

New Asylee Benefits Orientation

**You've been through a lot, but the
journey isn't finished . . .**

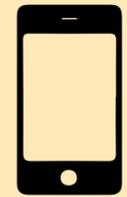
This is an opportunity to understand what you
qualify for as a New Asylee and what resources
are available to you.



PART 1: LOGISTICS



Accessing the Orientation via Zoom



Accessing the Orientation via Cell Phone



Accessing Interpretation



Accessing Transcription

Section Presenter:
Nandini Sridhar, CWS
Associate Director Remote Services

Accessing the Orientation via Zoom

All attendees should be able to access the orientation via Zoom, by clicking on the registration link. This link will be available once the registration form is completed.

If you are having any logistical challenges or questions, please email: asyleeservices@cwsglobal.org

New Asylee Benefits Orientation

🕒 Thursday September 18, 1:00 - 3:00 PM 🔄

📺 [Start](#) [Chat](#)

[View join info](#)

📍 <https://cwsglobal-org.zoom.us/j/89098657291?pwd=91PRhofrZfdSLwXRilz1hXCC8uqsOQ.1>

👤 Invitees

Accessing the Orientation via Cell Phone

All attendees should be able to access the orientation via cell phone, or standard phone line, by entering the phone number listed on the Zoom invitation. This invitation will be available once the registration form is completed.

If you are having any logistical challenges or questions, please email:
asyleeservices@cwsglobal.org

Meeting ID: 890 9865 7291

Passcode: JMd&D@5

One tap mobile

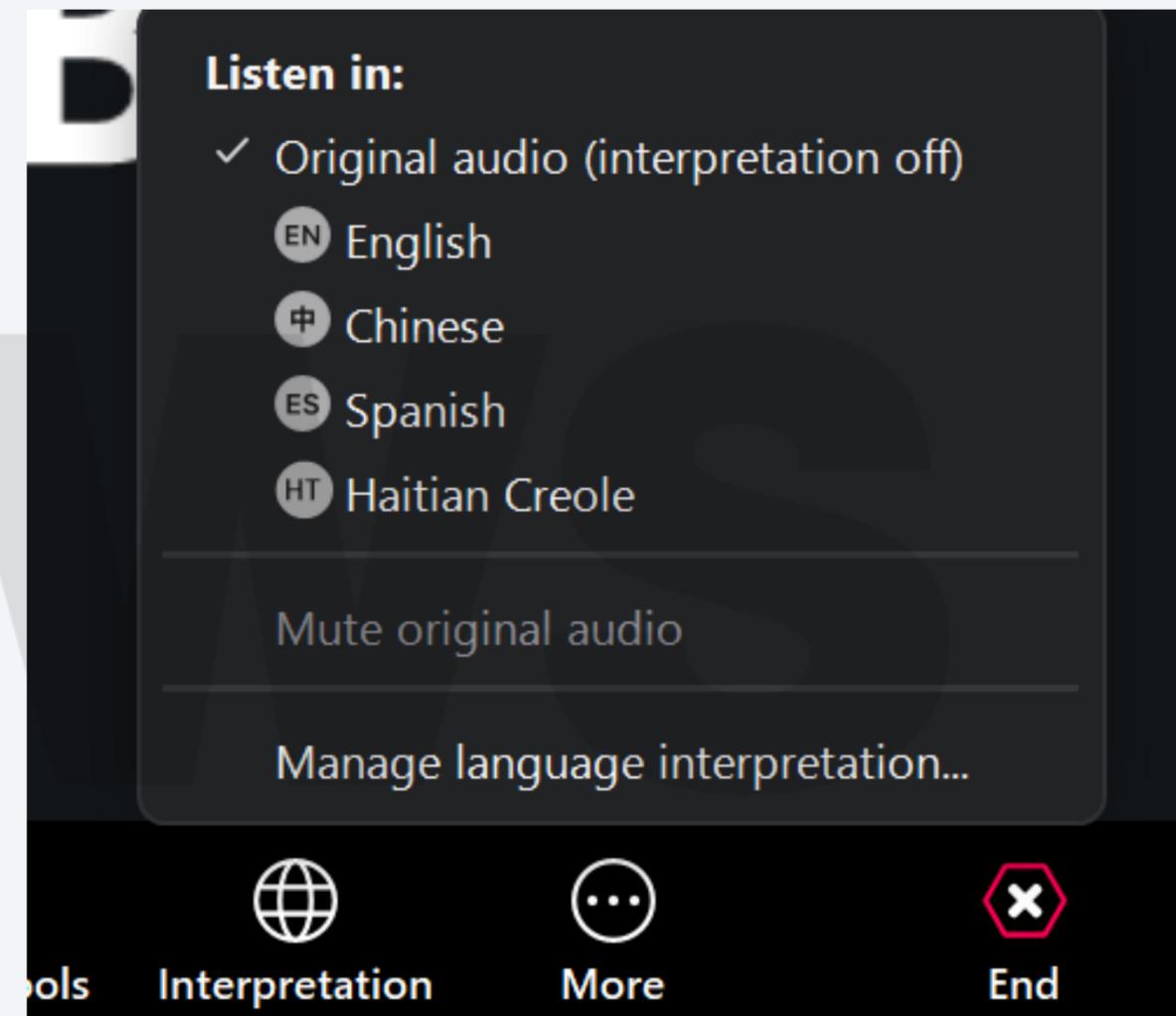
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Accessing Interpretation

This orientation is available in select languages, both the presentation slides and the information being stated. In order to access interpretation, select the Interpretation Globe at the bottom of the Zoom screen. The available languages will appear, and you may select your preference.

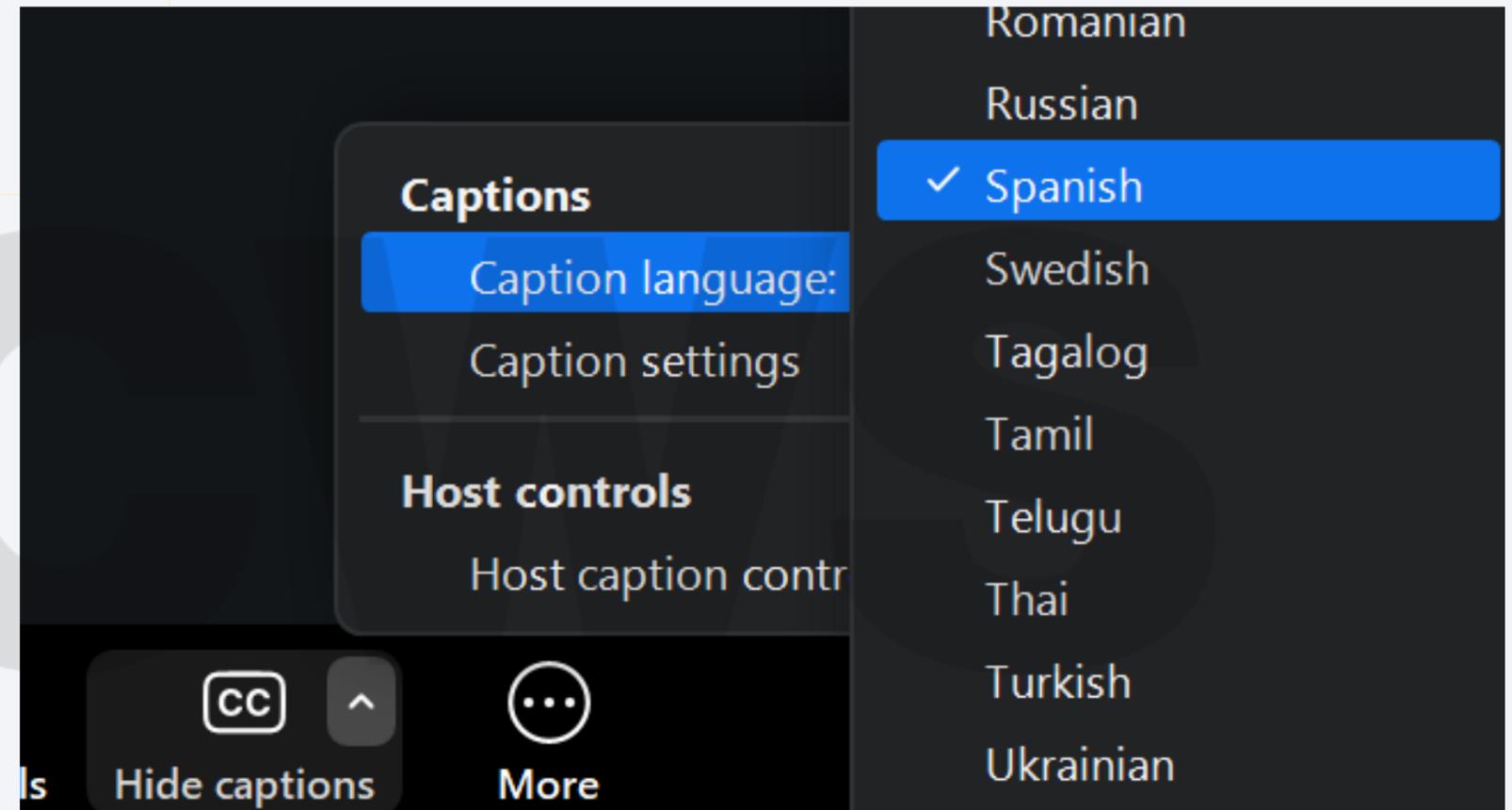
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Accessing Transcription

All attendees should be able to access Closed Captions/Transcriptions. In order to access Transcriptions, selection the Closed Caption CC Box at the bottom of the Zoom screen. The available languages will appear, and you may select your preference.

