

Do You Have a Question About an Immigration Matter?

CALL

The New York State New Americans Hotline

(Formerly known as New York State Immigration Hotline)

Monday - Friday 9a.m. - 8p.m. EST



1-800-566-7636 (NYS only)
1-212-419-3737 (from other states)

The NYS New Americans Hotline provides general information and referrals on immigration-related questions and other social services available to immigrants.

- *Calls are anonymous and conversations confidential.*
- *Calls are answered in many different languages.*
- *This hotline is not affiliated with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service.*
- *If you have been a victim of an immigration services scam we can help you report it.*
- *We do not offer legal advice. Questions on individual eligibility for immigration benefits are referred to legal service providers for legal consultations.*



A Project of
Catholic Charities Community Services, Archdiocese of NY
New York State Office for New Americans



HOW TO CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR CASE WITH THE IMMIGRATION COURT

Name _____

Alien/A# _____

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANYONE MAY CALL THE IMMIGRATION COURT HOTLINE. IT IS AN AUTOMATED SERVICE AND YOU WILL NOT HARM YOURSELF OR YOUR CASE IN ANY WAY BY CALLING.

1. Call 1-800-898-7180
2. Press 1 (for English) or 2 (for Spanish)
3. Press 1 again
4. Type in your Alien/A number (see above)
5. If you typed correctly, press 1
6. If you did not type correctly, press 2 and re-enter your number
7. If you get a message stating that your case has not yet been filed with the court, that means that you have not been assigned a specific court date, but you may be given one in the future. Therefore, you should continue checking the hotline at least every week.
8. If you do have a case with a date, the letters of your name will be read
9. After your name is spelled, press 1 for the date and time of your hearing and the name of your judge
 - Write down three very important things:
 - the date and time of your next hearing;
 - the address of the court, and;
 - the name of the judge for your case
 - If you need to hear the information again, keep pressing 1!!
10. If you believe that a judge has already made a decision on your case, press 3 instead of 1 after your name is spelled and you will be given case decision information. If a decision was made, contact an immigration attorney immediately!

YOU CAN ALSO CHECK YOUR CASE STATUS ONLINE!

1. Go to : <https://acis.eoir.justice.gov/en/>
2. Enter your A number and press "submit."
3. If you are in the EOIR system, your information will appear.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT YOU ATTEND EACH AND EVERY COURT HEARING AND ALL APPOINTMENTS WITH IMMIGRATION – EVEN IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AN ATTORNEY! IF YOU MISS YOUR COURT APPOINTMENT THE JUDGE COULD GIVE YOU A DEPORTATION ORDER!!!



THE GUY ON TV SAID WE CAN GET A GREEN CARD AFTER TEN YEARS SO I JUST MADE AN APPOINTMENT.

GREAT!



ALL I NEED IS \$\$\$\$ IN CASH AND YOUR TAXES AND YOU ARE ON YOUR WAY TO BECOMING A GREEN CARD HOLDER!



LOOK, WE GOT OUR WORK PERMITS! JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE HAVE OUR GREEN CARDS.



WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM THE LAWYER IN MONTHS, AND NOW THIS HAS COME IN THE MAIL.

IT SAYS WE ARE IN DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS!



WHY DO I HAVE A DEPORTATION CASE? THE LAWYER SAID THIS WAS A SIMPLE 10 YEAR VISA?

I'M SORRY, BUT THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A TEN YEAR VISA. NOW YOU MIGHT GET DEPORTED!

LEGAL CLINIC TODAY



WHAT HAVE WE DONE? \$\$\$\$ GONE; NO GREEN CARD; AND NOW... WE ARE BEING DEPORTED!

DON'T TRUST ANYONE WHO SAYS THEY CAN GET YOU A TEN YEAR VISA



1-800-566-7636

GETTING IMMIGRATION HELP: TIPS FOR AVOIDING FRAUD

Only Lawyers and certain Legal Representatives who work for non-profit organizations are allowed to represent immigrants

- Only lawyers and BIA accredited representatives (who work for certain non-profit organizations) can give legal advice.
- Never pay a “notario,” travel agent, tax preparer, or forms’ preparer to tell you which applications you need or to help prepare them for you.
- Filing the wrong application is not only a waste of money -- it could get you deported.

Never Pay in Cash

- When paying a lawyer or an application fee, use a check or money order.
- Always get receipts for any payments you make to a lawyer.

