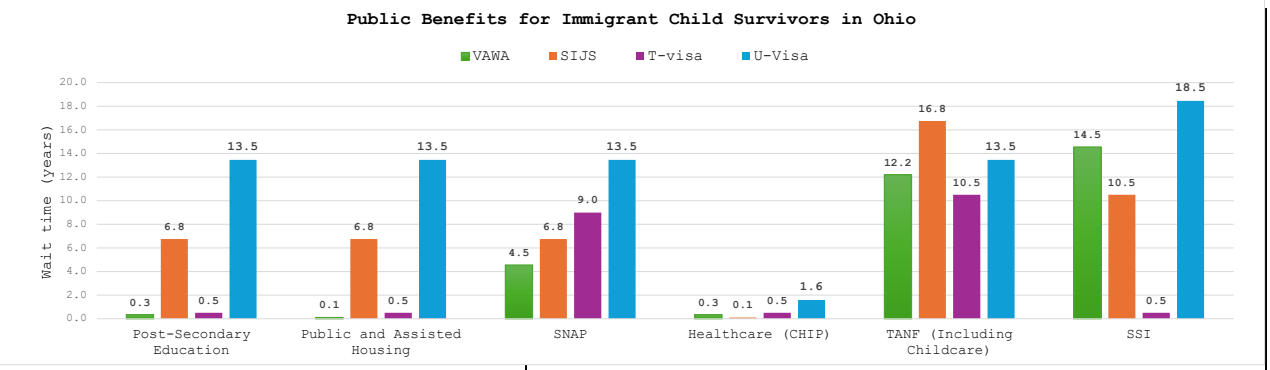
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State Justice Institute

American University Washington College of Law

Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivor Children in Ohio						
By Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 2026)						
	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Conditions Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.3	6.8	0.5	13.5	Federal/State	**Must be qualified immigrants.** In Ohio, in-state tuition is available certain immigrants with **legal permission from USCIS to live and work in the U.S.** who also fall into one of Ohio's three in-state tuition residence categories (which can inlcude 12+ months residence in Ohio).
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.** I
SNAP	4.5	6.8	9.0	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 (age 18+) 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)	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.6	State	In Ohio **lawfully residing** children under age 21 or who are pregnant, and some individuals under a court order of supervision are eligible for state-funded CHIP.
TANF (Including Childcare)	12.2	16.8	10.5	13.5	State	In Ohio, **refugees, asylees, T visa holders, and T visa applicants** with bona fide detrminations are eligible for TANF limited to the first five years after attaining an eligible status. All other immigrants to be eligible in Ohio for TANF, must be **lawful permanent residents** who have accrued 40 quarters of work credit. (Note: SIJS children who received deferred action may be able to meet the 40 quarters requirement sooner) **Exception**: qualified immigrants with court order supervision or, who are veterans, active duty military, or the spouse, unmarried surviving spouses or children of a veteran or person on active duty, are eligible without any accrual of work quarters requeirement.
SSI	14.5	10.5	0.5	18.5	Federal	Federal laws apply no state funded SSI.
						0.1 = immediately eligible at filing



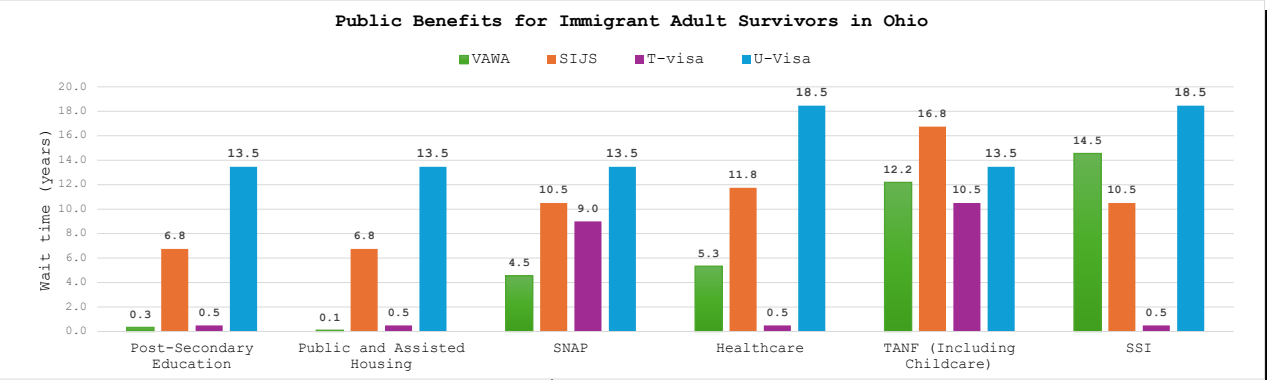
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Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivor Adults in Ohio						
By Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 2026)						
	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Conditions Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.3	6.8	0.5	13.5	State	**Must be qualified immigrants.** In Ohio, in-state tuition is available certain immigrants with **legal permission from USCIS to live and work in the U.S.** who also fall into one of Ohio's three in-state tuition residence categories (which can inlcude 12+ months residence in Ohio).
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	4.5	10.5	9.0	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 adults 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	5.3	11.8	0.5	18.5	Federal/State	**Must be qualified immigrants.** If entered the U.S. before 8/22/96 subtract 5 years. (T visa exempt from 5-year bar). In Ohio lawfullly present pregnant immigrants are eligible for full-scope healthcare and prenatal care.
TANF (Including Childcare)	12.2	16.8	10.5	13.5	State	In Ohio, **refugees, asylees, T visa holders, and T visa applicants** with bona fide detrminations are eligible for TANF limited to the first five years after attaining an eligible status. All other immigrants to be eligible in Ohio for TANF, must be lawful permanent residents who have accrued 40 quarters of work credit. **Exception**: qualified immigrants with court order supervision or, who are veterans, active duty military, or the spouse, unmarried surviving spouses or children of a veteran or person on active duty, are eligible without any accrual of work quarters requeirement.
SSI	14.5	10.5	0.5	18.5	Federal	Federal laws apply no state funded SSI.
						0.1 = immediately eligible at filing