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PART 2: UNDERSTANDING YOUR STATUS



Undocumented Immigrant



Asylum Seeker



Humanitarian Parolee



Asylee

Section Presenter:

Undocumented Immigrants

You are an undocumented immigrant if you are living in the United States without a lawful immigration status. This might be because:

- You overstayed your visa
- Lost your legal status
- Crossed into the United States border without presenting yourself to immigration authorities

As an undocumented immigration, you may receive a Notice to Appear (NTA) Form I-892. An example is shown here:

While this orientation is for Asylees, as an undocumented immigrant, resources and information are available to at this website: [Documented - News that speaks your language. Español - 中文 - Kreyòl Ayisyen](#)
[About Us - NYC, Long Island, New York State | New York Immigration Coalition - Revision](#)
[Benefits for undocumented immigrants \(NYC\) | LawHelpNY](#)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Notice to Appear

In removal Proceedings under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act:

Subject ID: _____ FIN #: _____ File No: _____
DOB: _____ Event No: _____

In the Matter of: _____

Respondent: _____ currently residing at: _____
(Number, Street, city and ZIP code)

1. You are an arriving alien.
 2. You are an alien present in the United States, who has not been admitted or paroled.
 3. You have been admitted to the United States, but are removable for the reasons stated below.

The Department of Homeland Security alleges that you:

on _____ at _____ to show why you should not be removed from the United States based on the
(Date) (Time)
charge(s) set forth above.

(Signature and Title of Issuing Officer)

Date: _____
(City and State)

Form I-862

Asylum Seeker

You are an Asylum Seeker if you have fled your home country and are seeking protecting due to a credible fear of persecution due to your:

- Race
- Religion
- Nationality
- Political Opinion
- Membership in a Social Group

As an Asylum Seeker, you will most likely have submitted an Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal, Form I-589. See an example to the right.

You might also have a Notice to Appear (NTA) Form I-892, the document we saw on the previous slide.

While this orientation is for Asylees, as an Asylum Seeker, resources and information are available to at this website: [Resources for Asylum Seekers - NYC Asylum Seeker](#)
[ASSC Emergency-Numbers-to-Call_20250122_VF-640x853.png \(640x853\)](#)

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review

OMB No. 1615-0067; Expires 06/30/2026

I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

START HERE - Type or print in black ink. See the instructions for information about eligibility and how to complete and file this application. There is no filing fee for this application.

NOTE: Check this box if you also want to apply for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture.

Part A.I. Information About You		
1. Alien Registration Number(s) (A-Number) (if any) A 123-456-789	2. U.S. Social Security Number (if any)	3. USCIS Online Account Number (if any)
4. Complete Last Name Doe	5. First Name Fulanito	6. Middle Name
7. What other names have you used (include maiden name and aliases)? John Doe		
8. Residence in the U.S. (where you physically reside)		

Humanitarian Parolee

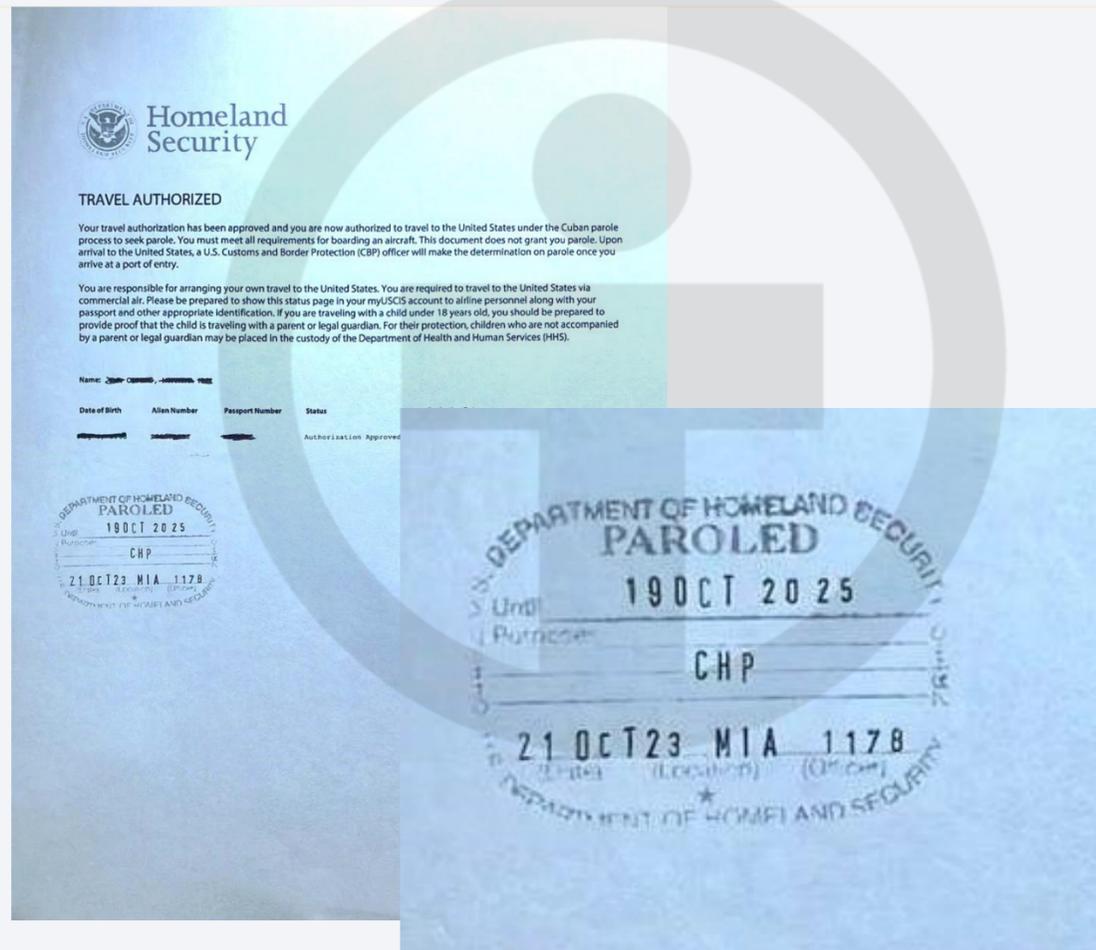
You are a Humanitarian Parolee if you have been allowed to temporarily remain in the United States, most often due to an urgent humanitarian reason. Categories of Humanitarian Parolees include but are not limited to:

- Uniting for Ukraine (U4U)
- Operation Allies Welcome
- The now-terminated Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan (CHNV) parole program
- Central American Minors (CAM) Program

Humanitarian parole is a discretionary benefit granted to individuals with compelling reasons for needing temporary entry into the U.S.

As a Humanitarian Parolee, you may receive an Arrival/Departure Record, Form I-94, and/or an Authorization for Parole of an Alien into the United States, Form I-512L, or commonly referred to as Advanced Parole.

While this orientation is for Asylees, as an Humanitarian Parolee, resources and information are available to at this website: [ACS - Resources for Immigrants](#)
[New Americans | Department of State](#)



Asylee

You are an Asylee if you have been officially granted asylum in the United States. There are two ways to have been granted asylum:

- Affirmative Asylum
 - application submitted via USCIS
 - not usually in removal/deportation proceedings
 - asylum granted by an asylum officer via an interview at a scheduled appointment
- Defensive Asylum
 - most often in removal proceedings
 - deportation paused after presenting case in immigration court
 - once case is heard, immigration judge granted asylum

If you are an Asylee, this orientation is for you.

As a New Asylee, you may have received several types of documentation, and we will discuss them in the following section.