If It Sounds Too Good to be True, It Probably is

- Scammers often promise immigration benefits you are not eligible for, just to get your money. Lawyers and BIA accredited representatives are required to be honest, even if it is bad news.

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All immigration forms are available for free at www.uscis.gov

Never Pay for Blank Immigration Forms

Never Sign a Blank Form or let Someone Keep your Original Documents

- Never sign a form that is blank or has false information.
- Carefully read all documents before signing -- you are responsible for anything with your signature that is submitted to the government.
- Do not leave your original documents with anybody else. Make copies if you need to.

DON'T GET SCAMMED – GET HELP

Call the New York State New Americans Hotline (800-566-7636) for help finding a free or low-cost lawyer or legal representative.



If You Have a Lawyer

Your Lawyer Must:

- Explain the law and what your options are so that you can make the important decisions in your case
- Keep you informed about your case, including any court dates or appointments
- Sign all papers he or she prepares and submits to the government on your behalf
- Provide you with copies of all papers submitted to the government if you ask for them (even if you owe money)
- Explain, in writing, any fees he or she is charging you
- Return your phone calls or emails promptly
- Treat you with courtesy
- Keep your information confidential

You Have the Right to:

- Ask for proof that your representative is a lawyer or a Board of Immigration Appeals “accredited representative” who works for a non-profit organization
- Get a receipt for any money paid (it is always better to pay by check or money order)
- Fire your lawyer and look for another one

Your Lawyer Should Never:

- Ask you to lie
- Ask you to sign blank forms or sign forms with untrue information
- Fail to appear at your court date or interview without letting you know in advance
- Ask you to submit fraudulent (fake) documents
- Keep your original documents

If You Need help:

Call the New York State New Americans Hotline at 800-566-7636. The Hotline can provide referrals to non-profit agencies that have immigration attorneys on staff or are recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals. The Hotline can also help you make a complaint if you think you have been the victim of fraud or a non-lawyer is taking your money to provide legal services.





Immigrant Defense Project has been monitoring Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrests in the community.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS with ICE

Who is at risk of being arrested by ICE?

The law allows the federal government to deport certain immigrants, including:

- Anyone without lawful immigration status
- People with status (e.g., lawful permanent residents, refugees and visa holders) who have certain criminal convictions



The people the Trump Administration announced ICE will initially focus on deporting include:

- people with pending criminal cases and/or prior criminal convictions;
- people with final orders of removal;
- people who have committed fraud or misrepresentation in applications to the government;
- people they believe pose a threat to public safety or national security

People with legal status and prior convictions

Be aware: You may be a target even if:

- Your conviction is from years ago;
- You didn't serve time in jail;
- Your case was minor or a misdemeanor;
- You've been an LPR for a long time; and/or
- All the other members of your family are US citizens.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is one of the federal government agencies responsible for deporting people. ICE is part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Are ICE agents approaching anyone they think they can deport?

ICE agents usually identify the person they want to arrest ahead of time. Then, they go to homes, courthouses, shelters and even workplaces to look for that person. Sometimes they wait on the street to make the arrest.

If I know I'm at risk, what can I do?

- **Make a plan** with your loved ones in case you are picked up by ICE!
- **Avoid contact with Immigration** – don't apply to change your immigration status or to renew your green card and don't travel outside of the United States without talking to a lawyer first!
- **Avoid contact with the Criminal Justice System** (the police share your fingerprints with Immigration)!

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS AT RISK OF DEPORTATION, HAVE A PLAN!

Knowing which rights you have and exercising them is complicated. For more information on ICE community arrests, please see IDP's longer booklet at immigrantdefenseproject.org/ice-arrests or contact KYR@immdefense.org

If you want to report a raid within NYC, call IDP at 212-725-6422

If you want to report a raid outside of NYC, contact United We Dream at 1-844-363-1423

What should I do if ICE agents approach me on the street or in public?

When ICE agents arrest someone in public, it typically happens quickly. They may call your name out loud and ask you to confirm your name and then detain you.

- Before you say your name or anything else, **ask, “AM I FREE TO GO?”**
 - **If they say YES:** Say, “I don’t want to answer your questions” or “I’d rather not speak with you right now.” Walk away.
 - **If they say NO:** Use your right to remain silent! Say, “I want to use my right not to answer questions” and then “I want to speak to a lawyer.”
- If ICE starts to search inside your pockets or belongings, say, **“I do not consent to a search.”**
- **DON’T LIE or show false documents. Don’t flee or resist arrest.**
- Don’t answer questions about your immigration status or where you were born. They will use any information you provide against you. Do not hand over any foreign documents such as a passport, consular IDs, or expired visas.
- If you are in Criminal Court for a court date, ask to speak to your defender before they take you away.

