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Houston EMA/HSDA Ryan White Part A Service Definition Emergency Financial Assistance – Pharmacy Assistance (Revised April 2017)	
HRSA Service Category Title: RWGA Only	Emergency Financial Assistance
Local Service Category Title:	Emergency Financial Assistance – Pharmacy Assistance
Budget Type: RWGA Only	Hybrid Fee-for-Service
Budget Requirements or Restrictions: RWGA Only	Direct cash payments to clients are not permitted. It is expected that all other sources of funding in the community for emergency financial assistance will be effectively used and that any allocation of RWHAP funds for these purposes will be as the payer of last resort, and for limited amounts, uses, and periods of time. Continuous provision of an allowable service to a client should not be funded through emergency financial assistance.
HRSA Service Category Definition: RWGA Only	<i>Emergency Financial Assistance</i> provides limited one-time or short-term payments to assist the RWHAP client with an emergent need for paying for essential utilities, housing, food (including groceries, and food vouchers), transportation, and medication. Emergency financial assistance can occur as a direct payment to an agency or through a voucher program.
Local Service Category Definition:	Emergency Financial Assistance – Pharmacy Assistance provides limited one-time and/or short-term 14-day supply of pharmaceuticals to patients otherwise ineligible for medications through private insurance, Medicaid/Medicare, State ADAP, SPAP or other sources. One refill for up to 14-day supply available with RWGA prior approval. Allowable medications are only those on the Houston EMA Ryan White Part A Formulary. HIV-related medication services are the provision of physician or physician-extender prescribed HIV medications to prevent serious deterioration of health. Does not include drugs available to the patient from other programs or payers or free of charge or medications available over the counter (OTC) without prescription. Contractor must offer all medications on the Texas ADAP formulary.
Target Population (age, gender, geographic, race, ethnicity, etc.):	Services will be available to eligible HIV-infected clients residing in the Houston EMA/HSDA.
Services to be Provided:	Contractor must: Provide pharmacy services on-site or through an established contractual relationship that meets all requirements. Alternate (off-site) approaches must be approved prior to implementation by RWGA. Either directly, or via subcontract with an eligible 340B Pharmacy program entity, must: Ensure a comprehensive financial intake application to determine client eligibility for this program to insure that these funds are used as a last resort for purchase of medications. Ensure the documented capability of interfacing with the Texas HIV Medication Program operated by the Texas Department of State Health Services. This capability must be fully documented and is subject to independent verification by RWGA. Ensure

	<p>medication assistance provided to clients does not duplicate services already being provided in the Houston area. The process for accomplishing this must be fully documented and is subject to independent verification by RWGA. Ensure, either directly or via a 340B Pharmacy Program Provider, at least 2 years of continuous documented experience in providing HIV/AIDS medication programs utilizing Ryan White Program or similar public sector funding. This experience must be documented and is subject to independent verification by RWGA. Ensure all medications are purchased via a qualified participant in the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program and Prime Vendor Program, administered by the HRSA Office of Pharmacy Affairs. Note: failure to maintain 340B or Prime Vendor drug pricing may result in a negative audit finding, cost disallowance or termination of contract awarded. Contractor must maintain 340B Program participation throughout the contract term. All eligible medications must be purchased in accordance with Program 340B guidelines and program requirements.</p> <p>Ensure Houston area HIV/AIDS service providers are informed of this program and how the client referral and enrollment processes functions. Contractor must maintain documentation of such marketing efforts.</p> <p>Implement a consistent process to enroll eligible patients in available pharmaceutical company Patient Assistance Programs prior to using Ryan White Part A funded Emergency Financial Assistance – Pharmacy Assistance or LPAP resources. Ensure information regarding the program is provided to PLWHA, including historically under-served and unserved populations (e.g., African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Native American, Pacific Islander) and women not currently obtaining prescribed HIV and HIV-related medications.</p>
Service Unit Definition(s): RWGA Only	<p>A unit of service = a transaction involving the filling of a prescription or any other allowable HIV treatment medication need ordered by a qualified medical practitioner. The transaction will involve at least one item being provided for the client, but can be any multiple. The cost of medications provided to the client must be invoiced at actual cost.</p>
Financial Eligibility:	<p>Refer to the RWPC’s approved <i>Financial Eligibility for Houston EMA/HSDA Services</i>.</p>
Client Eligibility:	<p>PLWHA residing in the Houston EMA (prior approval required for non-EMA clients).</p>
Agency Requirements:	<p>Contractor must provide all required program components - Primary Medical Care, Medical Case Management, Service Linkage (non-medical Case Management), Local Pharmacy Assistance Program (LPAP), and Emergency Financial Assistance-Pharmacy services.</p>
Staff Requirements:	<p>Must meet all applicable Houston EMA/HSDA Part A/B Standards of Care.</p>
Special Requirements: RWGA Only	<p>Not Applicable.</p>

Emergency Financial Assistance

Description:

Emergency Financial Assistance provides limited one-time or short-term payments to assist the RWHAP client with an emergent need for paying for essential utilities, housing, food (including groceries, and food vouchers), transportation, and medication. Emergency financial assistance can occur as a direct payment to an agency or through a voucher program.

Program Guidance:

Direct cash payments to clients are not permitted.

It is expected that all other sources of funding in the community for emergency financial assistance will be effectively used and that any allocation of RWHAP funds for these purposes will be as the payer of last resort, and for limited amounts, uses, and periods of time. Continuous provision of an allowable service to a client should not be funded through emergency financial assistance.

See AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments, AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance, and other corresponding categories



Supporting Immigrant Communities in Uncertain Times

This brief is based on the closing plenary from Courage, Vision, Action, GCIIR's 2020 National Convening in Atlanta, Georgia on March 13, 2020. Speakers discussed how COVID-19 is affecting their communities, their organizations, the 2020 census, and the upcoming election, and how they are responding in real-time.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

- **COVID-19 is both an equalizer and a magnifier of disparities**, simultaneously showing how we are all interconnected and that those who are most vulnerable in our society bear a disproportionate burden in an emergency.
- **Immigrants, refugees, and asylum will be challenged on multiple fronts**, as many work in industries particularly impacted by this pandemic and lack the benefits and options available to others in responding, from paid sick days to working from home.

Immediate Impacts

- **School closures means:**
 - **Many children are missing free daytime meals and losing access to health services.**
 - **They face significant barriers when schools transition to digital learning** due to less access to the internet and the necessary technology.
 - **Their parents, particularly low-wage workers, lack childcare options.**
- **COVID-19 renders face-to-face contacts, the most effective form of Census outreach, unfeasible**, forcing organizations to switch to campaigns focused on digital outreach and advertising, which are less effective.
- **Detained immigrants are very vulnerable to COVID-19**, as conditions are crowded; access to medical care is typically slow; an outbreak could end visitation programs; and other challenges.
- **Trans communities—and the organizations that support them—face particular challenges** to their health and their ability to find needed support.

Long-Term Efforts

- **Innovation is now essential to successful outreach efforts.** For example, recruiting trusted community ambassadors who can text members of their community.
- **We have more power collectively**, by uniting our different strengths and aligning movements for equity for all people on the margins.
- **We must build the bigger “we.”** Immigrant rights encompass a wide range of movements and goals for equity and justice.