The image shows a USCIS Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal. The form is partially filled out with redacted information. A blue circle highlights the 'Case Type' field, which contains the text 'I-589 - APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM AND FOR WITHHELDING OF REMOVAL'. Below the form, the words 'ASYLUM APPROVED!!' are printed in large, bold, red letters. The form also includes a 'Notice Type: Approval Notice' and a signature line for the Asylum Approver.

PART 3: IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS & IDS



Asylum Approval Letter & I-94 Card



Social Security Card



Social Security Card Restrictions



Real ID

Asylum Approval Letter

An Asylum Approval Letter is issued by USCIS via the immigration court where your asylum was granted. An Asylum Approval Letter includes the following important information:

- Date of Asylum Approval
 - Note: This is the same date your become eligible for certain public benefits
 - Note: This is the same date you are eligible to apply to reunite with your spouse and unmarried children under 21
 - This period lasts for two years
- Verifies your current Immigration Status
 - Note: This letter proves you are a New Asylee

To speak with a USCIS Representative over the phone, call:
1-800-375-5283



I-94 Card

An I-94 Card is issued by USCIS via the immigration court where your asylum was granted.

For Affirmative Asylees (USCIS Asylum Office):

- Your I-94 Card will automatically be included in your New Asylee Packet

For Defensive Asylees (Immigration Court):

- Your I-94 will arrive in the mail within 60 days of being granted asylum from USCIS

As with your Asylum Approval Letter, an I-94 Card verifies:

- Date of Asylum Approval
- Current Immigration Status
- Proves you are a New Asylee

To speak with a USCIS Representative over the phone, call: 1-800-375-5283 or to locate a copy of your I-94 online, visit: [I-94/I-95](#)

[Website - Official Site for Travelers Visiting the United States.](#)

Department of Homeland Security
ASYLUM STATUS
Granted Indefinitely
Section 208
Immigration and Nationality Act

MAR 12 2009

[Signature]

AD ASE No. 000

14 Family Name
BLACK

15 First Given Name
JOE

16 Birth Date (Day/Mo/Yr)
01/17/79

17 Country of Citizenship
FRANCIE

CBP Form I-94 (10-04)
See Other Side STAPLE HERE

Social Security Card

Your Social Security Number (SSN) is a unique and extremely private identifier, you are assigned one number for life.

A SS Card will not be automatically provided to you, you must go to a Social Security Field Office and apply in person.

When applying in person, be sure to take the following items:

- Valid Photo ID (Passport, Driver's License, etc.)
- Your Asylum Approval Letter

In order to find the Social Security Field Office nearest to you, visit this website: <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>

To speak with a Social Security Administration (SSA) Representative over the phone, call: 1-800-772-1213



Social Security Card Restrictions



If you currently have a Social Security Card, it is most likely from prior to your asylum being granted, and has work restrictions, as in the photo to the left.

As an asylee, you are eligible to have Employment Restrictions removed from your Social Security Card.

In order to do so, complete the following steps:

- Locate the nearest Social Security Field Office
- Request a Removal of Restrictions

Be sure to bring and present the following items:

- Current, Restricted SSC
- Asylum Approval Letter
- Valid Photo ID (Work Permit, Driver's License, State ID etc.)

Upon submitting this application with the SSA Office, your new card should arrive within 30 days.

Note: If your address has changed since you received your first SSC, be sure to update your new mailing address with the SSA Office.

Federally Compliant Real ID & DL

The REAL ID is a newer form of photo identification approved by the government. It is required for domestic travel within the United States.

A DRIVER'S LICENSE allows an individual to drive a vehicle throughout the US.

If you are applying for a DL at this point forward, it will automatically be in the federally compliant Real ID formatting.

In New York, the federally compliant DL will have an encircled star on the right upper corner of the card.

For anyone not wanting a DL, but only a REAL ID, there will be an American Flag in the upper right corner of the card.

To apply for either ID type, locate the nearest DMV Office by visiting the following website:

Be sure to bring the following required documents:

- Asylum Approval Letter
- I-94 Card
- Unexpired EAD card, or Valid/Expired EAD card with Notice of Action (I-797C)
- Social security Card
- Two proofs of your NY address
- DMV fees

The poster displays two New York State Driver License cards. The left card is a REAL ID License, featuring an encircled star in the top right corner. The right card is an Enhanced License, featuring an American flag in the top right corner. Below the cards, the poster lists the required documents for each type of license.

REAL ID License or Non Driver ID

Visit a DMV Office with:

- U.S. Birth Certificate, U.S. Passport or Foreign Passport with Proof of Lawful Status in the U.S.
- Social Security Card or Other Proof of SSN
- Two Proofs of NYS Residency
- Proof of Name Change (Marriage/Divorce)

ENHANCED License or Non Driver ID

Visit a DMV Office with:

- Proof of U.S. Citizenship (e.g. U.S. Birth Certificate or U.S. Passport)
- Social Security Card or Other Proof of SSN
- Two Proofs of NYS Residency
- Proof of Name Change (Marriage/Divorce)
- Renewing a current EDL? Visit dmv.ny.gov

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Department of Motor Vehicles

PART 4: PUBLIC BENEFITS



TANF & SNA



SNAP & WIC



Medicaid



SSDI & SSI

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) & Safety Net Assistance (SNA)

TANF and SNA is temporary help for adults and children in need. If you are unable to work, can't find a job, or your job does not pay enough, this assistance may be able to help you pay for your expenses.

TANF provides cash assistance to eligible families that include:

- a minor child living with a parent/parents or a caretaker relative

SNA provides cash assistance to eligible

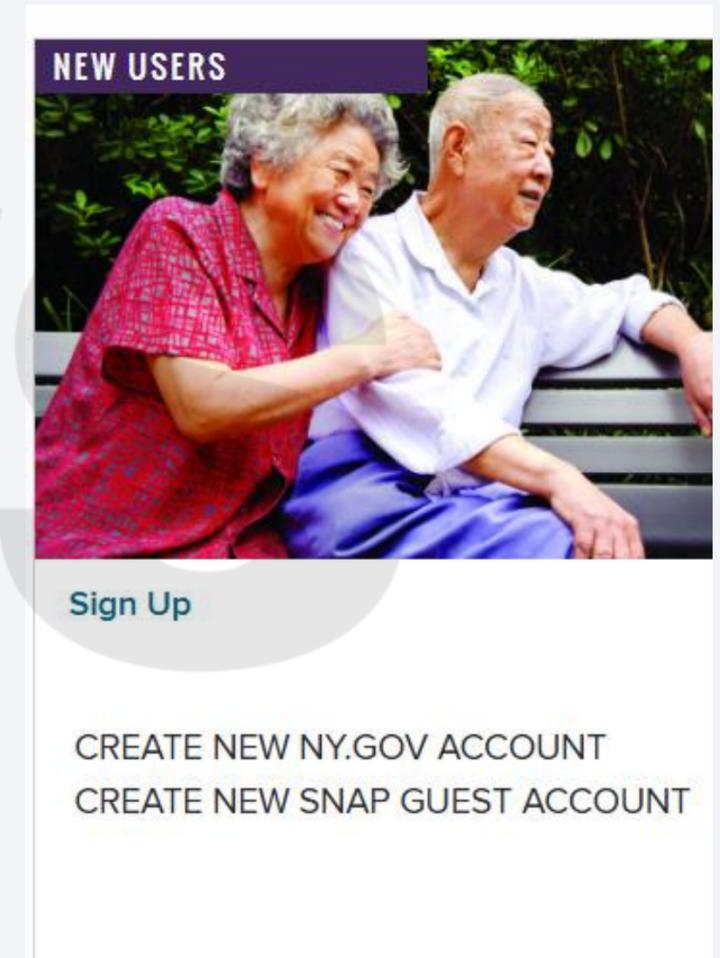
- Single adults
- Childless couples
- Children living apart from any adult relative
- Families of persons found to be abusing drugs or alcohol
- Families of persons refusing drug/alcohol screening, assessment or treatment
- Non-citizens who are eligible for TA, but who are not eligible for federal reimbursement

In order to apply in person, locate the Social Services Office nearest to you, visit:

<https://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/dss.asp>

In order to apply online, visit the following website: <https://mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/begin>

For additional assistance over the phone, call the toll-free OTDA Hotline: 1-800-342-3009



The image shows a screenshot of a website's 'NEW USERS' section. At the top, there is a purple banner with the text 'NEW USERS' in white. Below the banner is a photograph of an elderly couple sitting on a bench outdoors, smiling. Underneath the photo is a blue button with the text 'Sign Up'. Below the button, there are two links: 'CREATE NEW NY.GOV ACCOUNT' and 'CREATE NEW SNAP GUEST ACCOUNT'.