If officers come to my home, will I know they are from ICE?

Not always! Beware: ICE agents often pretend to be police and say they want to talk to you about identity theft or an ongoing investigation.

Can ICE agents enter my home to arrest me?

If ICE agents do not have a warrant signed by a judge, they cannot enter the home without permission from an adult. Opening the door when they knock does not give them permission to enter your home.



So, what do I do if officers are at my door?

- Find out if they are from DHS or ICE.
- Try to stay calm. Be polite. Don’t lie. Say **“I don’t want to talk to you right now.”**
- Politely ask to see a warrant signed by a judge and to slip it under the door. If they don’t have one, decline to let them in.
- If they are looking for someone else, **ask them to leave contact information.** You don’t have to tell them where to find the person and you should **not** lie.

What can I do if ICE is inside my home to make an arrest?

- Tell them if there are children or other vulnerable residents at home.
- Ask them to step outside unless they have a warrant signed by a judge.
- If they came inside without your permission, tell them **“I do not consent to you being in my home. Please leave.”**
- If they start to search rooms or items in your home, tell them **“I do not consent to your search.”**
- If ICE is arresting you, tell them if you have medical issues or need to arrange for childcare.

What are my rights if I am being arrested by ICE?

- You have the right to **remain silent.** You have the **right to speak to a lawyer.**
- **DO NOT LIE.** It can only hurt you in the future.
- You do **NOT have to share any information** about where you were born, what your immigration status is, or your criminal record. Ask to speak to a lawyer instead of answering questions.
- You do **NOT have to give them your consular documents or passport** unless they have a warrant from a judge.
- You do **not have to sign anything.**

IDP updated this information in January 2017 with the legal support of the Center for Constitutional Rights. For more info, please see IDP’s longer booklet at immigrantdefenseproject.org/ice-arrests



USEFUL IMMIGRATION NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

- ▶ If you have been arrested/convicted and you want to know what the immigration consequences are, call the Immigrant Defense Project at 212-725-6422.
- ▶ To determine if you have a final order of removal, call the **Case Status Information Line at 1-800-898-7180**. You can also check online at <https://acis.eoir.justice.gov/en/>
- ▶ For referrals to low-cost and free immigration legal service providers, contact the New Americans Hotline at 800-566-7636 (open Monday-Friday, 9 am – 8 pm) .
- ▶ Your family can find you a private immigration attorney (<http://www.aialawyer.com>), or
- ▶ In NYC, a program called New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP) helps indigent immigrants facing deportation get free lawyers.
- ▶ Families can use the [online ICE Locator](#) at locator.ice.gov or [contact the local ICE office](#) to find their loved ones who have been apprehended. You will need the A# and country of birth OR Exact name, country of birth and date of birth.
- ▶ For step-by-step support during a live raid, call the ***United We Dream Hotline*** at **844-363-1423**.
- ▶ **For questions about criminal convictions or to report a raid in NYC, call the *Immigrant Defense Project Hotline*** at 212-752-6422. You will have to leave a message with your number and they will call you back.

GREEN LIGHT NY: Driving Together



RECOMMENDATION

New York State should restore equal access to driver's licenses by passing **legislation S01747/A03675** to ensure that New York's **"Standard Licenses" be accessible to all state residents, regardless of immigration status.**

Twelve states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have passed similar legislation, including **Vermont and Connecticut.**

COMMUNITY NEED

- **752,000 undocumented immigrant New Yorkers over the age of 16** are currently barred from obtaining driver's licenses due to their immigration status. In addition, over 70,000 New Yorkers that currently have TPS or DACA are at risk of losing their access to driver's licenses.
- Without access to licenses, **immigrants are unable to register and insure their vehicles, obtain and carry valid identification, nor build trust with police.**
- Unlicensed **immigrants often risk driving because they lack reasonable public transportation alternatives** and must travel to meet their basic daily needs such as school, worship, and work.
- Immigrants without valid identification or permission to drive **fear simple interactions with police**, such as a traffic violation, will put them at **risk of arrest and deportation.** This leads to avoiding police, even when they are a victim or witness of a crime.

