PUBLIC BENEFITS
RIGHTS FOR HEALTH

WHAT ARE PUBLIC BENEFITS?
Public benefits include financial support, aid benefits and services provided by the government to eligible people who demonstrate needs for medical care, food, housing, disability assistance and other basic necessities.

There are no limits for accepting benefits if you are:
1) US citizen 2) Refugee or 3) Asylum-seeker

SOME PUBLIC BENEFITS AFFECT IMMIGRATION STATUS...
If you have 1) No immigration status 2) Green card or 3) temporary visa...
Public benefits can hurt your immigration status if most of your income comes from government assistance, including: 1) Cash payments from government 2) Living in longterm care facility paid by government

PUBLIC BENEFITs ELIGIBILITY
Some benefits do not affect your immigration status

MEDICAID/HEALTH INSURANCE & SERVICES
- Emergency Room Medical Care
- Medicaid / State-provided insurance
- If you are pregnant, you can receive care using Medicaid.

CHILDCARE SERVICES
Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
School Lunches

HOUSING ASSISTANCE
Yes, this includes staying in a public homeless shelter.

FOOD ASSISTANCE
Yes, this includes Food Stamps and soup kitchens.

EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
This may include scholarships and loans and career development opportunities.
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Public Benefits Application

Consider the following steps when applying for public benefits.

**DISCOVER**
Search for available benefit programs at BENEFITS.GOV
Fill out the questionnaire to discover what you’re eligible for.

**PREPARE**
Gather required documents including:
- Proof of Identity
- Proof of Residency
- Proof of Income
- Proof of Disability

**APPLY**
Apply online, in person, by mail or by phone.

**CHECK STATUS**
Check online or contact programs by phone to check status of application or ask a question.

**RECEIVE BENEFITS**
Obtain benefits. Check eligibility status and reapply annually.