Women, Infants, Children (WIC) Program

WIC helps you buy healthy food for you and your family. WIC stands for Women, Infants, and Children. It's a free nutrition program for:

- People who are pregnant
- People who are up to 6 months postpartum or 12 months, if breastfeeding
- Children under the age 5, supported by parents and caregivers (including foster parents and grandparents)

Enrollment in the WIC Program provides the following benefits:

- Money to buy healthy food and infant formula
- Nutrition classes and workshops
- Support for your pregnancy and/or growing child
- Breastfeeding/chestfeeding support and breast pumps for parents who need them

In order to check your eligibility visit: <https://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/dss.asp>

To find local agencies in your area that provide WIC services, visit:
https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/wic/local_agencies.htm

In order to apply online, visit the following website: <https://mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/begin>

For additional assistance over the phone, call: Growing Up Healthy Hotline at 1-800-522-5006



Medicaid



New York's Medicaid program provides comprehensive health insurance to lower-income New Yorkers. Medicaid pays for a wide range of services, depending on your age, financial circumstances, family situation, or living arrangements.

These services are provided through a large network of health care providers that you can access directly using your Medicaid card or through your managed care plan if you are enrolled in managed care. [Medicaid can also help with past medical costs.](#)

There is no monthly premium for Medicaid. Some services may have small co-payments, which can be waived if you cannot afford them. You can enroll in Medicaid at any time during the year through NY State of Health.

There are three ways to enroll in health insurance through NY State of Health:

- Apply online through the [NY State of Health website](#)
- By phone at 1-855-355-5777 (TTY: 1-800-662-1220)
- With the free help of a trained and certified [Enrollment Assistor or Broker](#)

In order to sign up, prepare this information for all members of your family:

- Birth dates
- Social security numbers or, for legal immigrants, document numbers if you have them
- Employment, income, and health insurance information



Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) & Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

SSDI is a Federal disability income program for adults who have worked and now find themselves unable to work due to a disability.

- Social Security Disability Insurance pays benefits to you and certain members of your family if you are "insured," meaning that you worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes.

SSI is Federal program for adults and children who meet the definition of disabled and have limited income and resources.

- It is designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income; and it provides cash to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter.
- Under Social Security's definition, a child is considered disabled if the child's physical or mental impairment(s) is so severe that it results in marked and severe functional limitations.
- Supplemental Security Income pays benefits based on financial need.
- Asylees receiving SSI must naturalize within 7 years to maintain benefits.

Anyone who believes they meet Federal Disability requirements is eligible to apply. Your family members may also receive benefits if you can no longer work due to a medical condition.

Contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) by phone: [1-800-772-1213](tel:1-800-772-1213)

Monday-Friday 7:00AM-7:00PM

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you can call SSA at TTY 1-800-325-0778.

Contact OTDA's Division of Disability Determinations by email: NY.DD.PC3.CORRES@ssa.gov

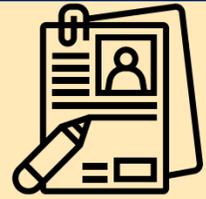
Contact OTDA's Division of Disability Determinations by mail:
Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance
Division of Disability Determinations
P.O. Box 165
Albany, NY 12260-0165

Online at [Social Security Benefits](#)

PART 5: CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES



Preferred Communities (PC)



Refugee Services
(RS)



ONA'S Immigration Assistance

Preferred Communities (PC)

Funded through the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), this program is intended to assist with the successful resettlement and integration of vulnerable refugees and the enhancement of service providers' capacity to serve these clients.

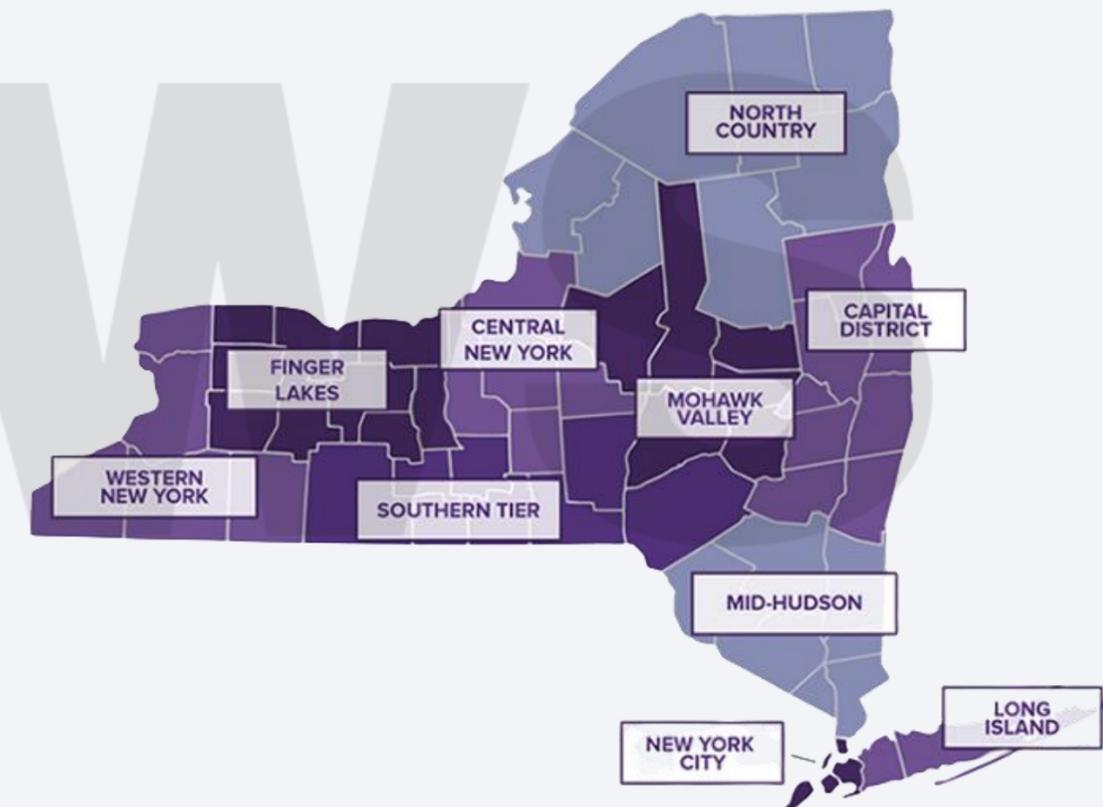
This program offers case management for a period of 90-360 days and implementation and follow-up of:

- Public Assistance
- School Registration
- Social Security Card
- Tuberculosis Test and Medical Check-Up
- Medical Insurance & Food Assistance
- Emergency Financial Aid

PC also offers referrals for:

- Employment Services
- Mental Health Services
- Legal Services
- English Classes

To find a provider closest to you, visit: [Refugee Services Provider Directory](#)