OPPORTUNITY

Standard driver's licenses will make New York roads & communities safer for everyone

- Licensing undocumented immigrant drivers ensures that **they can be properly licensed, informed of traffic laws, pass a driving test, and operate a registered, inspected and insured vehicle.** Since New Mexico changed its policy in 2003, the State's rate of uninsured motorists fell from 33% to under 9%.
- Allowing access to licenses will **improve trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities.** With **valid, legal identification**, witnesses and victims of crimes will more readily report and cooperate with police. Police will be able to **verify the identity of motorists and review their traffic records, allowing police to fulfill their duties more efficiently and effectively.**

Standard driver's licenses will strengthen and grow New York's economy

- New York State and County governments will receive an estimated **\$57 million in combined annual revenue, and \$26 million in one-time revenue** through taxes and fees, according to the Fiscal Policy Institute.
- Licensing undocumented immigrant drivers will help **lower insurance premiums for all residents**, by a moderate estimate of \$17 per person each year, which collectively saves motorists millions of dollars annually.
- New York State's **economy will receive a boost** as workers overcome barriers to transportation that prevent them from reaching improved job options and **increase their discretionary income.**

Standard driver's licenses will promote community integration and financial inclusion

- Access to driver's licenses will allow undocumented immigrants to drive to work, worship, school, and in emergencies without the increased risk of arrest and deportation. Previously fearful undocumented community members will be more likely to **participate in and contribute to local community life.**
- With State issued identification, unbanked immigrant New Yorkers will have **the opportunity to financially integrate into the formal banking system** and build their family's savings and economic security.

For general information or to be connected with an organization leading the campaign in your region, contact:

New York Immigration Coalition at (212) 627-2227 or mzaldivar@nyic.org

Follow us on Facebook & Twitter using **#GreenLightNY #LuzVerdeNY**

www.GreenLightNewYork.org



IDNYC Applicant Document Guide



You must meet the following criteria to apply for an IDNYC card:

1. At least 4 points of documents with at least 3 points proving identity and at least 1 point proving residency in NYC.
2. At least 1 of the documents submitted must have a photo, unless applicant is accompanied by a caretaker.
3. At least 1 of the documents submitted must include date of birth.
4. Applicants must be at least 10 years old to apply for an IDNYC card. Applicants ages 10 - 13 must be accompanied by a caretaker who will sign the application on their behalf. For more information, please refer to the caretaker section on page 2 of this document.

No expired documents will be accepted unless specifically mentioned below.

Only original documents and copies certified by the issuing agency will be accepted; laminated documents will be accepted only if they were originally issued in a laminated state.

**YOU CAN USE THE DOCUMENTS LISTED BELOW TO APPLY FOR YOUR IDNYC CARD.
DOCUMENTS WITH AN ASTERISK (*) ARE ACCEPTED AS PROOF OF DATE OF BIRTH.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE IDNYC WEBSITE AT WWW.NYC.GOV/IDNYC.
FOR APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE IDNYC APPLICATION.**

Four (4) Point Documents - Proof of Identity & Residency

- NYS DMV Driver License, Learner Permit, or Non-Driver ID Card with current NYC address. An expired NYS DMV license/permit/ID will be accepted if presented with an unexpired DMV interim license/permit/ID bearing the same ID number.*
- U.S. Department of State Driver License or Non-Driver ID card with current NYC address*
- IDNYC card with current home address*
- NYC Police Department (NYPD) Restricted Handgun License with current NYC address*
- IDNYC Middle School Card application signed by caretaker presented at school enrollment and verified by DOE

Three (3) Point Documents - Proof of Identity

- U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card*
- Foreign passport (machine readable)*
- U.S. State Driver License or Learner Permit photo ID*
- U.S. State ID card*
- U.S. Permanent Resident Card (Green Card)*
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship/Naturalization*
- U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential*
- U.S. Department of State Driver License or Non-Driver ID card without current home address*
- NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Released Offender ID card (dated within 1 year)*
- NYS Unified Court System Attorney Secure Pass ID card*
- Common Access Card (for active duty, retiree, or reservist military personnel)*
- Current U.S. Work Permit*
- U.S. Tribal ID*
- NYS Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card/CBIC with photo*
- IDNYC card without current home address*

