

LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR IMMIGRANTS RIGHT NOW

June 15, 2020



Massachusetts
Immigrant & Refugee
Advocacy Coalition



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MAIN TYPES OF IMMIGRATION STATUS

Lawful Permanent Residents
(green card holders)

Lawful
nonimmigrants
(visitors,
students, etc.)

Temporary
Protected Status

Asylees/
Refugees

Undocumented/
Out of status

DACA



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RESOURCES WITH NO STATUS RESTRICTIONS

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GENERAL COVID-19 HEALTH INFORMATION

- [Mass.gov Dept. of Public Health Resource Hub](#)- printable sheets available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese
 - Text updates in English: COVIDMA to 888-777
 - Text updates in Spanish: COVIDMAESP to 888-777
- [Multilingual Resources from SwitchboardTA](#)- factsheets from different sources on how to stop the spread of germs, what to do if you get sick, and managing symptoms

FOR BOSTON RESIDENTS:

- [City of Boston Immigrant Resource Hub](#)- materials available in English, Arabic, Cape Verdean Creole, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Russian, Somali
 - Call 3-1-1 24/7- calls can be taken in multiple languages



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REMEMBER:

- ALL Massachusetts residents have a right to seek medical care
- ALL Massachusetts residents have a right to safely get tested for COVID-19
- Health care providers must keep patient information and records confidential and cannot share information, including immigration status
- There are government resources and benefits available that will not be considered for public charge decisions



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HEALTHCARE

- In Massachusetts, ALL residents tested and treated for COVID-19 will be covered regardless of immigration and insurance status
- Available healthcare programs:
 - [Health Safety Net](#)
 - Children's Security Medical Plan
 - Mass Health Standard for Pregnant Women
 - [MassHealth Limited](#)
 - Prescription Advantage
 - Home Care Program
- Health Safety Net
 - Will cover testing and treatment for COVID-19, early refills of medication, telehealth and home visits
 - Seek COVID-19 testing treatments through a hospital or a community health center
 - Guidance available [HERE](#) on accessing telehealth with limited internet and phone data
- FOR BOSTON RESIDENTS:
 - Mayor's Health Line- 617-534-5050
 - Multilingual assistance from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for assistance with enrollment and locating health centers



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HEALTHCARE (CONT)

To apply:

Health Safety Net, Children's Security Medical Plan, MassHealth Programs

- www.mahealthconnector.org
- 1-800- 841-2900
 - Self-service available 24 hrs/day in English and Spanish. Other services available Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Interpreter service available.

Can apply at hospitals and Mass. League of Community Health Centers

Prescription Advantage and Home Care:

- www.800ageinfo.com
- 1-800-243-4636

Healthcare for All Hotline is fully operational:

1-800-272-4232

The Health Connector has opened enrollment to all uninsured residents and is accepting applications through May 25 and may extend



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HOUSING ASSISTANCE

State housing programs that are available regardless of status:

- [State public housing](#)
- [Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program \(MRVP\)](#)
- [Alternative Housing Voucher Program \(AHVP\)](#)
- State-funded multifamily (privately owned subsidized) housing
- [Residential Assistance for Families in Transition \(RAFT\)](#)
- [Emergency Assistance \(EA\) shelters](#) **require at least one person in the family unit to have a qualifying status** to be eligible
- [General COVID-19 Housing Resources](#)



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HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT)

- Undocumented immigrants don't qualify for Unemployment Insurance, **BUT** they do qualify to get \$4000 paid toward their rent under the RAFT/Residential Assistance for Families in Transition state program.
- Since this is state funding that gets paid to the person's landlord, it does not harm a person under the Public Charge rule.
- Local cities and towns are also setting up locally funded programs on emergency rental and mortgage assistance that have similar guidelines to RAFT
- As of June 1, about 25 cities and towns have set up these funds and additional ones are considering it.

Federal Programs

NILC Rental Housing



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FOOD ASSISTANCE

Everyone **who meets eligibility requirements** can access:

WIC is open to provide all services and open for enrollment 1-800-924-1007

MA WIC Locations

Food pantries

Greater Boston Food Bank

Worcester County Food Bank

Food Bank of Western Massachusetts

Project Bread FoodSource Hotline- information and referrals for food sources in 160 languages

1-800-645-8333/ TTY: 1-800-377-1292

M-F 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

All kids ages 0-18 are eligible for free school meals

Map of food pickup sites

FOR BOSTON RESIDENTS:

Mayor's Office of Food Access: 617-635-3717



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FOOD ASSISTANCE

Pandemic EBT- for students who receive free or reduced school lunch OR additional to SNAP or TAFDC benefit

THERE IS NO APPLICATION

In Boston, all BPS and charter school students will receive P-EBT

[Pandemic EBT Info for Providers](#)

[Pandemic EBT Info for Families](#)



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EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS AND RESOURCES FOR UNDOCUMENTED POPULATION

- [Massachusetts UndocuFund](#)
- Western Mass.-[Pioneer Valley Undocu-Worker Solidarity Fund](#)
- [MA Attorney General's Office FAQ on Employee Rights and Employer Obligations](#)
- [Mass. Jobs with Justice Workers Emergency Relief Fund](#)
- [Mass Redistribution Fund](#)
- [Agencia Alpha Emergency Fund](#)
- [My Undocumented Life](#)- resources for DACA recipients, students, families
- [National Resources from UndocuScholars](#)
- [Find a Mutual Aid network](#)



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CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE

- Child and youth serving programs may begin reopening in Phase 2 of the state's economic reopening.
- Some Exempt Emergency Child Care Providers (EECCPs) may continue to operate through June to support essential workers with no other option for child care

[State Emergency Child Care for Essential Workers](#)

[Care.com MA Partnership](#)- free 90-day subscription for essential worker families and providers looking for employment

[Best Practices for Child Mental Health with Reopening](#)



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FAMILY ASSISTANCE

[Parental Stress Line](#)- 24/7 confidential telephone support, call back # needed for translation

[SafeLink](#)- English/Spanish with translation available in 130+ languages

(877) 785-2020

[Helping Children Cope with Changes](#)

Multilingual Child Learning Resources

[Promise Venture Studio](#)- curated resources and tools

[ChildCare Aware Brain Building Tips for Children 0-5](#)

[EdNavigator Parent Preparation \(English and Spanish\)](#)



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FAMILY ASSISTANCE

Other Resources

[First 5 Association Care, Cope Connect](#)

[Colorin colorado! Early Childhood Program Resources](#)

[Informed Immigrant Mental Health Guide](#)

[Center on Immigration and Child Welfare Toolkit for Immigrant Families in CW Systems](#)

[Immigrant Learning Center Activities](#)



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GENERAL IMMIGRATION RESOURCES

[Community Action Partnership Info and Guides](#)

[National Traumatic Stress Network](#)

[United We Dream Mental Health Toolkit](#)



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