Funding Recommendations

- **Flexibility:** To respond effectively, many grantees will need to change strategies, in some cases dramatically.
- **Support the grassroots:** All broader efforts can benefit from on-the-ground experience within impacted communities.
- **Fund the ecosystem:** Funding should support services and advocacy, not either-or.
- **Capacity building:** Always a good grantmaking strategy, it is doubly valuable in a crisis.

Supporting Immigrant Communities in Uncertain Times

SESSION REPORT

SPEAKERS

- Everton Blair, Jr., Board Member, Gwinnett County Board of Education
- Jerry Gonzalez, Executive Director, Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO)
- Maria Alegria Rodriguez, Executive Director, Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC)
- Estrella Sanchez, Executive Director, Community Estrella
- Ben Francisco Maulbeck, President, Funders for LGBTQ Issues [Moderator]

OVERVIEW

Much like natural disasters, the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, is an equalizing force that does not discriminate and affects people from all walks of life, demonstrating our interdependence. It has exposed and magnified longstanding systemic inequities and structural injustices for immigrants, communities of color, and other marginalized communities. Those affected range from people of Asian heritage who have experienced racist and xenophobic attacks to low-wage undocumented workers for whom not work or seeking medical care may not a viable option.

Immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers have already been living under intense fear and terror, and the coronavirus will make life even harder on multiple fronts, particularly because much remains unknown. Philanthropy and the movement have the responsibility and opportunity to work together to address immediate health, social, economic, and other impacts of this pandemic; push a bold policy agenda from health care and paid sick leave to expanded worker and tenant protections; and advance long-term goals to shift the narrative, change culture, and build the bigger “we.”

IMMEDIATE IMPACT

General

- Lack of access to health care and paid sick leave for workers who fall ill or who need to care for ill family members.
- Inability of many workers, e.g., restaurant and construction, to work from home.
- Loss of income leading to hunger, homelessness, economic insecurity, etc.
- Cancellation of community and other events.
- Necessary change of strategy by immigrant groups from face-to-face outreach to organizing in the virtual world.
- The physical and mental health impact on staff of immigrant-serving organizations and their communities.
- Limiting physical contact and social distance are critical to preventing the spread of the virus, but touch is a key part of the healing work in many immigrant communities.

Schools

School districts serving low-income students are heavily impacted. Gwinnett County, Georgia has moved to digital learning, but much of their student population, which is 76% Black, Latinx, and Asian, has limited access to the internet. Closing schools means that students will not have access to free breakfast and lunch, nor to social and health services, such as consultations with a nurse or psychologist. It also makes it more difficult to know how your community is doing.

In Florida, one group of organizations is ready to activate a Community Emergency Operations Center, a collective effort they've developed to respond to hurricanes, to provide meals and childcare needed if schools close due to the pandemic. Schools are balancing a number of issues in alleviating students' anxiety, guarding against both complacency and panic, and trying to prevent a health crisis.

2020 Census

COVID-19 undermines the main census outreach strategy of massive face-to-face conversations with community members. In light of health and safety concerns, GALEO is suspending census field operations and pivoting to digital, phone, text, and ethnic media. Unfortunately, these are not the most effective ways to do this work. GALEO has been discussing contingency scenarios and recognize the need to get creative. One idea is to have community members serve as ambassadors and reach out to everyone they know via their cell phone. The current administration wants us to be invisible, but we will not be invisible.

Voter Engagement

COVID-19 will have a huge impact on voter registration and engagement efforts. FLIC had set a voter registration goal of 75,000 and is currently at the 36,000 mark. It will need to reassess plans going forward. Digital voter registration is challenging in a state like Georgia where there is widespread voter suppression and having a paper trail is critical to proving discriminatory impact. Groups have to both address voter suppression and motivate communities to register and vote. It is challenging to convince someone to register or to vote in normal circumstances, but with the current levels of fear—both of deportation and now the coronavirus—it is even harder. Finding ways to create connection and to build solidarity will be essential in overcoming these obstacles.

Undocumented Trans Community

The cancellation of community events and support groups, driven by the need to socially isolate, has taken away a key element of support for this community. Refraining from hugs and touch is particularly difficult for this community, as contact is central to how members, particularly those who are Latinx, connect and heal. This virus also uniquely threatens this community's health, as trans people, especially those with HIV, are at higher risk from this virus.

Detainees

Georgia has four detention centers. The possibility of the pandemic getting into the detention center is frightening and would be devastating on many levels. Detainees have limited access to health services (it can take 3-4 days to get medical care). Moreover, visitations at the detention centers would be restricted, and contact will be limited to phone calls, which are very expensive for detainees. There is already one suspected case of COVID-19 in a detention center in Florida.

LONG-TERM ISSUES

Gwinnett County Board of Education

- Unlike past school closures where days were simply added to the end of the year, this is a challenge that does not have a clear end, and it is unclear how to proceed. It does not yet make sense to formulate policy around this response; in four or five years the structure of our education system and society could look very different. We are trying to determine whether this is a "now" response or a "forever" response.

- We need to build long-term infrastructure. We have a lot of work to do to diversify leadership, develop innovative solutions, and build a larger movement.
- We must be guided by those doing direct work on the ground. For instance, the International Newcomer Center in Gwinnett County, which exists in various forms in many school districts, is essential in our approach to students from immigrant and refugee families. By providing a high-quality education, resources for parents, and core services like translation, we can easily transition students to the general population. The needs that arise in this center informs higher level efforts to address the issues facing that population.

Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC)

- Our long-term vision remains the same: shift politics, narrative, culture, and the underlying mental model. We see the opportunity for a bold policy agenda that pushes for access to healthcare, moratorium, paid sick days, permanent solutions for TPS and DACA.
- Don't pigeonhole immigrant rights into one category. The work is about building the bigger "we." We are a star in a constellation. We are a workers' rights movement. We are a racial justice movement. We are part of an international movement to address root causes of migration and poverty. We are investing in youth and access to college. There are many ways to see the work we are doing. This is not just reframing and repackaging but looking at the root causes and understanding that we are all part of the American family.

Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO)

- We need to come together, not just in Georgia, but across the Southeast, to exercise our collective power. Long-term infrastructure building takes time and has a big payoff. Investments in civil and human rights organizations in Georgia—and coalitional work across immigrant, refugee, and African American communities—have kept anti-immigrant legislation from passing over the past three years.
- GALEO partnered with the NAACP to sue the Gwinnett County Board of Education over representation, an effort grounded on shared values and shared destiny. It was also a rare case on multi-race voting rights discrimination, which is harder to prove. The case settlement contributed to the election of Everton Blair, Jr., the first African American member to the board. However, we must keep the pressure on because more representation is needed.
- Think long term, particularly in the South, and move out of the boom-or-bust cycle around the elections. Invest in integrated voter engagement to build long-term power. Support redistricting next to build power. It will take time to dismantle a white supremacist system and to build something new. This is slow, patient work generally and especially when reaching the most suppressed voters. But there are glimmers of hope and progress. For example, only 30% of Latino voters turned out in 2012. That increased to 40% four years later, and now eight years later, it is 47%.