Two (2) Point Documents - Proof of Identity

- Foreign passport (not machine readable)*
- Expired U.S. Passport or Passport Card (up to 3 years expired; machine readable)*
- Expired foreign passport (up to 3 years expired; machine readable)*
- Consular ID card*
- U.S. Veteran ID Card issued by the VA
- U.S. Veteran Health ID Card issued by the VA
- U.S. federal, state, or local government employee ID
- U.S. birth certificate*
- Visa issued by U.S. State Department*
- Foreign Driver License (machine readable)*
- Foreign national ID card (machine readable)*
- Social Security Card
- Expired IDNYC card - with or without current address (more than 6 months and less than 3 years after expiration date)

cont... Two (2) Point Documents - Proof of Identity

- U.S. ITIN Assignment Letter
- U.S. Uniformed Services ID*
- NYS Education Department Professional ID card
- NYC Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) Verification Form (also proves residency)*
- I-94 Form issued by U.S. Department of Homeland Security with photo and fingerprint and date of birth*
- NYS DMV Interim Driver License, Learner Permit, or Non-Driver ID card*
- Approval Notice on Form I-797, I-797A, I-797B or I-797D issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
- NYC DOE Student Verification Form; caretaker is present

One (1) Point Documents - Proof of Identity

- Foreign national ID card (not machine readable)*
- Foreign birth certificate*
- Foreign military photo ID card*
- Foreign Driver License (not machine readable)*
- Educational institution ID card: middle school, high school, university, college, and post-secondary school*
- NYC Department of Education (DOE) Student Verification Form (also proves residency); must be presented with student ID if student is not accompanied by a caretaker.*
- Diploma from a U.S. high school, high school equivalency program, or U.S. post-secondary school, college, or university
- U.S. school transcript from high school or post-secondary school, college, or university
- NYS EBT card without photo*
- NYC SYEP ID card
- U.S. union photo ID
- Employee, consultant, or board member ID card from organization located in U.S. including clergy ID
- Marriage, civil union, domestic partnership or divorce certificate*
- MTA MetroCard for seniors and people with disabilities
- MTA Access-A-Ride ID card
- NYC Parks and Recreation Center Adult, Young Adult, Senior, or Veteran Membership card
- U.S. voter registration card
- U.S. Selective Service Registration card*
- Medicare card
- U.S. ITIN card
- Your child's U.S. birth certificate (must list applicant as parent)*
- NYS OMH facility photo ID card.

One (1) Point Documents - Proof of Residency

- Cable, phone, or utility bill or statement (dated within 60 days)
- Current residential property lease or sublease
- Local property tax statement (dated within 1 year)
- Property mortgage payment receipt (dated within 60 days)
- Banking, financial or credit card account bill, statement or notice (dated within 60 days). Must include account or customer ID number.
- Employment pay stub (dated within 60 days)
- Statement, bill, or record from a health institution (dated within 1 year). Must include an account or patient ID number.
- Jury summons or court order issued by NYS (including NYC courts) or federal court (dated within 60 days)
- IRS Forms W-2, 1099-MISC, 1095-A, 1095-B, and 1095-C (accepted through April 15 of the year following the tax year on the form)
- Tax return with proof of filing (dated within 1 year of filing date)
- Letter or document issued by the IRS, or the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF) (dated within 1 year)
- Insurance bill, statement, or record (homeowner's, life, renter's, automobile, health insurance; dated within 60 days)
- Letter from NYCHA (dated within 60 days)
- NYCHA Lease Addendum and Rent Notice (dated within 1 year)
- USPS Change of Address confirmation (dated within 60 days)
- NYC HPD Section 8 Rent Breakdown form (dated within 1 year)
- NYC HRA Case Composition Summary Report (dated within 60 days)
- NYS OMH facility inpatient photo ID card.
- "Verification of Release" form issued by the U.S. HHS/ORR (dated within 1 year)
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Order of Supervision (dated within 1 year)
- NYS DMV Interim Driver License, Learner Permit, or Non-Driver ID card
- Notice of Decision or Determination (NOD) of Developmental Disability issued by NYS OPWDD (dated within 1 year)
- Residency confirmation letter for United Nations (UN) diplomats and their families (dated within 60 days)
- Letter for parent/guardian of student enrolled in Head Start, Early Learn, or any NYC DOE school (dated within 60 days). The applicant must provide proof of relationship to the student.
- Letter for student enrolled in a private or parochial school (dated within 60 days). Applicant must provide school ID.
- NYC DOE Student Verification Form (available at DOE schools). Student must present school ID, or enroll with a caretaker.*
- SYEP Verification Form
- Letter from homeless shelter in NYC (stating that applicant has stayed at the shelter for 15 days and the shelter allows residents to remain for more than 30 days). (Dated within 60 days)
- University Housing Agreement for applicants who live in school housing. Applicant must present school photo ID. Must be currently in effect.
- Letter from College or University Administrator stating applicant resides in school housing and receives mail at a different school location. Applicant must present school photo ID. (Must be dated within 60 days) Address on the card will be "Care-of" the school.