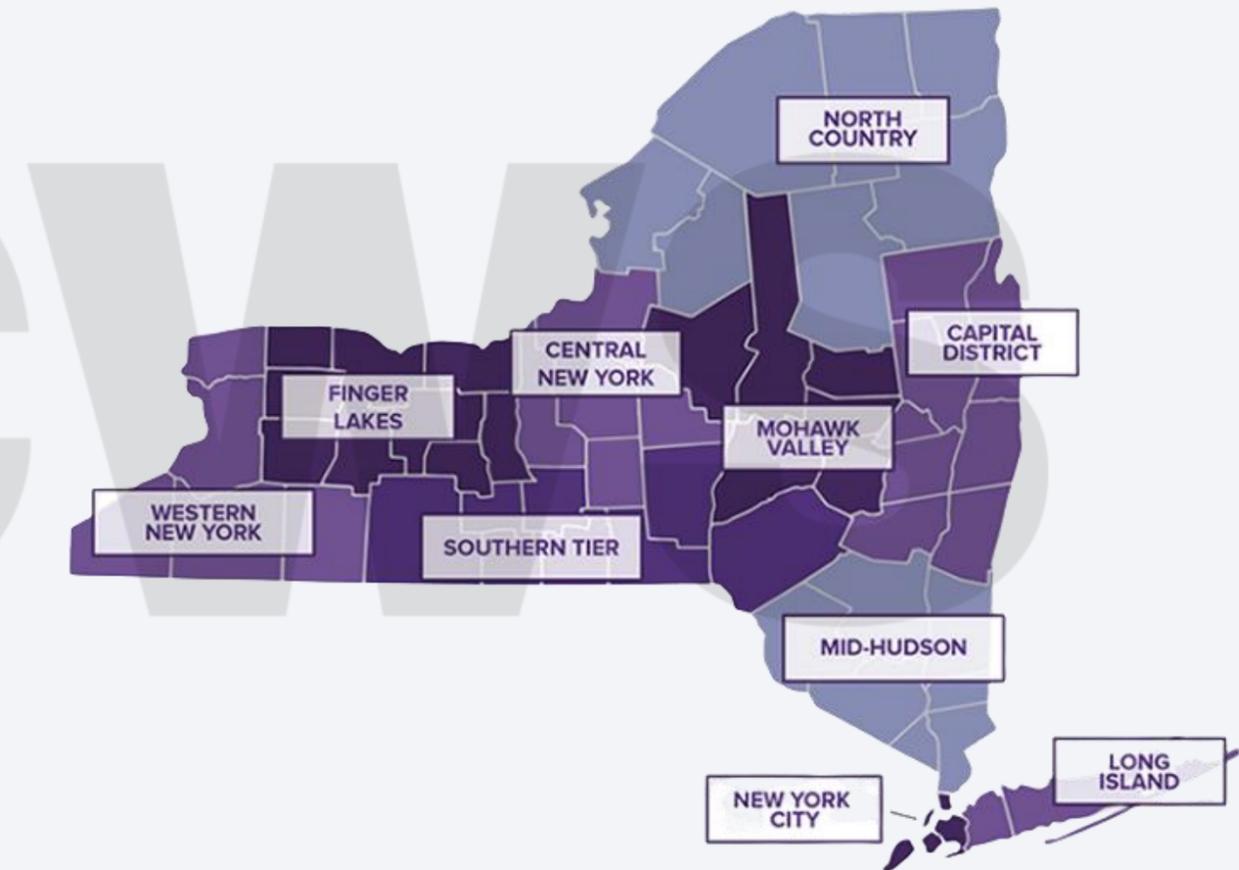
Refugee Services (RS)

Refugee Services (RS) within the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance is the single state agency responsible for the implementation of services to refugees. As an asylee, you are also eligible for these same services. There are many different services and programs.

RS programs and services include:

- provide assistance to refugees and their families in achieving economic and social self-sufficiency
- Employment and job training
- help repatriated citizens arrive safely at home
- Promote civic and social engagement
- Medical case management
- Learn about the health system in the US
- Support children and empower parents in the US school system
- Assist older refugees with navigating services

To find a provider, visit: [Refugee Services Provider Directory](#)



The NYS Office for New Americans (ONA)

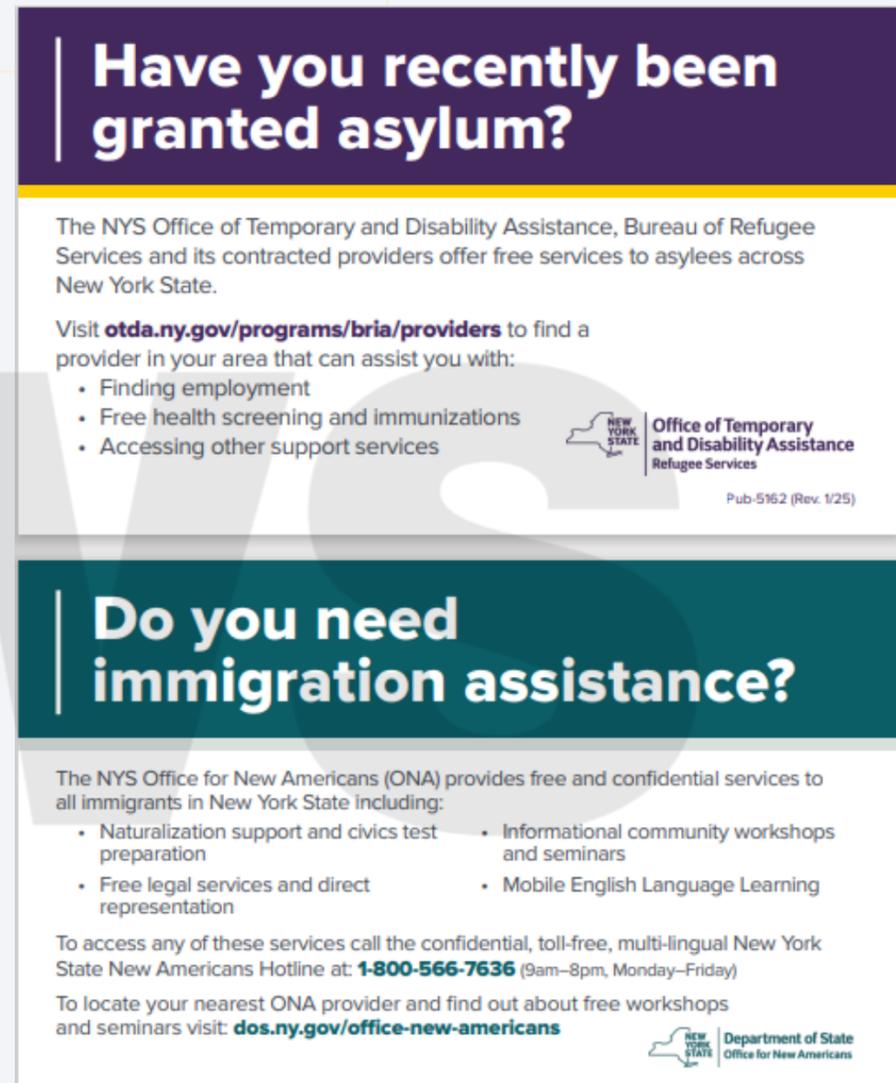
ONA provides free and confidential services to all immigrants in New York State including:

- Naturalization support and civics test preparation
- Free legal services and direct representation
- Informational community workshops and seminars
- Mobile English Language Learning

To access any of the immigration assistance services, call the confidential, multi-lingual New York State New Americans Hotline at:

- 1-800-566-7636
- 9am – 8pm, Monday-Friday

To locate your nearest ONA provider and find out about free workshops & seminars visit: newamericans.ny.gov



The image shows a two-page resource card. The top page has a purple header with the text 'Have you recently been granted asylum?'. Below the header, it states that the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Bureau of Refugee Services and its contracted providers offer free services to asylees across New York State. It directs visitors to otda.ny.gov/programs/bria/providers to find a provider. A list of services includes finding employment, free health screening and immunizations, and accessing other support services. The bottom page has a dark green header with the text 'Do you need immigration assistance?'. It states that the NYS Office for New Americans (ONA) provides free and confidential services to all immigrants in New York State. A list of services includes naturalization support and civics test preparation, free legal services and direct representation, informational community workshops and seminars, and mobile English language learning. It provides the contact information for the New York State New Americans Hotline at 1-800-566-7636 (9am-8pm, Monday-Friday) and directs visitors to dos.ny.gov/office-new-americans to find out about free workshops and seminars. Both pages include the NYS logo and the name of the respective office.

ONA Resource Card

PART 6: HEALTHCARE SERVICES



Refugee Health Program



Accessing Refugee Clinics



Additional Medical Resources



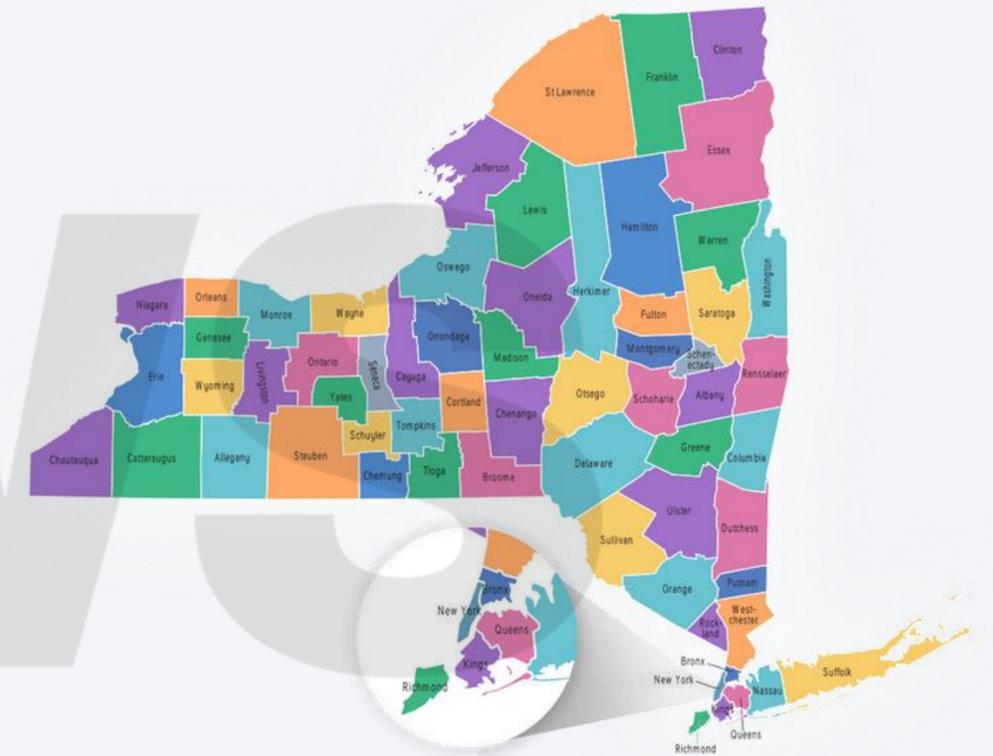
Additional Medical Resources

New York State Department of Health and Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance: Medical Screening Program

As an asylee, you are also eligible for the Refugee Health Program. The program is responsible for administering health assessments for eligible newcomers within 90 days of arrival and/or adjustment of status, such as being granted asylum.

