



## Immigration Status and SFHSA Programs

### Eligibility requirements for public benefits

The San Francisco Human Services Agency (SFHSA) provides valuable public benefits for immigrants, from CalFresh food assistance and Medi-Cal health coverage to cash assistance through CalWORKs, County Adult Assistance Programs (CAAP) and Refugee Cash Assistance.

The information below identifies which of those programs your clients may be eligible for based on their immigration status and the required documentation.

Every situation is different. Contact the Bay Area Legal Aid Free Advice Hotline (800) 551-5554 for questions about how receiving public benefits may affect immigration status.

#### Program eligibility by immigration status

Immigration Status	SFHSA Program	Eligibility
Asylees (Asylum has been granted)	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Yes
Asylum Seekers (Asylum is pending)	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	No
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	No
	CAAP	No
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	No
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	No
	CAAP	No
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No
Legal Permanent Residents	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes



Immigration Status	SFHSA Program	Eligibility
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No
Parolees	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes, if granted parole for at least one year
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes, if granted parole for at least one year
	CAAP	Yes, if granted parole for at least one year
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Yes, only Afghans, Ukrainians, Cubans, Haitians
Refugees	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes, after Refugee Cash Assistance ends
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Yes
SIV – Special Immigration Visa (Afghans and Iraqis)	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Yes
Student, Work/Tourist Visa	Medi-Cal	Yes, if a California resident
	CalFresh	No
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	No
	CAAP	No
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No
Temporary Protected Status (TPS)	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	No
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	No
	CAAP	No
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No



Immigration Status	SFHSA Program	Eligibility
T-Visa	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Yes, if they are single adults or married couples without minors in the home
Undocumented Immigrants	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	No, but undocumented parents can apply on behalf of U.S. born children
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	No, but undocumented parents can apply on behalf of U.S. born children
	CAAP	No, unless catastrophically ill
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No
U-Visa	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Yes
VAWA Self-Petitioners	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Yes
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Yes
	CAAP	Yes
	Refugee Cash Assistance	No
Work Permit	Medi-Cal	Yes
	CalFresh	Depends on status/category on work permit
	CalWORKs or CalWORKs Diversion	Depends on status/category on work permit
	CAAP	No
	Refugee Cash Assistance	Depends on status/category on work permit



## Proof of Immigration Status for SHFSA Programs

If SFHSA is unable to verify a person’s immigration status through available electronic sources, we may ask for documentation to prove their status within 90 days.

Clients may only need to provide one or two documents below depending on their status and the program requirements.

Acceptable Document	Programs
Asylum Approval Letter from USCIS	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAAP, Refugee Cash Assistance
Completed copy of Form I-918, Petition for U Nonimmigrant status	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAAP, Refugee Cash Assistance
Confirmation receipt or letter from USCIS verifying that a Petition for U Nonimmigrant Status (Form I-918) has been filed.	Medi-Cal, CalFresh
Employment Authorization Document (EAD) issued under category “A19” or “A20” for an approved U Visa petitioner	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAAP
Employment Authorization Document (EAD) issued under category “C9” along with the first page of the applicant’s Form I-485, indicating that the application to adjust to lawful permanent residence is based on U Visa status.	Medi-Cal, CalFresh
Form I-797 approving a U Visa or U Visa stamp in passport.	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAAP, Refugee Cash Assistance
Form I-797, which serves as a fee receipt for a Form I-485 Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status, and the first page of the applicant’s Form I-485 indicating that it is based on U Visa status.	Medi-Cal, CalFresh
Form I-797, which serves as a fee receipt for an employment authorization request based on a U Visa application.	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAAP
Form I-797C Extension of U nonimmigrant status.	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, Refugee Cash Assistance
Form I-94	CalFresh, Refugee Cash Assistance



Legal Permanent Residency card "Green Card"	Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAAP
Self-declaration of intent to apply for a T Visa	CalFresh, Refugee Cash Assistance
USCIS document showing when the individual was paroled into U.S.	CalFresh, Refugee Cash Assistance

### Questions?

Email us at [HSAOutreachComms@sfgov.org](mailto:HSAOutreachComms@sfgov.org)

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