Maine Public Benefits Screening Chart for Immigrant Survivors by Forms of Immigration Relief[1]

By: Mary Ann McLean, Meera Patel, Sarah Register, & Leslye E. Orloff

September 5, 2022 (Updated: January 19, 2025)

The purpose of this simplified chart is to provide a tool that victim advocates, attorneys, judges and court staff can use to identify which immigrant survivors and immigrant children qualify for which state or federally funded public benefits, programs and services. This tool was designed to be a first step to identify which immigrant survivors may qualify for which benefits and services. When an immigrant survivor is listed as qualifying or qualifying with conditions on this chart, the second step is to turn to the full public benefits chart NIWAP developed for your jurisdiction where you can look up the details/conditions of what is needed to prove eligibility and what are the sources of law that prove eligibility.

This chart is not an exhaustive list of public benefits available to immigrants in Maine and but a simplified snapshot of access to certain benefits including cash assistance, healthcare, and housing. This chart is meant to be used in conjunction with NIWAP's Access to State-Funded Public Benefits in Maine for Survivors, Based on Immigration Status, available at: https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/maine-benefits that provides detailed information with citations to all of the relevant sources of law, regulations, and policies. This more detailed publication includes citations to materials that you can take with you when you accompany an immigrant victim applying for state or federal public benefits or other forms of assistance. In addition to the benefits and services discussed on this chart below, there is also a wide range of assistance that is available as a matter of law to all immigrants regardless of status.[1] For an interactive map that breaks down available public benefits based on the state and immigration status go here: http://map.niwap.org/.

Note: The 1996 welfare reform laws authorized states to implement state laws that offer immigrants more state funded benefits than federal public benefits provided and also authorized states to impose more restrictions on the federal public benefits immigrants living in the state could access. This state has elected to:

- Offer MORE to certain groups of immigrants through the following state funded benefits: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), TANF funded Child Care, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Prenatal and Postpartum care, Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Family Medical Leave Act, State Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and in-state tuition.

[1] © National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project, American University, Washington College of Law 2025. This publication was developed under Grant Nos. SJI-15-T-234, SJI-22-T-037, SJI-23-T-043, and SJI-24-T-046 from the State Justice Institute. The points of view expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute. This project was supported by Grant 15JOVW-24-GK-03012-MUMU, Nos. 15JOVW-21-GK-02208-MUMU, 15JOVW-23-GK-05119-MUMU and 15JOVW-24-GK-03012-MUMU awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP, pronounced *new-app*)
American University, Washington College of Law
4300 Nebraska Avenue NW N100B · Washington, D.C. 20016
(o) 202.274.4457 · niwap@wcl.american.edu · wcl.american.edu/niwap · http://library.niwap.org/