The program has contracted providers across the state who complete health assessments and screenings for eligible new asylees. The refugee health assessment is designed to:

- initiate appropriate immunizations
- ensure individuals with identified health conditions are referred to primary and specialty care
- provide an orientation to the U.S. healthcare system and education on the availability and utilization of health services
- individual health promotion and population health protection



Refugee Medical Screening - Clinic Locations

Providers

Name	Street Address	City	State	Zip	Phone Number
Koinonia Primary Care	553 Clinton Ave	Albany	NY	12206	518-689-0282
Community Health Care Center of Buffalo	34 Benwood Ave	Buffalo	NY	14214	716-986-9199
Erie County Health Department	608 William St	Buffalo	NY	14210	716-858-2142
Neighborhood Health Center	300 Niagara St	Buffalo	NY	14210	716-875-2904
WNY Medical PC	135 Grant St	Buffalo	NY	14213	716-881-4300
Jericho Road Community Health Center	184 Barton St	Buffalo	NY	14213	716-881-6191
The Chautauqua Center	107 Institute St	Jamestown	NY	14701	716-484-4334
UHS Primary Care - Johnson City	507 Main St	Johnson City	NY	13790	607-763-6075
Rochester General Hospital	222 Alexander St, Suite 4100	Rochester	NY	14607	585-922-8070
St Joseph's Primary Care Center West	321 Gifford St	Syracuse	NY	13204	315-703-2600
SUNY Upstate Center for International Health	725 East Adams St, Suite 4	Syracuse	NY	13210	844-964-1200
Syracuse Community Health Center	1938 E Fayette St	Syracuse	NY	13210	315-474-4077
Compassionate Family Medicine	311 Green St	Syracuse	NY	13203	315-425-1431
Mosaic Health Utica	1651 Oneida St	Utica	NY	13501	315-793-7600
Upstate Family Health Center	1001 Noyes St	Utica	NY	13502	315-624-9470

Locate
Resettlement
Agencies and
Providers
Here

Questions or comments: rhp@health.ny.gov

Revised: June 2025

Refugee Medical Screening- Clinic Locations (NYC)

AllHealth Diagnostic Treatment Center

1655 East 13th Street, 2nd Floor

Brooklyn, NY 11229

Phone: (718) 339-6300 or (718) 336-2084

Website: <https://allhealthdtc.com>

Charles B. Wang Community Health Center

137-43 45th Avenue

Flushing, NY 11355

Phone: (929) 362-3006

Website: <https://www.cbwchc.org/>

Community Healthcare Network

Multiple locations

Phone: (866) 246-8250

[Refugee Health Program - Community Healthcare Network](#)

Questions or comments: Phillip.Plessas@otda.ny.gov

CWS

Refugee Health Promotion (RHP)

RHP includes the following services

- Health education and orientation
- Health and mental health case management
- Enrollment in wellness groups

RHP providers

- RHP is offered by 20 resettlement agencies through out New York State and can be accessed in the following areas: New York City, Long Island, Albany, Binghamton, Rochester, Syracuse, Buffalo, Niagara, and Utica
- Provider list: [Providers](#) | [Refugee Services](#) | [OTDA](#)

New York City Refugee Health Initiative (NYCRHI)

- The NYCRHI program provides all RHP activities including highly specialized mental health care through the Survivors of Torture program in NYC. NYCRHI services will be able to be accessed throughout the NYC Health and Hospitals Network. For more information, please contact Dr. Allen Keller at allen.keller@nychhc.org.

Additional Medical Resources

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

- You may be covered by Emergency Medicaid if you have an urgent health problem. Most doctors can attend to your needs if it is an emergency.
- You can also go to a hospital emergency room. Find out what is the nearest public hospital where you live, and make sure it is not a private hospital.
- [Click here for a list of public hospitals and clinics in NYC.](#)

NYC CARE (not insurance)

- NYC Care is a health care access program that guarantees low-cost and no-cost services to New Yorkers who do not qualify for or cannot afford health insurance regardless of immigration status. All NYC Care services are provided through NYC Health + Hospitals. With NYC Care, you can get a unique membership card to access health services, choose your own doctor, and get affordable medications.

HIV/AIDS

- All NYC residents with HIV/AIDS who meet financial need requirements are eligible for assistance from [HASA](#).
- If you are diagnosed with HIV and are low income you may receive cash, housing, medical, food and other assistance.
- Call 212-971-0626 or visit 400 Eighth Avenue, 2nd Floor, New York, NY.

Cancer Care

- [Sloan Kettering](#) and [NYU Langone](#) offer cancer treatment to those who are uninsured and unable to pay for care. Be sure to ask for the financial assistance department when you call to complete the required paperwork prior to your appointment.



NYC
HEALTH+
HOSPITALS

Additional Medical Resources

LIFE NET

- For information on mental health, a referral to a mental health professional, or if you need to talk to someone:
- CALL 1-800-LIFENET (1-800-543-3638)
- TTY: 212-982-5284
- Spanish: 1-877-AYUDESE (1-877-298-3373)
- Mandarin, Cantonese, and Korean: 1-877-990-8585

NYC WELL

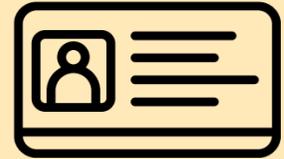
- For confidential crisis counseling or to request mental health or substance misuse help from health professionals including nurses, social workers, and psychiatrists at your home:
- CALL 1-800-NYC-WELL (1-800-692-9355)
- Text “WELL” to 651-73
- Visit nycwell.cityofnewyork.us.

Connect with someone who will listen and help 24/7.
In danger or need immediate medical attention? Call 911 Now.

 Text 988 	 Call 988 	 Chat Now 
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*message & data rates may apply when using the SMS service

PART 7: LEGAL



Adjustment of Status - Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)



Family Reunification



International Travel - Required Documentation



Required Reporting & Registration



Path to Naturalization (Citizenship)

Adjustment of Status - Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)

To apply for a green card as an asylee, you must:

1. Complete one year of physical presence in the U.S. after being granted asylum
2. Financially prepare the filing fee
 - Required for each applicant, including children
 - May submit a fee waiver (if applicable)
3. Complete a physical exam with a registered Civil Surgeon
 - Required for each applicant, including children
4. File Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status