Spouses and Domestic Partners: Applicants who are unable to provide a residency document with their own name, may present one with their spouse or domestic partner's name; and either (1) a certificate of marriage, civil union, or domestic partnership, or (2) a child's birth certificate naming both the applicant and the spouse or domestic partner as parents. The applicant must also present an attestation signed by the spouse or domestic partner stating that they reside together.

One (1) Point Documents - Proof of Residency for applicants without a home address or survivors of domestic violence

- "Care-of Letter" Issued by nonprofit organization or religious institution in NYC serving homeless individuals or survivors of domestic violence. Entity must currently receive City funding. Letter must indicate applicant has received services from the entity for past 60 days and may use entity's address for mailing purposes (dated within 14 days). Address on card will be "Care-of" the organization.
- Letter from City agency, nonprofit organization, or religious institution in NYC that provides services to homeless individuals (dated within 30 days). No address will appear on the card.

cont... One (1) Point Documents - Proof of Residency for applicants without a home address or survivors of domestic violence

- Letter from homeless shelter in NYC (must state applicant has stayed at the shelter for 15 days and the shelter allows residents to remain for more than 30 days) (dated within 60 days) Shelter address will appear on the card.
- Letter from domestic violence residential care program dated within 30 days. Card may have no address on it, or the program's P.O. box.
- Letter from City agency, nonprofit organization, or religious institution in NYC that provides services to survivors of domestic violence (dated within 30 days). No address will appear on the card.
- Letter Issued by a hospital or health clinic in NYC (dated within 30 days). No address will appear on the card.

What to Do if You Don't Have Sufficient Documentation

- You may still be able to apply for IDNYC. If you were born in New York City; receive Cash Assistance or SCRIE benefits; live in a NYCHA building; and/or you do not have a stable residence, please speak with one of our Enrollment Center staff.

Caretaker Relationship - Proof of Relationship between Caretaker and applicant

Applicant must also provide at least 2 points proving identity, including DOB. Caretaker must provide at least 3 points proving their own identity, including photo ID. Ages of applicants who can use each document are in parentheses.

- Applicant's birth certificate (21 years and under)*
- Adoption decree, certificate of adoption, or NYS DOH Report of Adoption (21 years and under)*
- Acknowledgment of Paternity form issued by NYC DOHMH, and NYS OTDA (21 years and under)*
- Letter from ACS or ACS foster care agency (21 years and under) caretaker must present ACS or agency employee ID.* Also proves residency. (dated within 60 days)*
- Certification that caretaker is a licensed foster parent; and letter from foster agency stating caretaker is applicant's foster parent. (dated within 60 days; 21 yrs and under)*. Also proves residency.
- Court Order of Paternity/Filiation (21 years and under)*
- Applicant's birth certificate and stepparent's certificate of marriage, civil union, or domestic partnership (21 years and under)*
- "Verification of Release" form issued by the U.S. HHS/ORR (21 years and under)*
- Foreign court order appointing caretaker as applicant's legal guardian (21 years and under)*
- U.S. court order appointing the caretaker as applicant's legal guardian, custodian, or conservator (any age)*
- Notice of Decision or Determination (NOD) of Developmental Disability issued by NYS OPWDD (any age)*
- Letter from a residential care facility operated, licensed, certified, or funded by NYS OPWDD, NYS OMH, NYS DOH, or NYC DOHMH. (dated within 60 days; any age) Caretaker must present employee ID. Also proves residency.
- Letter from SSA establishing the individual caretaker as the applicant's Representative Payee (dated within 1 year; any age)*
- Letter from SSA establishing an organization as the applicant's Representative Payee (dated within 1 year) AND a letter from the organization establishing the employee/representative is authorized to represent the applicant (dated within 60 days; any age) caretaker must present employee ID.
- Letter from NYS OPWDD, NYS DOH, NYS OMH, NYC DOHMH, or one of their providers (dated within 60 days; any age) caretaker must present employee ID.

Proof of Veteran Status (You Only Need One)

- DD 214: Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
- DD 2 (Retired): US Uniformed Services ID card (Retired)
- VIC/VHIC: Veteran Affairs Hospital ID card
- NGB-22: National Guard Bureau Report of Separation and Record of Service
- NYS DMV Driver License or Non-Driver ID with Veteran Designation
- IDNYC card with Veteran Designation
- Attestation from the NYC Department of Veterans' Services confirming military service
- Letter from the NYC Department of Veterans' Services confirming military service

**Did you move or change your
phone number?**

**Complete a Form EOIR-33
so you do not miss notices from
the immigration court**

**You can complete the form on your smartphone
(iPhone or Android device)**

1. Open your phone's camera.
2. Aim the camera at the box to the right.
3. Tap the link that appears.
4. Follow the instructions to complete the form.



or visit <https://respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov/>

U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review



Respondent Access

The DREAM Act opens the doors of higher education to thousands of students, providing access to the new Excelsior Scholarship, the Tuition Assistance Program, as well as other state-administered scholarships that were not previously available to them.

Step 1: Determining Your Eligibility

If you fit one of the descriptions below, you may be eligible for one or more NYS student financial aid awards under the DREAM Act:

1. Your permanent home is in NYS and you are or have ONE of the following:

- A. [U-Visa](#)
- B. [T-Visa](#)
- C. [Temporary protected status](#), pursuant to the Federal Immigration Act of 1990
- D. [Without lawful immigration status](#) (including those with DACA status)
- E. AND you meet ONE of the following criteria:
 - a. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*
 - b. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for graduate study at a NYS college within *ten* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*
 - c. You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school equivalency diploma *OR*
 - d. You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma, and are applying for an award for graduate study at a NYS college within *ten* years of receiving your NYS high school equivalency diploma *OR*
 - e. You did not attend or graduate from a NYS high school, did not receive a NYS high school equivalency diploma, but are charged the NYS resident in-State tuition rate at a SUNY or CUNY college for any reason
- F. Note: Individuals without lawful immigration status will be required to file an affidavit with their college stating that they filed an application to legalize their immigration status or will file such application as soon as they are eligible to do so.

2. Your permanent home is outside of NYS and you are or have ONE of the following:

- A. U.S. citizen

- B. Permanent lawful resident
- C. Of a class of refugees paroled by the attorney general under his or her parole authority pertaining to the admission of aliens to the U.S.
- D. [U-Visa](#)
- E. [T-Visa](#)
- F. [Temporary protected status](#), pursuant to the Federal Immigration Act of 1990
- G. [Without lawful immigration status](#) (including those with DACA status)
- H. AND you meet ONE of the following criteria:
 - a. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*
 - b. You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school, and are applying for an award for graduate study at a NYS college within *ten* years of receiving your NYS high school diploma *OR*
 - c. You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma, and are applying for an award for undergraduate study at a NYS college within *five* years of receiving your NYS high school equivalency diploma *OR*
 - d. You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma, and are applying for an award for graduate study at a NYS college within *ten* years of receiving your NYS high school equivalency diploma *OR*
 - e. You did not attend or graduate from a NYS high school, did not receive a NYS high school equivalency diploma, but are charged the NYS resident in-State tuition rate at a SUNY or CUNY college for any reason
- I. Note: Individuals without lawful immigration status will be required to file an affidavit with their college stating that they filed an application to legalize their immigration status or will file such application as soon as they are eligible to do so.

Step 2: Completing the Application

Students meeting the eligibility criteria can apply for one or more HESC-administered grant and scholarship programs by visiting our website. *Check back for more details and launch date for the application.*

You may apply for multiple grant or scholarship awards, but will only need to complete one application.

The application will be simple and straight forward, and all information provided will be used **ONLY** for determining eligibility for and administering awards.

Applicants without lawful immigration status will not be asked for their home address and will NOT have to upload financial records.

Step 3: Monitoring the Status of Your Application

Once you have submitted an application, it is your responsibility to monitor the status of your application and to make sure your application is complete. You will be able to monitor the status of your application online after submitting your application and uploading any required documentation.

Step 4: Award Notification and Acceptance

You will be notified by email when a determination has been made regarding your eligibility for each award for which you have applied. If you are determined to be eligible for an award, your next step will be to accept the award!