Community Estrella

- For trans leaders, it takes two or three times the work to find support, to find grant opportunities. Now COVID-19 is causing the cancellation of the conferences where leaders and groups can make new funding connections, such as [Fundors for LGBTQ Issues'](#) recently cancelled annual event.
- There are many organizations working with trans immigrants, including recently released detainees, that need additional capacity. Examples include [Casa Anandrea](#) and [Amor Y Solidaridad](#), which support trans people leaving detention in Texas and New Orleans, respectively. [Mariposas Sin Fronteras](#) also did this work in Tucson, Arizona, until recently pausing its operations.

- We need to have patience with this crisis. It is a time for solidarity and not for competition, whether between nonprofits or between immigrant-serving organizations and foundations.
- Look to grassroots organizations that have the pulse of the community, and build their capacity including healing justice and solidarity work. Resources include the [Latino Community Fund Georgia](#), [TGI Justice Project](#), [Trans Justice Funding Project](#), [Funders for LGBTQ Issues](#), and, in Florida, [Pridelines](#) in Miami and [QLatinx](#) in Orlando. However, given that many organizations serving trans people struggle to maintain regular hours, it is important not to raise expectations when directing people to these resources.

Narrative Change

- FLIC is working with the University of California, San Diego to do listening calls to hear people's thoughts about the Census and other issues. Based on those learnings, FLIC is collaborating with the Othering and Belonging Institute at the University of California, Berkeley to develop messages that build unity among those on the margins. They are seeking to bridge and build, without compromising their truth, to bring together marginalized groups, and support directly impacted communities to be intentional in their storytelling. This is their first collaboration of this type with academia.
- FLIC also works to make sure we do not leave people out and leave them behind. For example, when we say "a nation of immigrants," we "invisibilize" the original peoples of this land and diminish the brutality of slavery. We must address anti-Blackness. "We" can build the bigger "we" because we have so much more in common.

WHAT FUNDERS CAN DO

- Adopt a mindset of planning for action, instead of reacting to the latest development, and support boldness and creativity in your grantmaking.
- Allow grantees to adapt goals and strategies—and be flexible with deliverables and outcomes.
- Be mindful of the stresses and strains on immigrant-serving organizations. Support their resilience and perseverance, including their ability to stay grounded in why they do this work and their ability take care of their staff and their communities through retreats and wellness programs.
- Understand that a mix of strategies is needed. Advocacy vs. services is a false dichotomy, and we cannot be fundamentalist about any single strategy.
- Find ways to partner with and support chronically underfunded public institutions because they have the mechanism in place to support all community members.
- Support the ability of immigrants to empower themselves, work with one another and other communities, and build real solidarity.
- Work with grassroots and other grantee organizations as equal partners, embrace patience in times of crisis, and see the wisdom and experience that they bring to the partnership.
- Invest in grassroots leadership, including informal organizations led by volunteers.
- Pay as much attention to local issues as national ones.
- Maintain civic participation and voter engagement funding across non-election years.

Fearing deportation, immigrants are dropping Medicaid over misinformation about Trump's new policy

Acacia Coronado

*Correction appended

When she came to Texas from India in 2015 after marrying a U.S. citizen in her home country, the 41-year-old woman said, she spoke little English and had no knowledge of life in America. Within a week, she said, her new husband began calling her names, beating her, and installing cameras and sensors in their home to monitor her movements.

The woman, who requested anonymity because she fears being found by her husband, said she endured the abuse for two years before she got help from attorney Pooja Sethi and a neighbor and was able to escape with her U.S.-born daughter. She found a job and a place to live in Austin, applied for a permanent green card and went to court to get full custody of her daughter, who she said vomits often and needs regular medical attention.

But after hearing about a new federal immigration policy scheduled to take effect next month, the woman said she considered returning to her husband out of fear that she could be deported if she used Medicaid to get health care for her 2-year-old.

“If I don’t have insurance, how will I take care of my daughter?” the woman said.

The rule, which faces at least six legal challenges nationwide, will allow federal officials to deny visa or permanent residency applications from immigrants who they believe could become “public charge,” or people primarily dependent on government aid, based on their income or prior use of government benefits such as Medicaid and food assistance.

Since 1882, the U.S. government has had a vague public charge rule requiring foreign nationals to be “self sufficient” before they are allowed into the country, but in practice it was only invoked for applicants whose entire income came from government cash assistance or those who needed extensive medical care at the government’s expense.

The new policy, published by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in August and scheduled to take effect Oct. 15, adds health care, food stamps, cash assistance and public housing programs to the list of public benefits that, if used to some extent, could count against immigrants who apply for visas or permanent residency after the changes take effect. It also increases the income requirement for applicants to 250% of the federal poverty level.

Sethi later told the Austin woman that she doesn’t need to worry because the rule won’t be applied retroactively and she already has a green card.

But immigrant advocates say the new policy has spread fear throughout the immigrant community, and many people are reacting by dropping from health care programs or taking their children off of food assistance.

The rule “is creating a climate of fear among the poorest immigrant families,” said Cheasty Anderson, senior policy associate for the Children’s Defense Fund-Texas. Anderson said she recently gave an information session on the public charge rule at Vela, a nonprofit organization for immigrant families with children with special needs, and the atmosphere was tense until she explained that the new rule would not affect most of them and they did not have to drop their children from Medicaid.

“After I had said it five to seven times, you could see the shift in the room. Shoulders came down and people were breathing easier,” Anderson said.

Anne Dunkelberg, associate director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, a left-leaning policy think tank, said more than 1.6 million Texas children are U.S. citizens living in families with at least one non-U.S. citizen relative, and the misinformation and fear spreading about the rule is resulting in children losing benefits they’re entitled to receive.

Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services, a Houston nonprofit that helps immigrants apply for medical and food benefits, said it has seen a dramatic drop in clients since word began to spread about the public charge rule. Cathy Moore, the group’s executive director, said the number of adult applications and renewals for Medicaid has dropped 44% since last year.

“The parents are too afraid to sign up for the services, and the children are not getting the care they need,” Moore said. “It used to be I would arrive in the morning and there would be 10 people in line. They would line up since 5:30 a.m. I have been there the last few days, and there is nobody in line.”

According to Kelli Weldon, press officer for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, the state saw a drop in Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program applications in 2017 and 2018. But Weldon said the numbers are rising again in 2019. She said the reductions could also be attributed to Texas’ record low state unemployment rate, which reached 3.5% in May, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Matthew Tragesser, spokesperson for the Federation for American Immigration Reform, a right-leaning immigration policy organization, said the rule is meant to “promote merit based immigration.” He said it will reduce reliance on public assistance.

“The Trump administration’s public charge rule is a game changer and encourages immigrant self-sufficiency while also protecting the nation’s social safety net,” Tragesser said in an email.