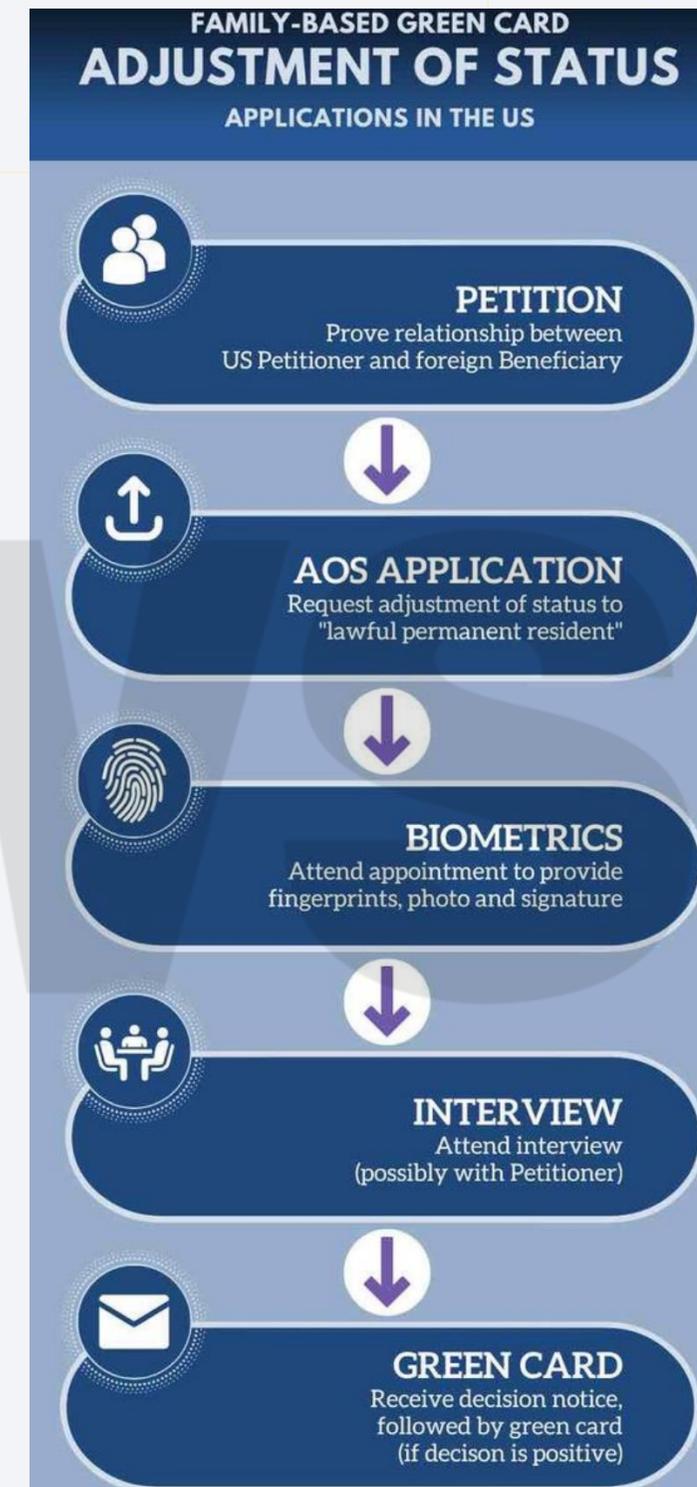


Worried about completing this application alone? No need! The Immigration Advocates Network has [a map of organizations and the services they provide](#) all throughout New York wanting to support in filing your application!

Family Reunification

To apply for Family Reunification, you must submit a Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition. This petition:

- Must be filed **within 2 years** of receiving your asylum approval
- Can only be for a spouse and/or unmarried children under the age of 21-years-old who live overseas
 - These relatives must have been listed in your original asylum application
 - These relatives must have no basis for denial
 - Security threat
 - Persecution of others
 - Criminal convictions
- Upon approval, these family members will qualify for the same benefits you are receiving as derivative asylees
- Unlike your green card application, there is **NO FEE** to apply for family reunification



International Travel - Required Documentation

In order to travel internationally, you must secure the required travel documentation prior to leaving the country. You should **NOT** use passports or documents from the country you sought asylum from. There are risks if you travel to back to the country you sought asylum from and new travel restrictions for citizens of some countries. You should consult an immigration attorney.

You must submit an I-131, Application for Travel Documents, Parole Documents, and Arrival/Departure Records, located on [USCIS' website](#).

The landing page will list:

- The specific form to use
- The required documentation
- The required filing fee
- Fee waiver options
- Filing times expected
- Expedite Requests

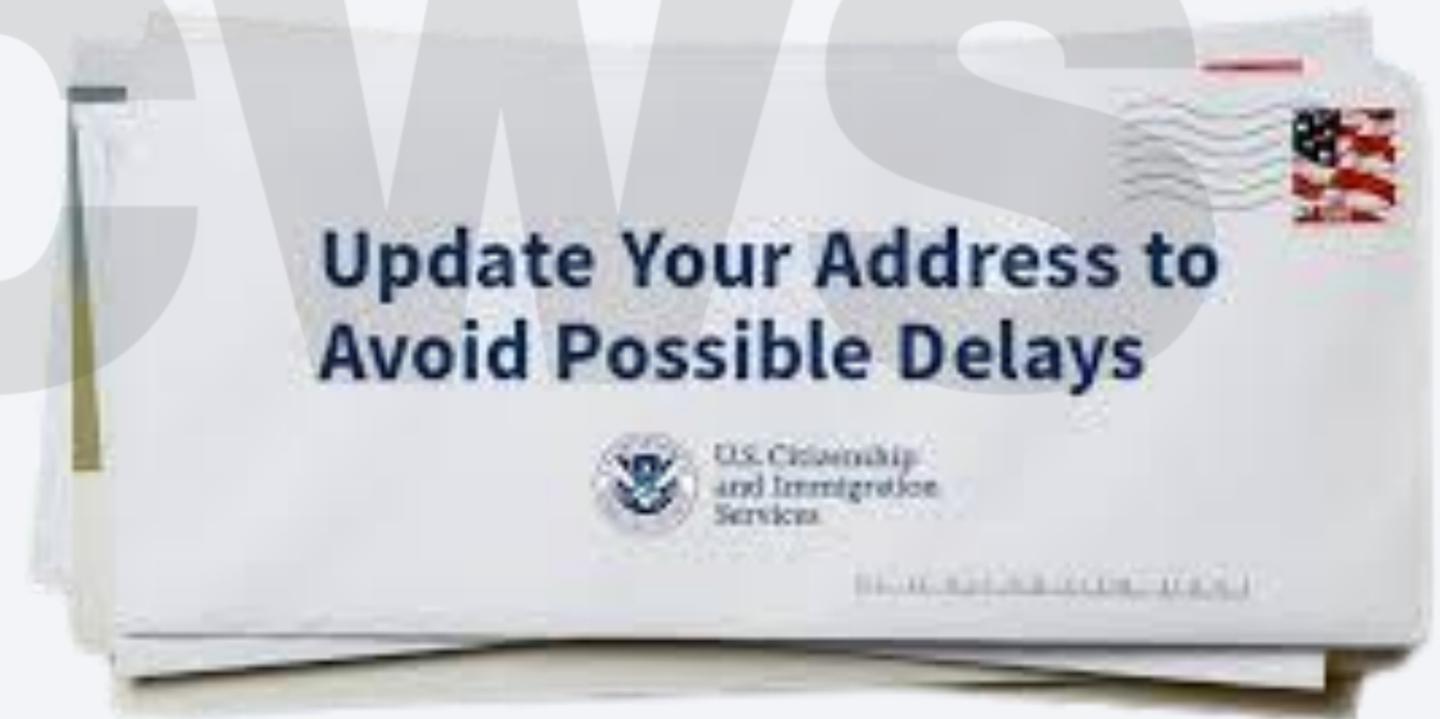
Worried about completing this application alone? No need! The Immigration Advocates Network has [a map of organizations and the services they provide](#) all throughout New York wanting to support in filing your application!



Required Change of Address Reporting

If you move, it is important that you update the following entities of your new physical and mailing addresses:

- [USCIS \(REQUIRED WITHIN 10 DAYS OF MOVE\)](#)
- [DMV](#)
- [U.S. Postal Service](#)
- Social Security Office
- County Human/Social Service Office
- Employers, Banks, Utility Companies



Selective Service Registration

Selective Service is the system that maintains lists of U.S. men, ages 18-25, for a potential military draft in a national emergency.

Registration is a legal requirement for nearly all male U.S. citizens and male immigrants.

While registering doesn't mean you join the military, it makes you eligible for federal jobs, federal student aid, and federal job training, while failure to register can result in penalties and loss of these benefits.

Registration may take place online at:
www.sss.gov/register

Registration may also take place via mail, by sending the completed application to address listed here:

Selective Service System
P.O. Box 94739
Palatine, IL 60094-4739



SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
REGISTRATION FORM

MEN 18-25
MUST
REGISTER

HERE OR ONLINE AT SSS.GOV



PART 8: EDUCATION



Adult Schools



Community Colleges



Four-Year Universities & Beyond



Degree Equivalency Evaluation

Adult Schools

Adult Schools provide students the opportunity for both personal and professional growth, enabling attendees to achieve goals that not only improve their career and educational prospects, but also increase their confidence and personal skills.

In New York, the following institutions offer a variety of free or low-cost classes for adults over 21-years-old, including but not limited to:

- Adult Basic Education (ABE)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- High School Equivalency Preparation (HSE)
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Additionally, courses and certifications are available in the following areas:

- Technology & Computers
- Creative Arts
- Business & Finance
- Emergency Services



[New York Public Schools](https://www.nycpublicschools.org/)



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ADULT CAREER & CONTINUING ED SERVICES

[New York State Public Education Department -
Adult Career & Continuing Ed Services](https://www.nysed.gov/adult-career-continuing-ed-services)



New York
Public
Library

[New York Public Library](https://www.nypl.org/)

Community College

Each Community College has their own application process, and all details are available online via the link to the right.