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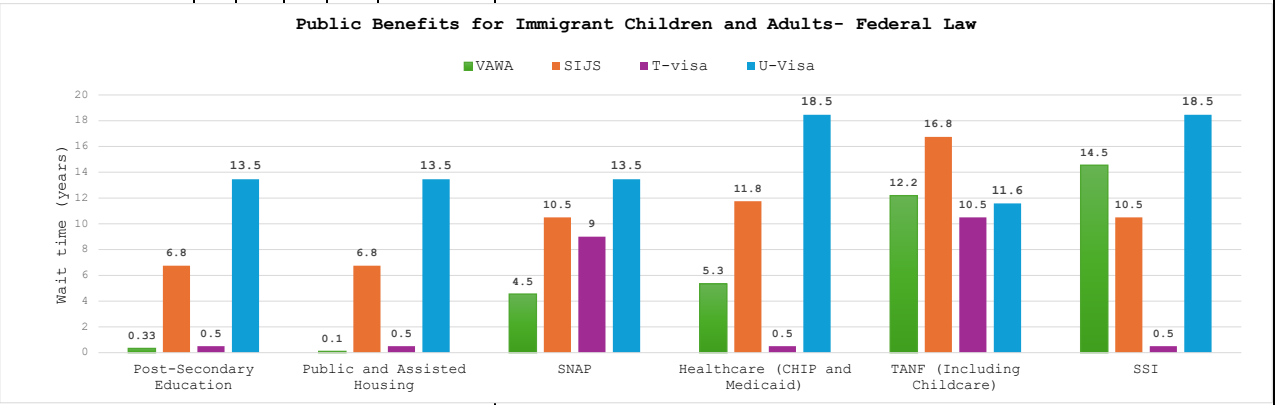
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American University Washington College of Law

Federal Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivors

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 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 5-year bar)
TANF (Including Childcare)	12.2	16.8	10.5	11.6	State	In Ohio**, refugees, asylees, T visa holders, and T visa applicants with bona fide detrminations** are eligible for TANF limited to the first five years after attaining an eligible status. All other immigrants to be eligible in Ohio for TANF, **must be lawful permanent residents** who have accrued 40 quarters of work credit. **Exception**: qualified immigrants with court order supervision or, who are veterans, active duty military, or the spouse, unmarried surviving spouses or children of a veteran or person on active duty, are eligible without any accrual of work quarters requeirement.
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 themsleves 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 eligibe 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.



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VAWA - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Ohio

By Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 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 i**n 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 authroization** and are eligible to file green card applications once their self-petition is approved.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Green Card Approval	12.17	Months	average	1.01	**4.0**	**5.1**	Lawful Permanent Residence	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant	average	4.5
Apply for Naturalization	3	Years		3	7.0	8.1		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Naturalization approval	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**7.7**	**8.7**	Naturalized Citizen	Citizen		
Naturalization (N-400)	Months									
Cincinnati, OH	7.5									
Cleveland, OH	8									
Columbus, OH	8.5									
Green Card (I-485)	Months									
Cincinnati, OH	10.5									
Cleveland, OH	15									
Columbus, OH	11.00									

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SIJS - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Ohio

By Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 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	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**12.4**	Naturalized Citizen	Citizen
Naturalization (N-400)	Months						
Cincinnati, OH	7.5						
Cleveland, OH	8						
Columbus, OH	8.5						
Green Card (I-485)	Months		*SIJS is employment based				
SCOPS	35						

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T Visa - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Ohio

By Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 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	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**11.7**	**14.7**		Citizen		
Naturalization (N-400)	Months									
Cincinnati, OH	7.5									
Cleveland, OH	8									
Columbus, OH	8.50									

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U Visa - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Ohio

By Sarah Register, Suzana Coelho, and Leslye E. Orloff (July 14, 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	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**19.1**		Citizen
Naturalization (N-400)	Months						
Cincinnati, OH	7.5						
Cleveland, OH	8.00						
Columbus, OH	8.50						

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