For certain awards, you must sign a contract agreeing to live and/or work in New York State for a required number of years after graduation as a condition of receiving the award. If you decide not to accept an award with a post-graduation requirement, please indicate this on the contract, and let us know why.

Term Definitions

- Temporary Protected Status (TPS): allows foreign nationals to remain in the U.S. if during the time they were in the U.S. something catastrophic happened in their country of origin preventing their safe return – for example war, famine, natural disaster, or epidemic. TPS allows people to work legally and be protected from deportation.
- T-Visa: allows the granting of lawful status to noncitizen victims of human trafficking, as well as their immediate family members, who assist in the prosecution of the trafficking. It allows people to remain and work temporarily in the U.S.
- U-Visa: allows for the granting of lawful status to noncitizen crime victims who suffered significant physical or mental abuse (and their immediate family members) who assist in the prosecution of the crime. It allows people to remain and work temporarily in the U.S.
- Without Lawful Immigration Status: living in the U.S. illegally either because lawful status never existed or has ended.

Tax Implications

Any award payment received may have tax implications. Any questions regarding this should be directed to a tax professional, the Internal Revenue Service, or the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.



Mayor's Office of ThriveNYC

COVID-19 Guide to Mental Health Resources for Adults, Teens & Young Adults

Many young New Yorkers are feeling overwhelmed, sad, anxious and afraid. This guide includes high- quality mental health information and services that can help. All resources in this guide are free and accessible by phone, text or online.

Resources for Teens and Young Adults (13-24)

Ask for Help

If your symptoms of stress are becoming overwhelming, there are many free, confidential ways to connect with a mental health professional who can help. Reach out to one of the services below.

- **NYC Well** provides free, confidential mental health and substance misuse services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 200 languages, regardless of immigration status. Call [1-888-NYC-WELL \(692-9355\)](tel:1-888-NYC-WELL) or text “Well” to 65173. You can also chat online at nyc.gov/nycwell.
- **Crisis Text Line** offers free, emotional support and information 24/7. Text “HOME” to 741741 for free, 24/7 crisis counseling.
- **ULifeline** provides mental health resources for college students. For immediate support, text “START” to 741-741 or call [1-800-273-TALK \(8255\)](tel:1-800-273-TALK).
- **Virtual counseling appointments for City University of New York (CUNY) students.**
- **The Trevor Project** has a 24/7/365 suicide prevention and crisis intervention hotline for LGBTQ youth and their loved ones. Call [1-866-488-7386](tel:1-866-488-7386).

- **The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** offers 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. Call at [1-800-273-8255](tel:1-800-273-8255).

Talk & Connect:

Staying connected with friends and family can help you cope with anxiety, reduce stress and stay positive.

- **OK2TALK** is an online community for teens and young adults experiencing mental health problems, offering a space to share their personal stories of recovery, tragedy, struggle or hope.
- **Teen Talk** shares information about stress and mental illness, answers frequently asked questions and provides suggestions for helping friends who may need support.
- **Seize the Awkward** presents strategies for connecting with friends and family and offering mental health support, from the Jed Foundation and Ad Council.
- **Teen Line Online** offers support provided by teenagers who are trained to listen, help clarify concerns, and explore options, between 8:30pm-12:30am.

Resources for Adults

Ask for Help

If stress or sadness becomes overwhelming for the young people in your life – or for you as a parent or caregiver – reach out for help. Free, confidential mental health services are available.

- **Tele-mental health services** available to students and families during COVID-19: [visit the Department of Education’s tele-mental health index](#).
- **NYC Well** offers confidential mental health and substance misuse services. Trained counselors can provide you with support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 200 languages, regardless of immigration status. Call [1-888-NYC-WELL\(692-9355\)](tel:1-888-NYC-WELL(692-9355)), text “Well” to 65173, or chat online at nyc.gov/nycwell.
- **New York State’s COVID-19 Emotional Support Helpline** offers support to those experiencing increased anxiety due to the coronavirus emergency. The Helpline is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals, who have received training in crisis counseling. Call at [844-863-9314](tel:844-863-9314).
- **City-run, non-profit, and private clinical mental health services** by location: [visit the NYC Well service finder website](#).
- **Mental health and other social services** available to low-income, uninsured, and underinsured individuals in New York City: [visit the Health Information Tool for Empowerment \(HITE\) website](#).