Community Colleges offer a variety of unique benefits to new asylees, including but not limited to:

- Lower tuition costs
- Flexible schedules to balance work and family
- Career-focused curriculum that prepares students for high-demand jobs and therefore higher income
- Vocational Programs

Community Colleges also support students in accessing:

- Increased Earning Potential
- Job-Ready Skills
- Entrepreneurship Opportunities
- Specialized/Customized Supportive Students



[New York has many CCs to choose from, all listed here via the US News & World Report](#)

Four-Year Universities & Beyond

New York hosts a multitude of four-year universities, including prestigious private institutions like

- Cornell University
- Columbia University
- New York University

There are additional public universities within the [City University of New York \(CUNY\)](#) and [State University of New York \(SUNY\)](#) systems, such as:

- [Stony Brook University](#)
- [Binghamton University](#)
- [CUNY Brooklyn College](#)

With over 130 four-year, degree-granting institutions, New York has more than any other state in the U.S.

As an asylee living in New York, you have a multitude of opportunities at your fingertips, and every right to pursue them.



[All universities in New York, including their websites and application processes, are available here via the US News & World Report](#)

Degree Equivalency Evaluation

If you have a degree from overseas, there are pathways through which your degree can be evaluated and validated here in the United States.

Approved evaluation services are provided by organizations such as the [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#) and the [Association of International Credential Evaluators \(AICE\)](#).

For those of you who were teachers abroad, the New York State Education Department has their own [Evaluation of Foreign Credentials process](#).

When planning to submit your degree(s) for evaluation, be prepared to:

- Select an Approved Evaluator
- Submit all documentation related to your degree
- Prepare for your institution and degree to undergo an Assessment Process
- Experience a wait time of several weeks for a final result



PART 9: EMPLOYMENT



Refugee Social Services
(RSS)



Matching Grant (MG) Program



Upwardly Global



TENT Partnership for Refugees

Refugee Social Services Program (RSSP)

RSSP supports the progress of individuals and their families toward economic self-sufficiency. Whether someone has only temporarily been out of the job market or is looking to join the workforce for the first time, RSSP offers comprehensive services to support every individual on their unique journey. RSSP is dedicated to providing individuals and families with the right skills and confidence needed to begin a successful career.

RSSP services include:

- soft-skills training
- career readiness training
- pre- and post-employment services

To find a provider, visit: [Refugee Services Provider Directory](#)



Matching Grant (MG) Program

The Matching Grant program helps asylees and other ORR-eligible populations overcome barriers and quickly find jobs. The intent is for asylees to become economically self-sufficient through employment within 240 days and without accessing cash assistance programs.

MG asylee participants must meet certain employment requirements and must enroll **within 90 days** of being granted asylum; certain exceptions are permitted on a case-by-case basis.

MG provides:

- Case management
- Employment skills training
- Job referrals
- Family budget planning
- Health and medical navigation
- English language training
- Social adjustment and other services

Additionally, the MG program provides **financial assistance** for:

- Housing
- Utilities
- Food
- Transportation

**OFFICE OF REFUGEE
RESETTLEMENT**

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

[Voluntary Agencies Matching Grant Program](#)



Upwardly Global's FREE Career Coaching Program connects you, a professionally focused and work-authorized immigrant or refugee, with customized job coaching and career-training resources to help you get back to work in your professional field. Their coaches are available to meet you in person or online for up to 12 months of your job search and support with the following:

- Learning how to find the right career opportunities to pursue
- Planning your career pathway
- Building a U.S.-style resume and prepare for U.S.-style interviews
- Accessing free trainings, courses, and certifications to make you a competitive candidate
- Joining networking events with top U.S. employers
- Link for more information: <https://www.upwardlyglobal.org/career-coaching/apply-now/>





TENT

TENT is an organization focused on supporting refugees and asylees reach their professional goals, and is free of charge. Tent partners with resettlement agencies to refer clients to jobs.

- TENT focuses on mobilizing leading businesses to connect work-authorized refugees to employment through hiring, training, and mentorship – because we know that a job is the most important milestone for a refugee to restart their life
- TENT works with leading companies across the Americas and Europe to connect refugees to jobs at scale, harnessing what employers do best to overcome refugees' pervasive exclusion from the workforce
- TENT is made up of more than 500 major companies committed to integrating refugees into the labor market. Our members span industries from consumer goods to hospitality, retail to professional services, and technology to manufacturing

HIRING
59,200+

CONNECTING TO WORK
180,800+

TRAINING
137,900+

MENTORING
8,200+

PART 10: NEXT

STEPS



Know Your Rights



Protect Yourself & Your Identity



Presentation Materials



Questions?

Know Your Rights - Protect Yourself & Your Identity

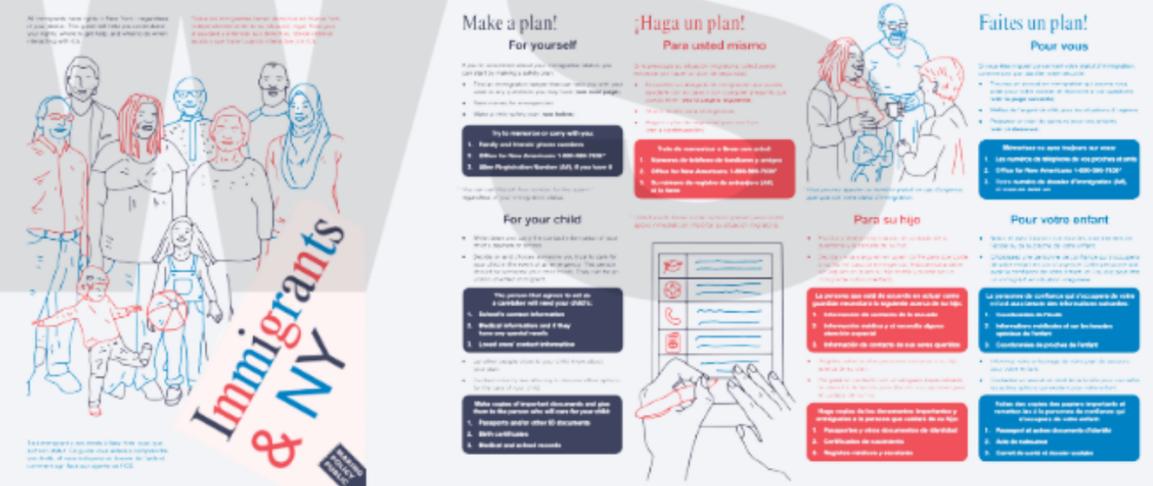
All immigrants have rights in New York—regardless of your status. [These resources](#) will help you understand your rights, where to get help, and what to do when interacting with different agencies and institutions.

Immigrant families in NY have legal rights and protections, such as:

- All New Yorkers have the right to access all city services in their own language
- All New Yorkers have the right to safely access health services
- All pregnant women have the right to access prenatal care
- Every child has the right to free public education
- Your child has the right to programs to help them learn English if they need them

Know Your Rights

Immigrants & NY



Know Your Rights - Protect Yourself & Your Identity

Fight Crime and Discrimination in New York State

Report incidents of bias and discrimination with the State Division of Human Rights by calling [1-888-392-3644](tel:1-888-392-3644). The hotline is available from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. If you need to report a crime or fear for your safety, call 911 immediately.

Report Housing Discrimination

Housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, disability, among others is illegal, regardless of an individual's immigration status. To report housing discrimination and file a complaint, contact the New York State Division of Human Rights at 1-888-392-3644. If you are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, contact your local [Department of Social Services](#).

Report Human Trafficking

If you or someone you know may be a victim of human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline [1-888-373-7888](tel:1-888-373-7888) or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733).

Report Domestic Violence

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, call the [New York State Domestic Violence Hotline](#) at [1-800-942-6906](tel:1-800-942-6906). The Hotline provides free and confidential assistance. Interpretation services are available.

Protect Your Address

The [New York State Address Confidentiality Program](#) is a cost-free program that allows victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, kidnapping or stalking to shield their address. Participants are assigned a substitute address which they will use for receipt of all first-class, registered and certified mail. For more information call [1-855-350-4595](tel:1-855-350-4595) or visit [their website](#).

Presentation Materials

To access the presentation slides, click here:

[Newcomer Virtual Orientation Webinar | CWS](#)

Questions

Follow-up Questions? Contact the Team!

Email: asyleeservices@cwsglobal.org

Scan:



Thank You!

Thank you for your attendance!

To provide feedback, please submit the following survey: