 Years			3.00	0.0	5.5	Either three years or when trafficking investigation complete whichever is sooner.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Green Card Approval	42.5 Months			3.54	6.0	9.0		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant	average	7.5
Apply for Naturalization	5 Years			5.00	11.0	14.0		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Naturalization approval	9.10 Months	average		0.76	11.8	14.8		Citizen		
Naturalization (N-400)	months									
Dallas, TX	10									
El Paso, TX	8.5									
Harlingen, TX	8									
Houston, TX	10									
San Antonio, TX	9									

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U Visa - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Texas

By Sarah Register, Emma Buchanan, and Leslye E. Orloff (June 9, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category
U Visa Certification						Obtaining a certification from a government official is a required prerequisite to filing for a U visa.	None
Filing for U visa	0 Months			0.00	0.0	Certification is valid for 6 months. Must file within 6 months of the certification date or must obtain a new certification.	PRUCOL
Bona Fide Determination	19 Months			1.6	1.6	Includes deferred action a formal protection against deportation and work authorization .	Lawfully Present
U Visa Adjudication - Approval	8.5 Years			8.5	8.5	As of October 2025 they began issuing U visa approvals for cases filed in early 2017.	Lawfully Present
Apply for Green Card	3 Years			3.00	11.5	Eligible to apply three years after receiving a U visa.	Lawfully Present
Green Card Approval	23.5 Months			1.96	13.5		Qualified Immigrant
Apply for Naturalization	5 Years			5.00	18.5		Qualified Immigrant
Naturalization approval	9.10 Months	average		0.76	19.2		Citizen
Naturalization (N-400)	months						
Dallas, TX	10						
El Paso, TX	8.5						
Harlingen, TX	8						
Houston, TX	10						
San Antonio, TX	9						

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