- Impose MORE RESTRICTIONS on immigrant access to federal public benefits: Not Applicable.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
	CASH & NUTRITION ASSISTANCE, AND CHILDCARE								
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (Cash Assistance)	In ME, lawful permanent residents, eligible, if entered after July 1, 2022 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work. Naturalized citizens eligible.	In ME, eligible upon VAWA prima facie determination or Battered Spouse Waiver, if entered after July 1, 2022 will meet hardship criteria:, domestic violence.	Eligible.	Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including DACA applicants and recipients) eligible, if entered after July 1, 2022 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including SIJS applicants and recipients) eligible, if entered after July 1, 2022 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including U visa applicants with bona fide determinations, waitlist approvals, or U visas) eligible, if entered after July 1, 2022 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including U visa applicants) eligible, if entered after July 1, 2022 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.	Not eligible.
Child Care Funded by	Eligible for CCDF.	Eligible for CCDF.	Refugee/Asylee:	Eligible for CCDF.	Eligible for CCDF.	Eligible for CCDF.	Eligible for CCDF.	Eligible for CCDF.	Eligible for CCDF.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
TANF and the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)	Lawful permanent residents, eligible for TANF funded child care when eligible for TANF. Naturalized citizens eligible for TANF funded child care.	In ME, VAWAs with prima facie determinations or Battered Spouse Waivers eligible for TANF-funded child care when eligible for TANF.	Eligible for CCFD and TANF funded child care. T visa: Eligible for CCDF and eligible for TANF funded childcare with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	Eligible for TANF funded childcare with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including DACA applicants and recipients) eligible for TANF-funded child care when eligible for TANF.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including SIJS applicants and recipients) eligible for TANF funded child care when eligible for TANF>	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including U visa applicants with bona fide determinations, waitlist approvals, or U visas) eligible for TANF funded child care when eligible for TANF.	In ME, PRUCOL immigrants (including U visa applicants) eligible TANF funded child care when eligible for TANF.	
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	In ME, lawful permanent residents eligible. Naturalized citizens, eligible.	In ME, VAWA self-petitioners and Battered Spouse Waivers filing eligible.	In ME, eligible upon filing and the 7 year limitation does not apply.	Eligible upon receipt of HHS certification or eligibility letter.	In ME, DACA applicants and recipients eligible as PRUCOL.	In ME, SIJS applicants and recipients eligible as PRUCOL.	In ME, U visa holders, U visa bona fide determinations and wait list approvals, and U visa lawful permanents residents are eligible.	In ME, U visa applicants are eligible.	Not eligible.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Naturalized citizens, eligible. In ME, lawful permanent residents, eligible for Food Supplement	In ME, VAWA self-petitioners and Battered Spouse Waivers, eligible for Food Supplement Program (FSP), if entered after July	Eligible.	Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	Not eligible.	In ME, SIJS lawful permanent residents, eligible for Food Supplement Program	In ME, U visa lawful permanent residents, eligible for Food Supplement Program (FSP),	Not eligible.	Not eligible.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
SNAP	Program (FSP), if entered after July 1, 2011 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.	1, 2011 will meet hardship criteria:, domestic violence.				(FSP), if entered after July 1, 20211 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.	if entered after July 1, 2011 must meet hardship criteria: seniors, persons with disabilities, domestic violence, awaiting work authorization, or granted work authorization and looking for work.		
Nutrition Program: For Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.
	HEALTHCARE								
Emergency Medicaid and Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Examinations	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.
Health Insurance Exchanges	Eligible.	Eligible with prima facie determination or	Refugee: Eligible.	Eligible with HHS	Eligible upon being granted Deferred	Eligible upon filing SIJS application.	Eligible upon U visa, bona fide determination	Not eligible.	Not eligible.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
Health Insurance Exchanges		Battered Spouse Waiver.	Asylee: Eligible upon receipt of work authorization or 6 months after filing for asylum for children under age 14. T visa: Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter. Afghans special immigrants and Afghan and Ukrainian parolees are eligible to the same extent as refugees.	certification or eligibility letter.	Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).		or wait list approval.		
Medicaid	In ME, lawful permanent residents, eligible for medical assistance with conditions.	In ME, VAWA self-petitioners with prima facie determinations and Battered Spouse Waivers eligible for medical assistance with conditions.	Eligible.	Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	Not eligible.	In ME, SIJS lawful permanent residents are eligible for medical assistance with conditions	In ME, U visa lawful permanent residents are eligible for medical assistance with conditions	Not eligible.	Not eligible.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
Medicaid	Naturalized citizens, eligible.						medical assistance.		
Prenatal Care	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.	In ME, pregnant people are eligible for full scope health care, prenatal care and 12 months postpartum care without regard to immigration status.
Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	In ME, lawful permanent residents are eligible up to age 21. After age 21 lawful permanent residents are eligible with conditions. Naturalized citizens eligible.	In ME, eligible up to age 21 upon VAWA prima facie determination or Battered Spouse Waiver. After age 21 eligible with conditions upon prima facie determination or Battered Spouse Waiver.	Eligible.	Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	In ME, eligible up to age 21 without regard to immigration status.	In ME, SIJS applicants eligible up to age 21 upon filing. After age 21 eligible with conditions upon legal permanent residency.	In ME, eligible up to age 21 with U visa or U visa bona fide determination, or wait list approval. After age 21 eligible with conditions upon legal permanent residency.	In ME, eligible up to age 21 without regard to immigration status.	In ME, eligible up to age 21 without regard to immigration status.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)	The Victims of Crime Act provides compensation to crime victims for costs associated with the crime victimization. Costs covered by VOCA include compensation for medical bills, lost wages, counseling sessions, crime scene clean up, and reimbursement for many other expenses. VOCA compensation is available to crime victims without regard to citizenship or immigration status.								
Family and Medical Leave Act – State Law	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.	Eligible for ME FMLA without regard to immigration status.
	HOUSING AND WEATHERIZATION								
Public & Assisted Housing and Low Income Tax Credit Housing[7]	Eligible. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Eligible upon filing. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Eligible. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Eligible upon HHS certification or eligibility letter. In ME may also be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Not eligible. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Eligible upon receiving lawful permanent residency. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Eligible upon receiving lawful permanent residency. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Not eligible. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.	Not eligible. In ME may be eligible to live in Low Income Housing Tax Credit property.
Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Health, and Life and Safety Services	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.	Eligible.
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)	Eligible for WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	Eligible for WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.	WAP if living in multi-family dwellings.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	Eligible for LIHEAP.	Eligible for LIHEAP with conditions upon prima facie determination.	Eligible for LIHEAP.	Eligible for LIHEAP with conditions upon receipt of HHS certification or eligibility letter.		Eligible with conditions for LIHEAP upon receiving lawful permanent residency.	Eligible with conditions for LIHEAP upon receiving lawful permanent residency.		
	EDUCATION								
Federal Education	Eligible.	Eligible upon prima facie determination.	Eligible.	Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter.	Not eligible.	Eligible upon lawful permanent residency.	Eligible upon lawful permanent residency.	Not eligible.	Not eligible.
State Education	Eligible.	Eligible upon prima facie determination.	Eligible.	Eligible with HHS certification or eligibility letter	Eligible.	Eligible for in-state tuition. Eligible for grants and loans upon lawful permanent residency.	Eligible for in-state tuition. Eligible for grants and loans upon lawful permanent residency.	Not eligible.	Not eligible.
	All children, without regard to immigration status or citizenship are eligible to attend public elementary and secondary (K-12) schools. State schools may not request citizenship or immigration status information and may not bar students from enrolling in public elementary or secondary schools based on the citizenship or immigration status of the student, their parent or their guardian. Eligible to apply for and enroll in state funded colleges and universities without regard to citizenship or immigration status. Although eligible to apply for and enroll in state funded colleges and universities without regard to immigration status, students need to provide some form of documentation from the Department of Homeland Security to be able to qualify for Maine in-state tuition. Under University of Maine policies eligible immigrant students include: lawful permanent residents, VAWA self-petitioners, battered spouse waiver applicants, refugees, asylees, asylum applicants, T visa holders, T visa applicants with bona fide determinations, DACA recipients, SIJS applicants and recipients, U visa holders and U visa applicants with bona fide determinations or waitlist approvals. Only students who file the federal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are eligible to be considered for educational Maine State Grant Program.								

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
LEGAL SERVICES, DRIVER'S LICENSES, AND EARNED INCOME TAX CREDITS									
Legal Services	Lawful permanent residents, applicants for lawful permanent residency, and naturalized citizens eligible for all LSC funded legal services. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	Eligible for Legal Services Corporation (LSC)-funded legal services with conditions and fully eligible when victims file for lawful permanent residency. Eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	Eligible for all LSC funded legal services. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	Eligible for LSC funded legal services when they receive HHS certification or eligibility letter. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	May be eligible if victims of abuse for LSC funded legal services with conditions. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	May be eligible if victims of abuse for LSC funded legal services with conditions and when SIJS children file for lawful permanent residency fully eligible. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	Eligible for LSC-funded legal services with conditions and fully eligible when victims file for lawful permanent residency. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	Eligible for LSC-funded legal services with conditions and fully eligible when victims file for lawful permanent residency. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.	May be eligible if victims of abuse for LSC funded legal services with conditions. Victims of domestic, sexual, or dating violence, or stalking eligible for VAWA funded legal services.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
Driver's License	Eligible for federally recognized driver's license and ID. Eligible for Maine driver's license.	In ME, with prima facie determination or work authorization eligible for federally recognized driver's license and ID.	Eligible for federally recognized driver's license and ID.	Eligible upon receipt of HHS certification or eligibility letter or work authorization for federally recognized driver's license and ID.	Eligible for federally recognized driver's license and ID upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible for federally recognized driver's license and ID upon receipt of work authorization.	In Me, upon receipt of U visa, bona fide determination, waitlist approval or work authorization eligible for federally recognized driver's license and ID.	Not eligible.	Not eligible.
Professional and Occupational Licenses	Maine has no state laws or policies regarding immigrant access to professional or occupational licenses including whether or not work authorization is sufficient or required.								
Income Tax Credit	Immigrants with social security numbers or Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs) who care for dependent children under the age of 17 or who case for a spouse or other individual unable to physically or mentally care for themselves are eligible to claim a child or dependent tax credit on their income taxes.								
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	Eligible.	Eligible with conditions upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible with conditions upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible with conditions upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible with conditions upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible with conditions upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible with conditions upon receipt of work authorization.	Not eligible.	Not eligible.
	FEMA AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE								
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Eligible for disaster relief. Eligible for food, unemployment, and all other FEMA assistance.	Eligible for disaster relief. Eligible upon prima facie determination for food, unemployment	Eligible for disaster relief. Eligible for food, unemployment and other	Eligible for disaster relief. Eligible upon receipt of HHS determination or eligibility letter for food,	Eligible for disaster relief.	Eligible for disaster relief. Eligible upon receipt of lawful permanent residency for	Eligible for disaster relief. Eligible upon receipt of lawful permanent residency for	Eligible for disaster relief.	Eligible for disaster relief.

PROGRAM	Lawful Permanent Residents, COFA Nationals,[2] and Naturalized Citizens	VAWA Self Petitioner and Battered Spouse Waiver[3]	Refugees, Asylees, T Visas,4 Afghans,[5] and Ukrainians[6]	T Visa Bona Fide or Continued Presence	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)	U Visa, Bona Fide, or Wait List Approval	U Visa (Petition Filed)	Undocumented
FEMA		and other FEMA assistance.	FEMA assistance.	unemployment and other FEMA assistance.		food, unemployment and other FEMA assistance.	food, unemployment and other FEMA assistance.		
Unemployment Insurance*	Eligible.	Eligible upon receipt of work authorization.	Refugees: Eligible. Asylees, Afghans, and Ukrainians: Eligible upon receipt of work authorization. T Visa: Eligible as T visa holder or upon receipt of bona fide determination with work authorization.	Eligible upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible upon receipt of work authorization.	Eligible upon receipt of work authorization.	Not eligible.	Not eligible.
	*To be eligible for unemployment insurance, each class of immigrant must have had prior work authorization and had to have been working with the authorization at the time they applied for unemployment. Work authorization must remain valid while they receive unemployment and if work authorization expires, then so does the eligibility for unemployment.								

[1] Catherine Longville & Leslye E. Orloff, *Programs Open to Immigrant Victims and All Immigrants Without Regard to Immigration Status,* National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (July 23, 2015), https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/programs-open-to-all-immigrants.

[2] For those working with immigrant clients who are Compact of Free Association (COFA) citizens/nationals please see NIWAP's Hawaii Public Benefits Chart (https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/hawaii-benefits/) which contains a detailed explanation with footnotes for each public benefit describing what COFA nationals/citizens are eligible for in all U.S. jurisdictions. Under COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION ACT (COFA) Pacific Islanders who are citizens/nationals of the Marshall

Islands, Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia (collectively the Freely Associated States or FAS) living in the United States (including all U.S. territories) are eligible for federal public benefits without being subject to the 5-year bar. COMPACT IMPACT FAIRNESS ACT (CIFA) included in CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT of 2024 (March 9, 2024). Information about COFA eligibility for public benefits is also being included in each state's listing in NIWAP's public benefits map https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/benefits-map/.

[3] Battered Spouse Waiver (BSW) applicants/recipients have the same eligibility for public benefits purposes as VAWA self-petitioners. BWS victims are eligible either as conditional permanent residents if they still have that status and/or are or continue to be eligible once they file their battered spouse waiver application. Battered spouse waiver applicants have greater benefits access than conditional and lawful permanent residents because they have access to exemptions from deeming and have access to benefits that are only available to battered immigrants.

[4] *See* 8 U.S.C. §§ 1641(b)(2)-(3), (c)(4) (Asylees, Refugees and trafficking victims and family members of trafficking victims with T visa status or a pending T visa application setting forth a "prima facie" (bona facie) case for eligibility); Classification for Victims of Severe Forms of Trafficking in Persons; Eligibility for "T" Nonimmigrant Status, 81 Fed. Reg. 92266, 92279, 92304, 92307 (Dec. 19, 2016) (effective Jan. 18, 2017) (to be codified at 8 C.F.R. pts. 212, 214, 245, 274) (Prima facie/bona fide determinations on T visa applications are made by the Department of Homeland Security.).

[5] **Afghans entering between 7/31/21 and 9/30/23**: In 2021, Congress extended benefits eligibility to certain Afghans paroled into the U.S. through § 2502 of the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act, Pub. L. 117-43, 135 Stat. 344, 377 (2021). This law was amended by the Continuing Appropriations and Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, Pub. L. 117-180 § 149, 135 Stat. 2114, 2124 (2022), and by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, Pub. L. 117-328 § 1501, 136 Stat. 4459, 5195 (2022). This law as amended provides that:

- Afghans granted humanitarian parole between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2023 are eligible for resettlement assistance, entitlement programs, federally recognized driver's licenses and identification cards, and other federal and state public benefits to the same extent as refugees through the end of their humanitarian parole.
- The spouses and children of these Afghans granted humanitarian parolees who are granted their own humanitarian parole after September 30, 2022, are also eligible for resettlement assistance, entitlement programs, federally recognized driver's licenses and identification cards, and other federal and state public benefits to the same extent as refugees through the end of their humanitarian parole.
- Parents or guardians of unaccompanied Afghan children granted parole after September 30, 2023 are— also eligible for resettlement assistance, entitlement programs, federally recognized driver's licenses and identification cards, and other federal and state public benefits to the same extent as refugees through the end of their humanitarian parole.

See OFF. OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, U.S. DEP'T OF HEALTH AND HUM. SERV. , *Fact Sheet: Benefits for Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) Holders or SQ/SI Parolees* https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/fact-sheet/benefits-afghan-and-iraqi-special-immigrant-visa-siv-holders-or-sq/si-parolees (last visited November 29, 2023) (Iraqi and Afghan special immigrant visa holders (SIV) and special immigrant parolees (who have applied for SIV status) are eligible for federal benefits to the same extent as refugees.) *See also The Administration for Children and Families Office of Refugee Resettlement Policy Letters on Public Benefits for Afghan Refugees* (November 29, 2023) https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/orr-policy-letters-afghan-refugees (Contains HHS Policy Letters and Fact Sheets regarding Afghan Refugees).

Afghans entering on or after 10/1/23:

- Afghan humanitarian parolees arriving on or after October 1, 2023, are not eligible for federal public benefits to the same extent as refugees. *See The Administration for Children and Families Office of Refugee Resettlement Policy Letters on Public Benefits for Afghan Refugees* (November 29, 2023) https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/orr-policy-letters-afghan-refugees (Contains HHS Policy Letters and Fact Sheets regarding Afghan Refugees).

Afghans under the Temporary Protected Status:

- Are considered lawful present individuals which provides access to healthcare exchanges to purchase health insurance and some states state-funded healthcare subsidies or other access to state funded benefits to the same extent as other lawful present individuals, cited on this public benefits chart as DACA, SIJS, U-visa bona fide or wait list approval. Extension of Designation of Afghanistan for TPS, 88 Fed. Reg. 65728 (Sep. 25, 2023). *See* Clarifying the Eligibility of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Recipients and Certain Other Noncitizens for a Qualified Health Plan through an Exchange, Advance Payments of the Premium Tax Credit, Cost-Sharing Reductions, and a Basic Health Program, 89 Fed. Reg. 39392, 39436 (May 8, 2024).

Afghans with pending or approved applications for asylum:

- Receive the same public benefits access as all other asylees. Afghan asylum applicants will have greater access to public benefits than other asylum applicants if they were granted one of the forms of humanitarian parole listed above that receives access to public benefits to the same extent as refugees. Once an Afghan recipient of humanitarian parole applies for and is granted asylum, they receive access to state and federal public benefits to the same extent as asylees.

See also, Changes to Benefits Eligibility and Services for Afghans Arriving as Humanitarian Parolees, SETTLEIN (FEB. 21, 2024) https://www.settlein.support/en-us/articles/16903785241629.

[6] Ukraine Security Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2024, 118 P.L. 50; 2024 Enacted H.R. 815; 118 Enacted H.R. 815; 138 Stat. 895 (2024). *Department of Homeland Security, President Biden to Announce Uniting For Ukraine, a New Streamlined Process to Welcome Ukrainians Fleeing the Russian Invasion of Ukraine*, DEP'T OF HOMELAND SEC. (April 21, 2022) https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/pubs/ukrainians-2022-dhs/ (Ukrainians paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022, and September 30, 2024 – and their spouses and children, and parents, guardians or primary caregivers of unaccompanied children paroled into the U.S. after September 30, 2024 – are eligible for federal benefits to the same extent as refugees.); *See The Administration for Children and Families Office of Refugee Resettlement Policy Letters on Public Benefits for Ukrainian Refugees* (November 29, 2023) https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/orr-policy-letters-ukrainian-refugees (Contains HHS Policy Letters and Fact Sheets regarding Ukrainian Refugees).

[7] Some households, depending on the immigration status of its residents, may qualify for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit; see Access to State-Funded Public Benefits in Maine for Survivors to determine whether the immigrant or family members may be eligible. For more information on LIHTC *see* https://www.vawahome.com/.