Immigrant advocates say immigrants need to know that the rule — if it survives all the legal challenges — will not affect permanent residents who want to become citizens, nor will it apply to refugees, people granted asylum, survivors of domestic violence and certain other foreign nationals. It also won’t affect an immigrant simply because he or she has a relative or child who uses public benefits. Receiving emergency medical care and care for pregnant women will also not count against applicants.

Zenaida, a Houston resident in her 40s, said it took a lot of deliberation before she went to Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services this month to apply for medical benefits. Zenaida, who asked to be identified only by her first name out of fear of being deported, said she and her husband are undocumented and have lived with their two U.S.-born children in the U.S. for 25 years.

She said she was recently diagnosed with kidney stones and was told she needs surgery, and her husband was diagnosed with severe vision problems.

Moore said ECHOS is helping the family apply for medical benefits for the children, and the parents are eligible for the Harris Health Financial Assistance Program.

Zenaida said she's worried that applying for any benefits could affect the green card application process that her 20-year-old daughter helped her start. She said her fear is that immigration agents will show up at her door.

Now she said she plans to consult a lawyer.

“If we were sent back to Mexico, we would have nothing,” Zenaida said. “We wouldn’t even have a place to stay.”

Correction: An earlier version of this story incorrectly stated the type of medical benefits that Zenaida was applying for. She plans to apply for a program for which undocumented immigrants are eligible.

Disclosure: The Center for Public Policy Priorities has been a financial supporter of The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization that is funded in part by donations from members, foundations and corporate sponsors. Financial supporters play no role in the Tribune's journalism. Find a complete list of them [here](#).

Feds plan to make housing assistance harder for undocumented immigrants. Few in Texas are even getting it.

Juan Pablo Garnham

Hurricane Harvey took everything from Vanessa: furniture, beds, her car. Even the walls of her Houston apartment fell after the flood. An undocumented Mexican mother who prefers to remain anonymous given her citizenship status, she ended up temporarily living in a friend's empty home. She slept on the floor with her husband, who is a U.S. citizen, and four kids, three of whom were born in America.

By the time they finally got their own place and paid two months of rent as a deposit, they were broke. Vanessa borrowed money to buy the beds for the children, but she and her husband had to wait three months before they could afford their own bed.

And they had to do something that they'd always avoided: get food stamps for the children.

“But only for a little bit. We are always worried that it would affect our future, our migratory status,” Vanessa says, even though her U.S. citizen kids are entitled to these benefits. “But we only asked for stamps. Never help for housing.”

Her fears, common among immigrants, were prescient. Had she applied for housing assistance, she would now be at risk of being evicted, since the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is changing its rules so that if a household has even one undocumented member, the family won't qualify for public housing units or rent vouchers. On top of that, the administration wants to make it easier to deny citizenship or visas to people that have applied for welfare or could be perceived as likely to do so in the future, by tightening the definition of what's called the [public charge](#).

“There is an affordable housing crisis in this country, and we need to make certain our scarce public resources help those who are legally entitled to it,” HUD Secretary Ben Carson said in a statement earlier this year.

According to HUD, a household has to wait an average of 26 months to get housing assistance. And the department has expressed in statements that the new rule excluding mixed-status families will “help trim the waitlists.”

But, according to advocates and Texas housing officials, the change would do little to shorten wait times since most undocumented families don't qualify for the assistance and mixed-status families don't typically apply.

“The few that do it, mostly it’s through their kids, who are U.S. citizens,” said María Sosa, a tenant organizer with the immigrant group FIEL Houston. “It’s a lie to say that there are undocumented families receiving this kind of help and shows how much ignorance there is about this country’s policies.”

In Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio, mixed-status families consist of 1% or less of those receiving housing assistance. In El Paso, such families make up 5% of those receiving assistance.

First: Vanessa, an undocumented immigrant from Mexico, sits in the living room of her home in Houston. Last: Vanessa lost most of her belongings and her old apartment during Hurricane Harvey in 2017. *Marjorie Kamys Cotera for The Texas Tribune*

[In its analysis](#), HUD said that between “\$179 million to \$210 million annually” would be transferred to citizens across the country that could benefit if mixed-status families weren’t receiving assistance. But that’s another idea that Texas housing officials criticize.

“The undocumented tenants don’t receive any benefits. The family gets its rents prorated based on how many documented tenants there are,” said Tory Gunsolley, president and CEO of the Houston Housing Authority. “If it is a two person household, and one of them is undocumented, they would be paying 50% full rent and then 50% discounted affordable rent.”

HUD declined requests for an interview. Conservative groups, though, support the proposed change.

“What this administration is doing is preserving these social welfare systems for Americans who may find themselves relying upon them at one time,” said Mike Howell, a senior advisor at The Heritage Foundation. “We need some reasonable common sense controls and that’s all this is. It’s not an extreme rule by any stretch of the imagination.”

"Wrong and mean-spirited"

Araceli Ramírez, who is part of a mixed-status family, remembers when her mother-in-law pushed her to get into public housing in Houston eight years ago.

“I moved in on a Thursday, and on the Monday they realized that I was undocumented,” she remembers.

She was told she could stay, but her rent would go up \$500 because only the U.S. citizens in her family could have their rent subsidized. Without enough money to afford that, she ended up in a shelter for nine months.

Although the proposed new rule about possible use of benefits only applies to future visa applicants, the change in HUD's requirements is different: It will be applied to everyone currently living in public housing or receiving section 8 rent vouchers. Mixed-status families will have to be evicted or will have to kick out their undocumented relatives.

"I think it is unconscionable to make the rule retroactive," Gunsolley said. "I think it is wrong and mean-spirited. HUD is basically saying that the mixed-status families make waiting lists longer in detriment of citizens, and that's simply not true."

If the rule is applied as it has been planned, undocumented people living with citizens receiving assistance will have a period to provide proof of their immigration status.

"If they don't provide the documentation, they will have to be removed from the household," Gunsolley said. "This means that if you have two children who are U.S. citizens and one parent that isn't, we won't be able to keep the kids in the unit by themselves, so the whole family will be evicted."

For low-income families or those with low credit scores, that could make finding another place to live more difficult.

"And eviction is a huge taint to someone's record in Texas," said Dr. Myriam Igoufe, vice president of policy development and research at Dallas Housing Authority. "Maybe we're going to have to think about policies surrounding eviction just to make sure that they don't double or triple suffer."

Gunsolley said evictions can create financial instability for families — and hurt children academically.

"And while the number of people impacted in Houston is small compared to other cities, the impact on each of those families will be tremendous and awful," he said.

Right now, HUD is in the process of reviewing more than 23,000 comments about the proposed rule. Houston and Austin's housing authorities sent letters criticizing the measure. But many experts believe that they might not persuade officials from changing the proposed rule. There also could be legal challenges if the rule goes through.

HUD's new rule might also violate privacy codes, according to Houston's Housing Authority officials. A line in HUD's proposal says that verifying the citizenship of all residents in subsidized households "would better facilitate locating such person and bringing any necessary administrative or legal actions." That has some advocates and officials worried that HUD will turn information over to immigration officials or other federal agencies.

"In layman's terms, HUD told us when they requested that we collect the information that it would only be for eligibility purposes. Now, it appears they are using that information to punish families," Gunsolley says.

