

## ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES

Any person who is not a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR/Green Card holder) or Naturalized Citizen should consult with an immigration attorney before enrolling in any local or federal public benefit program to check how this enrollment would affect their immigration status.

### Federal Programs

*Few immigrants qualify for federal public benefits, though there are exceptions, which are outlined below. All immigrants are eligible for emergency Medicaid.*

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Emergency Medicaid (**ALL ARE ELIGIBLE**, includes labor and delivery, testing and treatment for symptoms of communicable diseases, immunizations, short-term (non-cash) emergency disaster relief)
- Full-Scope Medicaid
- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- HUD Public Housing and Section 8 Programs
- Title XX Block Grants
- Social Security
- Other Federal Public Benefits Subject to Welfare Law's Restrictions

### "Qualified" Immigrants:

- Lawful permanent residents (LPR/"green card" holders)
- Asylees
- Refugees
- Persons granted withholding of deportation/removal
- Persons paroled in to U.S. for at least 1 year
- Conditional entrants
- Cuban or Haitian entrants
- Certain abused immigrants, their children, and/or their parents (U-visas)
- Certain victims of trafficking (T-visas)

### "Not-Qualified" Immigrants:

- Undocumented
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- All other immigrants/all those who do not fall in to one of the "qualified" immigrant groups

### Resources for health care for undocumented individuals:

- Emergency Medicaid
- Health care from Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and other programs available regardless of status

## What are federally qualified health centers (FQHCs)?

Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) include all organizations receiving grants under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (PHS). FQHCs qualify for enhanced reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid, as well as other benefits. FQHCs must serve an underserved area or population, offer a sliding fee scale, provide comprehensive services, have an ongoing quality assurance program, and have a governing board of directors. Certain tribal organizations and FQHC Look-Alikes (an organization that meets PHS Section 330 eligibility requirements, but does not receive grant funding) also may receive special Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement.

### To find a Health Center go to:

<https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/> and search by address, state, county and ZIP code

### Documents for Immigration Status:

- 1) Permanent Resident Card, “Green Card ”(I-551)
- 2) Reentry Permit (I-327)
- 3) Refugee Travel Document (I-571)
- 4) Employment Authorization Card (I-766)
- 5) Machine Readable Immigrant Visa (with temporary I-551 language)
- 6) Temporary I-551 Stamp (on passport or I-94/I -94A)
- 7) Arrival/Departure Record (I-94/I-94A)
- 8) Arrival/Departure Record in foreign passport (I-94)
- 9) Foreign Passport
- 10) Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status (I-20)
- 11) Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (DS2019)
- 12) Notice of Action (I-797)
- 13) Document indicating membership in a federally recognized Indian tribe or American Indian born in Canada
- 14) Certification from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)
- 15) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) eligibility letter (if under 18)
- 16) Document indicating withholding of removal
- 17) Administrative order staying removal issued by the Department of Homeland Security
- 18) Alien number (also called alien registration number or USCIS Number) or I-94 number

### Documents to prove citizenship

- 1) Alien registration number (also called USCIS number)
- 2) Naturalization Certificate number

### Submitting documentation

If verification with the Federal Hub or other data sources fails, individuals might be required to submit verification documents. When submitting the documentation, the individual may choose any of the following options:

- A. Online (Encouraged method)
  - [benefind.ky.gov](http://benefind.ky.gov)
- B. In Person
  - By visiting a local DCBS office
- C. Mail/FAX paper applications
  - By mailing application to: PO Box 2104 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
  - By FAX: 1-502-573-2005

**Important note:**

- When individuals provide a copy of a Green Card, a copy of both front and back is needed to capture all the required information

**KY Health Care programs:**

- Medicaid
- KCHIP
- Qualified Health Plan Program (QHP) via Healthcare.gov
- Advance Premium Tax Credit (APTC) via Healthcare.gov

For specific programs and offices go to Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services:

[https://prdweb.chfs.ky.gov/Office\\_Phone/index.aspx](https://prdweb.chfs.ky.gov/Office_Phone/index.aspx)

Qualified immigrants:

- Refugees
- Asylees and other humanitarian Immigrants
- Lawful permanent Residents Children under the age of 19 and over 19 years old only after the first 5 years.
- Other lawfully present individuals except for DACA only if under 19 years old

These services are not available for Undocumented Immigrants & DACA immigrants (except in emergency services).