Sosa, the advocate for immigrant tenants thinks there's a more sinister reasoning behind the rule change from an administration led by a president who has made racist comments about people of color.

"This is an attack against the migrant community and it is just a tactic so that migrants are even more afraid, even when they are trying to find a home."

Disaster Relief for Immigrants

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) ASSISTANCE:

Are immigrants eligible for FEMA cash assistance? Yes, if the applicant is a *qualified alien*, in addition to meeting other FEMA eligibility requirements. A *qualified alien* includes anyone who has been granted legal permanent residence (green card), refugee or asylee status, withholding of deportation, conditional entry, parole into the US for at least one year, a Cuban-Haitian entrant, a battered spouse or child(ren) with a pending or approved spousal petition, or a T- visa recipient.

- *Eligible minor child:* an undocumented parent or guardian may apply on behalf of an eligible minor child who lives in the household and was born in the US. The child's name, age, and social security number are required for the application.
- *Only one applicant per household required:* If one household member is eligible, all household members qualify for assistance regardless of the other household members' immigration status. FEMA will not collect or review the immigration status of other members of the applicant's household.
- *Declaration and Release:* The applicant must sign a sworn statement called a *Declaration and Release* stating that the applicant (or eligible minor child) is a qualified alien. The Release authorizes FEMA to verify the immigration status of the applicant or minor child.

Who is not eligible to receive FEMA cash assistance? Cash assistance is NOT available for households where no single household member is eligible. The household can still receive non-cash assistance through state and local programs, such as emergency food and shelter, crisis counseling, disaster legal services, and other short-term emergency assistance.

- You are NOT eligible for FEMA cash assistance if you are in the US on a temporary tourist visa, student visa, work visa, or have a temporary resident card.
- Lawful presence in the US and a social security number alone will NOT make you eligible for FEMA cash assistance. You must also meet all other FEMA eligibility requirements.

Will FEMA cash assistance affect my residency application? No. Under US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) guidance, acceptance of emergency disaster relief is not considered public cash assistance that would cause you or household members to become ineligible for lawful permanent residence (a green card) or citizenship.

What do I need to apply for FEMA aid? FEMA will need your:

- Social Security number, current and pre-disaster address, and your telephone number.
- Insurance and income information for your household.
- A description of losses caused by the disaster.
- A bank routing and account number (for direct deposit into your bank account).

UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE:

I lost my job due to the disaster. Can I collect unemployment? If you have a work permit, lost your job because of a disaster, and meet other requirements you might qualify for regular unemployment compensation. Apply online at www.twc.state.tx.us/jobseekers/unemployment-benefits-services.

DUA: If you don't qualify for regular unemployment benefits, consider applying for *Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)*. DUA provides financial help to employed or self-employed workers in a federal disaster area whose employment is lost or interrupted due to a major disaster. DUA is available to citizens, permanent residents, and people with a valid work permit. More on DUA at www.twc.state.tx.us/jobseekers/disaster-unemployment-assistance.

COVID-19 Houston Resource Pack

Created by the
Community Design Resource Center
at the University of Houston

Updated
April 9, 2020

A Brief Introduction

We understand that many people in the greater Houston Area have recently had their lives upturned due to the news caused by the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Issues such as food stability, health, income and education which are already a challenge in our city have only grown worse in the last few days. We at the CDRC would like to do our part in helping those in need by compiling a list of resources for anyone who might be facing issues in the coming days and weeks, and we ask that whether or not you might need this help, that you share it anyone who you know might need it. We plan to continually update it with any additional resources we find and you can always find the most recently updated version at our website.

cdrchouston.org

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Support for Undocumented Immigrants

Immigrants Rising

[\[Immigrants Rising\] Tangible Support for Immigrant Communities During COVID-19](#)

Tangible Support for Undocumented Communities during COVID-19. WELL ORGANIZED AND TONS OF RESOURCES

Legal Aid at Work

[Undocumented Workers' Employment Rights](#)

Undocumented Workers' Employment Rights Fact Sheet

Public Charge Protection

[U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services](#) will NOT consider #COVID-19 (#Coronavirus) testing, screening, treatment, or vaccination in a public charge evaluation (if a vaccination becomes available). Questions? Call the Immigrant Rights Hotline at 1-833-468-4664 or go to <https://www.uscis.gov/greencard/public-charge> for more information.

Healthcare access for Undocumented Folks in the Time of COVID19

For a list of all the community clinics and information on how to get medical care in light of undocumented status please go to the united we dream website. [Link](#)

Resources for Immigrants during the coronavirus crisis

InformedImmigrant.com is dedicated to increasing access to resources and knowledge for the undocumented immigrant community across the U.S. We understand that these times are especially hard on immigrant communities dealing with the unique challenges of coronavirus and immigration status.

The following resources will be updated on an ongoing basis. If you see resources for your state that are helpful to the undocumented community please let us know using [this form](#).

National Resources

[IRS Tax Filing Extensions](#)

Need more time to prepare your federal tax return? This page provides information on how to apply for an extension of time to file.

[United We Dream Undocu Friendly Care Centers](#)

United We Dream compiled a list of healthcare centers accessible to the undocumented community.

[Betancourt Macias Family Emergency Fund](#)

Fund for undocumented folks who have been impacted by COVID-19. People can donate or apply to receive the fund.

[COVID-19 Resources for Undocumented Immigrants](#)

List of resources for undocumented immigrants facing COVID-19

[ImmSchools: Supporting Undocumented Students & Families During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Resource guide for teachers, schools staff, principals and others serving the immigrant community in schools.

[National Domestic Workers Alliance: Coronavirus Care Fund](#)

The Coronavirus Care Fund was established by the National Domestic Workers Alliance to provide emergency assistance for home care workers, nannies and house cleaners to support them in staying safe and staying home to slow the spread of the coronavirus, and to care for themselves and their families.

Qualifying applicants who are experiencing financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic can receive \$400 in emergency assistance from the Fund.

At this time, the Coronavirus Care Fund application is open to domestic workers who have participated in activities of the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA),

NDWA chapters, affiliate organizations, circles and current Alia users.

We will open the Fund for applications from other domestic workers as soon as funding allows. If you do not currently qualify to apply, please complete the form below. We will let you know as soon as the Fund is open to all domestic workers.

[The National Child Traumatic Stress Network: Parent/Caregiver Guide to Helping Families Cope with the Coronavirus Disease](#)

Provides information for parents and caregivers about infectious disease outbreaks in your community. Knowing important information about the outbreak and learning how to be prepared can reduce stress and help calm likely anxieties. This resource will help parents and caregivers think about how an infectious disease outbreak might affect their family— both physically and emotionally—and what they can do to help their family cope.

Provides information for parents and caregivers about infectious disease outbreaks in your community. Knowing important information about the outbreak and learning how to be prepared can reduce stress and help calm likely anxieties. This resource will help parents and caregivers think about how an infectious disease outbreak might affect their family— both physically and emotionally—and what they can do to help their family cope.

[NILC: Update on Access to Health Care for Immigrants and Their Families](#)

In this difficult time, we want to provide some reminders about access to health care for immigrants and their family members, including new funding that Congress recently made available for coronavirus testing.

[One Fair Way Emergency Fund](#)

Are you a service worker struggling amidst the coronavirus crisis? We're here to help!

We are actively raising money for this emergency fund and will be making temporary cash gifts to workers as funding becomes available. This information collected will only be used for the purposes of communicating with you for follow-up steps. We are receiving a significant number of applications, so we appreciate your understanding.

[Asylum Connect Verified LGBTQ+ Affirming and Immigrant Friendly Resources Providing Services During COVID-19](#)

We have included a list highlighting the verified LGBTQ+ affirming and immigrant friendly resources continuing to offer help (either in-person or virtually) in the United States during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Whether you are seeking LGBTQ+ asylum or undocumented, a LGBTQ+ student impacted by early school and dorm closures, or simply in need of a free LGBTQ+ affirming service, AsylumConnect is here for you during this crisis.

*Check our free resource website and mobile app for more detailed information on each verified direct service provider listed below.

This list will be updated regularly by the AsylumConnect team during the COVID-19 pandemic. Contact us here or leave a comment on this post if you know of a LGBTQ+

and immigrant friendly resource that should be added to this list.

[Immigrant Connections: English Learner Family Engagement During Coronavirus](#)

Resources for English Learner students.

[NAKASEC Community Resources for COVID-19](#)

A list of national and regional community resources.

[My Undocumented Life: Resources for Undocumented Immigrants and their Families During COVID-19](#)

At My Undocumented Life we have compiled a list of resources and news that can help undocumented and mixed-status families during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic. We update this page frequently so be sure to bookmark it and share it with your networks!

[Mutual Fund for Latina/os/x Elders](#)

Fill out this short form to make cash, groceries, or help requests. Application closes April 4th at 12 pm. During the first phase we will try to fund between \$100-250.

[ROC RELIEF](#)

In this time of crisis, Restaurant Opportunities Centers United is providing resources and financial assistance to restaurant workers impacted by the coronavirus crisis.

[Southern Smoke Emergency Relief Program](#)

Southern Smoke is a nonprofit 501c3 charitable foundation. Our Emergency Relief Program provides emergency funding to those employed by or own restaurants or bars or are employed by a restaurant or bar supplier that are faced unforeseen expenses that cannot or will not be covered by insurance. We stand with those in our community and are committed to “taking care of our own”.

Application Verification and Award process: Each application will be verified by the Executive Director or a committee of volunteers. Once applications are verified, the application will be distributed to a separate Awards Committee. The Awards Committee will be made up of trusted community members. The Awards Committee will select awardees by vote and will determine the awarded amount to be distributed. All funds granted are subject to taxation to the greatest extent of the law.

Please fill out the following application if you believe you meet the necessary criteria for Southern Smoke’s Emergency Relief Fund. Please only apply if insurance is not providing you with compensation for your emergency.

[Restaurant Workers’ Community Foundation: COVID-19 RESOURCES AND INFORMATION](#)

We are a nationwide community dedicated to making the restaurant industry more hospitable to everyone.

[Contra COVID](#)

Contra COVID is an organization dedicated to helping Latino and immigrant families during this pandemic

We are a group of students and professionals from Harvard Medical School and medical institutions around the country who are dedicated to ensuring that Latino and immigrant individuals have the information they need to protect themselves and their families

Our Mission:

We work hard to provide timely culturally relevant health and social information in an easily accessible format for communities across the nation

Our Vision:

To provide people of all backgrounds the information, health, and social resources they need to thrive during times of hardship

[**Techqueria COVID-19 Fund Application for the Undocumented Community**](#)

Techqueria is launching a fund to support undocumented members of our community and beyond who are negatively impacted by COVID-19. Apply by clicking on the link.

[**CORE Grants for Children of Restaurant Employees Who Have Tested Positive for COVID-19**](#)

Fund operated by CORE: Children of Restaurant Employees for food and beverage employees who have tested positive for COVID-19

[**National Domestic Violence Hotline**](#)

Our highly-trained advocates are available 24/7/365 to talk confidentially with anyone experiencing domestic violence, seeking resources or information, or questioning unhealthy aspects of their relationship.

[**Asylum Connect Resource Map**](#)

The AsylumConnect Catalog allows users to search for verified LGBTQ- and immigrant-friendly services near you

Students & Universities

[**Free Broadband to K-12 and College Students**](#)

In response to the COVID-19/coronavirus pandemic, Altice USA has taken several steps to ensure that Americans within the communities we serve have reliable access to high-speed broadband connectivity to keep them connected to the people, information, and resources they rely on.

Altice USA is committed to helping schools and students stay connected during this unprecedented time. For households with K-12 and/or college students who may be displaced due to school closures and who do not currently have home internet access, we are offering our Altice Advantage 30 Mbps broadband solution for free for 60

Texas

[City of San Antonio Coronavirus Information and Resources](#)

The San Antonio Metro Health Department has created tools for addressing COVID-19 questions, finding resources, and providing for a self-screening. Visit the City of San Antonio COVID-19 webpage for access to a self-screening tool, updated case numbers, information for the public, resources for residents, testing, and frequently asked questions about the Stay Home Work Safe order.

The Mayor and County Judge invites residents to a daily briefing at 6pm that can be viewed on TVSA, OTA Channel 16, AT&T Channel 99, Grande Channel 20, and Spectrum Channel 21. TVSA can be streamed at <https://www.sanantonio.gov/TVSA>

[Houston Health Department COVID-19 Hotline](#)

The Houston Health Department has opened up a hotline for questions about COVID-19. Call 832-393-4220 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. with any questions. Staff can answer questions in English and Spanish, and can follow up with people calling in other languages. Staff also plan to return voice messages left after hours.

[RAICES: Resources for Immigrant Community during COVID-19](#)

A list of resources for immigrants in Texas during COVID-19.

[Houston Food Bank COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Central Health: New Uninsured Hotline Number](#)

People experiencing coronavirus-like symptoms who are uninsured and don't have a doctor should call the #COVID19 Hotline at 512-978-8775 for guidance.

This # is for uninsured #TravCo residents and @CommUnityCareTX patients with #COVID19 symptoms.

[Houston Immigration Legal Services Collective COVID-19 Resources for Information, Action, and Education](#)

The following list of resources was compiled to provide information on the current pandemic, connect community members to local resources and amplify self-care tools as social distancing goes into effect.

[RGV COVID-19 Resource List](#)

This resource list will be continuously updated as more information is made public.

Purpose: to provide information and community practices, NOT intended to substitute professional medical, legal, nor financial advice.

Texas Undocu Worker Fund Application

The membership of Workers Defense Project created this fund as a form of 'mutual aid' recognizing that our current economic system fails us and it's up to us to create alternative solutions for the well-being of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to be able to give \$250 to 60 families / households of low-income immigrant families in Texas.

WHO CAN APPLY: Low-income people and families in the Houston, Dallas and Austin metro areas that will not benefit from federal financial assistance.

INSTRUCTIONS: To apply please answer the questions below. Only complete applications will be considered. Filling out this form does not guarantee assistance. The initial window to apply is April 1 – 12th, 2020.



With an increase in hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have started this list to point you to emergency financial resources. Please note:

- **We do not give out grants/make donations; this list is an informational resource**
- This list is not comprehensive; we are adding resources as we become aware of them.
- We are adding new funds every day so check back for updates
- An asterisk (*) before a grant indicates it is still in development (not giving out funds yet)

Jump to:

- [Grants for Nonprofits](#)
- [Grants for Individuals](#)
- [Grants for Artists \(all disciplines\)](#)
- [Grants for Small Businesses](#)
- [International Aid](#)

Have a fund for this list? Email it to grantspace@candid.org.

FOR NONPROFITS:

- [Funding for coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) - Candid's pop-up webpage shares information about philanthropy's response to the pandemic.
- [Find Your State Association of Nonprofits map](#) - Click on your state to find your nonprofit state association's website on the National Council of Nonprofits' map. Your state association is a great place to find local resources and the latest COVID-19 news affecting nonprofits in your area.
- [CARES Act: How to Apply for Nonprofit Relief Funds](#) - A guide created by Independent Sector
- [Loans Available for Nonprofits in the CARES Act](#) - chart from National Council of Nonprofits providing details on loan options, eligibility criteria, terms, and application information.
- [State Public Policy Resources on COVID-19](#) - National Council of Nonprofits' page for nonprofit-specific materials from state officials and useful resources on what states are doing in response to COVID-19.
- [Esri \(GIS\) Disaster Response Program](#) - Esri is providing the ArcGIS Hub Coronavirus Response template at no cost through a complimentary six-month subscription of ArcGIS Online with ArcGIS Hub Basic. The template includes examples, materials, and configurations to rapidly deploy an ArcGIS Hub environment. ArcGIS Hub is a framework to build your own website to visualize and analyze the COVID-19 crisis in the context of your organization's or community's population and assets.
- [Nationwide list of community foundation relief efforts](#) - An aggregated list by The Community Foundation Public

Awareness Initiative.

- [Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants & Refugees COVID-19 Resources](#) - An aggregated list of resources for nonprofits working with immigrants & refugees.

FOR INDIVIDUALS:

If you need assistance finding food, paying housing bills, accessing free childcare, or other essential services, dial 211 to speak to someone at the United Way who can help.

NOTE: Financial assistance is NOT available through every 211.

[211.org](#) also has a [comprehensive list of available resources](#) for the following needs:

- Health insurance & medical expenses
- Home Internet access
- Unemployment benefits
- Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- Mortgage, rent, and utilities payment assistance
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/Food Stamps
- Food Assistance
- Relief for "gig economy" workers and contractors
- Mental health and crisis

EMERGENCY GRANTS FOR INDIVIDUALS

- [COVID-19 Emergency Fund](#) (Cambridge, MA - Cambridge Community Foundation) - Must be a resident of Cambridge, MA
- * [Season of Sharing Fund](#) (Sarasota County, FL - Community Foundation of Sarasota County) - Funds go directly to nonprofits; to receive funds from Season of Sharing, individuals must be working with a case worker at a social service agency. [United Way 2-1-1](#) assists potential clients in finding the appropriate agency.
- *[One Sioux Falls Fund](#) (Sioux Falls, SD) - to help residents in the Sioux Falls MSA (Minnehaha, Lincoln, McCook and Turner counties) avoid evictions and financial hardships if they are unable to work due to COVID-19 and if they are unable to qualify for federal or state assistance. Nonprofits, the County and the City will coordinate to distribute the funds to make sure assistance gets into the right hands.
- [ONE22 COVID-19 Financial Relief Awards](#) (Teton, WY) - Need-based awards for anyone who lives or works in Teton County, WY, and has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Neighbor-to-Neighbor Grants](#) (Berkshire Taconic area, NY) - Small grants (generally around \$500) to help those with overdue utilities, medical bills, short-term housing costs and transportation problems.
- [It Takes a Village Emergency Funds](#) (Parenting Journey) - Stipend to ease financial burdens for Parenting Journey families.
- [Bartender Emergency Assistance Program](#)
- [DoorDash COVID-19 Financial Assistance Program](#) - Financial assistance for eligible Dashers that are diagnosed with COVID-19 and have been active on the DoorDash platform for at least 60 days and have completed at least 30 deliveries in the last 30 days.
- *[One Family, Los Angeles](#) - A fund in development that will distribute grants directly to families in need in Los Angeles, CA; refer to the [FAQ page](#) for information about how to access these funds.
- [Real Change Vendor Relief Fund](#) - Cash cards and gift cards to supplement reduced income for Real Change vendors.
- *[Asian Pacific Environmental Network \(APEN\) Emergency Community Stabilization Fund](#) - Will distribute mutual aid directly to Asian immigrants and refugees in areas where APEN works (Oakland & Richmond, CA).
- [Freelancers Relief Fund](#) - Assistance of up to \$1,000 per household for any independent worker in the U.S. who has primarily earned income through freelance work for at least one year and has experienced a recent, sudden, and unforeseen hardship or loss of income as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Moonlighting.com](#) - A leading freelance & work-from-home job site is offering free job searching and access to its business tools to help independent workers better manage jobs and gigs.

- **A Better Balance** - A free helpline (call or email) that offers answers to questions about the law for workers facing issues at work related to sick, family, or medical leave.
- **New Mexico Caregiver Emergency Child Care Grants** - Immediate grants to New Mexico's caregivers and home care workers who have a young child/children (aged 0-12) in child care settings.
- **One Fair Wage - Emergency Coronavirus Tipped & Service Worker Support Fund** - Cash assistance to restaurant workers, care service drivers, deliver workers, personal service workers
- **United Way of Western Connecticut ALICE Emergency Fund** - Provides fresh produce for individuals & families living in the 15 cities/towns this United Way serves in Western Connecticut.
- **Napa Valley Emergency Financial Assistance Program** - Financial help for workers who live in Napa County, CA.
- **One Louisville (KY) COVID-19 Response Fund** - Household assistance for Jefferson County (KY) residents experiencing a loss of income due to COVID-19.
- ***The Workers Fund** - Help for gig and low-earning contract workers.
- **Student Relief Fund** - Resources for college students in need of support due to a COVID-19 campus shutdown (note: organization does not offer financial assistance)
- **Humboldt Health Foundation Angel Fund** - Small grants to meet immediate medical or health-related needs of individuals who are residents of Humboldt County, California.
- **Young Nonprofit Professionals Network San Francisco Bay Area COVID-19 Relief Fund** - Stipends for young nonprofit professionals in the Bay Area impacted by COVID-19.
- ***One Family LA** - Direct financial support for Los Angeles, CA, families most economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- **National Domestic Workers Alliance Coronavirus Care Fund** - \$400 in emergency assistance for home care workers, nannies, and house cleaners who have participated in activities of the National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA), NDWA chapters, affiliate organizations, circles and current Alia users.
- **San Diego County Refugee Families Emergency Fund** - Small, one-time grants to help refugee workers in the San Diego, CA, area.
- **Restaurant Workers' Community Foundation COVID-19 Relief Fund** - Emergency funding for those employed by or own restaurants or bars that are facing unforeseen expenses not covered by insurance.
- **Sacred Heart Community Service Financial Assistance for Low-Income Residents of Santa Clara County (CA)** - Fund is no longer accepting applications but you can add your name to an "interest list" if you meet the eligibility requirements.
- **HealthWell Foundation COVID-19 Ancillary Costs** - Assistance for households that have a positive diagnosis for COVID-19 and have costs associated with delivered food, medication, diagnostics, transportation.
- **Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning & the Finger Lakes (NY) COVID-19 Micro Grants for Individuals** - Up to \$250 per individual for creative community service projects in Elmira-Corning & the Finger Lakes region of New York state.
- **Hebrew Free Loan Society Coronavirus Financial Impact Loan (for NYC five boroughs)** - Loans to support individuals with financial challenges caused by the coronavirus outbreak.
- **Apron Inc. Emergency Fund for Restaurant Workers** - Grants of up to \$500 each for restaurant workers for all currently employed persons (at least 6 months) who work in locally owned independent food service businesses.
- **American Kidney Foundation Coronavirus Emergency Fund** - Small grants for kidney patients affected by coronavirus (NOTE: funds have been depleted & there is a waiting list).
- **Free Speech Coalition Emergency Fund** - Provides grants for eligible talent and crew of working in the adult film industry.
- **Another Round, Another Rally Emergency Assistance** - \$500 relief grants for workers in the hospitality industry (dishwashers, bartenders, servers, bussers, chefs/cooks, sommelier, managers, hosts, concierge, cleaning staff, or barbacks may apply).
- **UndocuFund for Disaster Relief in Sonoma County, CA** - Help for undocumented individuals & families residing in Sonoma County, CA, who have lost homes, wages, or employment
- **805 UndocuFund** - Fund to assist immigrant families in Ventura & Santa Barbara County, California.
- **Betancourt Macias Family Scholarship Foundation for Undocumented Families** - Funds to support undocumented families and individuals impacted by coronavirus.
- **Oakland (CA) Undocumented Relief Fund** - A relief fund set up for undocumented workers who live or work in Oakland,

California, and have lost their jobs or had their hours cut as a result of the Coronavirus and the shelter in place orders.

- **Memphis (TN) Food Industry Worker Assistance** - For service industry workers in Memphis, TN, impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.
- **Northern Virginia Family Services COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program** - Funds for eligible residents of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax County, Fairfax/Falls Church, Loudoun County, Manassas, Manassas Park, or Prince William County, Virginia, that are experiencing hardship due to COVID-19.
- **Cambridge Community Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Fund** - Funds for those that live or work in Cambridge, MA, and have been impacted by COVID-19.
- **Freelancers Relief Fund** - Financial assistance of up to \$1,000 per freelance household to cover lost income and essential expenses not covered by government relief programs.
- **Together Las Cruces (New Mexico)** - Grants to qualifying residents of Dona Ana county, New Mexico, that have been laid off or furloughed, or have experiences a significant loss of income as a result of the state's executive order.
- **Samuel Adams & the Greg Hill Foundation Restaurant Strong Fund** - Grants for full-time (30 hours/week minimum) restaurant, bar, cafe, or nightclub workers located in AZ, CA, CT, FL, GA, IL, ME, MA, MI, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VT.
- **SAG-AFTRA Foundation COVID-19 Relief Fund** - Emergency financial relief for SAG-AFTRA members.
- **Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Associations AL Hospitality Workers Relief Fund** - (Due to overwhelming response, the application has been closed. If and when additional assistance becomes available, the application process will reopen)
- **National Restaurant Association Restaurant Employee Relief Fund** - \$500 grants to restaurant industry employees who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19 financially
- **New Orleans Business Alliance COVID-19 Relief Grants** - Grants for "gig workers" residing in Orleans Parish.
- **Hospitality Cares Pandemic Response Fund (Louisiana)** - Grants for Louisiana-based restaurant, bar or hotel workers residing in United Way of Southeast Louisiana's seven-parish service area, including Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Plaquemines, Tangipahoa, or Washington parishes
- **Massachusetts Workers Emergency Relief Funds** - A list of relief funds for workers in Massachusetts.
- **San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium Immigrant Relief Fund** - Grants of up to \$500 to immigrants in San Diego County, California, who have lost all or part of their income due to the coronavirus pandemic, along with other emergencies that may arise in the future.
- **HALO (Help A Library Worker Out) Fund** - The EveryLibrary Institute is providing grants of up to \$250 for library workers who are out of work or affected by the crisis.
- **Seed Commons: Worker Response Fund** - Fund will provide direct support to worker-owners at cooperative businesses most affected by closures and downturn associated with the COVID-19 outbreak, such as food service businesses, custom manufacturing, and child care cooperatives.

FOR ARTISTS (ALL DISCIPLINES):

- **COVID-19 Freelance Artists Resources** - an aggregated list of FREE resources, opportunities, and financial relief options available to artists of all disciplines.
- **Artist Relief** - grants to artists facing dire financial emergencies due to COVID-19 in the US (has additional resource page)
- **Creative Capital Arts Resources During the COVID-19 Outbreak** - an aggregated list of financial resources for artists working in all disciplines.
- **New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Emergency Grants** - for artists in multiple disciplines and geographic regions.
- **Dramatists Guild Foundation Emergency Grants** - DGF provides emergency financial assistance to individual playwrights, composers, lyricists, and bookwriters in dire need of funds due to severe hardship or unexpected illness. DGF will be processing Emergency Grants based on severity of need, especially as it relates to Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- **CERF+ COVID-19 Response Fund** - A fund to support artists working in the craft disciplines.
- **Artist Relief Tree** - A crowdfunding campaign that allows artists to request funds (NOTE: the campaign already has more applications for funding than it can accommodate at this time)
- **Americans for the Arts Coronavirus Resource & Response Center** - Includes a list of funding/grants resources.
- **Artist Relief Fund** (Cambridge, MA - Cambridge Community Foundation) - One-time relief funds to arts organizations &

artists who live, work, create, and/or perform in Cambridge, MA.

- **Boston Artist Relief Fund** - Grants of \$500 & \$1,000 to individual artists who live in Boston whose creative practices & incomes are being adversely impacted by COVID-19
- **Taking Care COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund** (theatreWashington) - Grants to Washington-area theater professionals who face financial hardship from immediate closings, postponed productions, and other lost wages.
- **Emergency Grant Program** (Musicians Foundation) - Grants up to \$3000 for medical and allied living expenses for musicians, paid directly to creditors on the recipients behalf.
- ***The Record Co. Boston Music Maker Relief Fund** - Small grants of up to \$200 to provide financial relief to Boston area music makers experiencing lost income as the result of performance cancellations related to COVID-19.
- ***Langston Seattle Artists Relief Fund** - A fund aimed at helping those in the greater Seattle arts community who have been financially impacted by cancellations due to COVID-19.
- **The Actors Fund Emergency Financial Assistance** - Emergency financial assistance is available for people who are unable to pay their basic living expenses (food/housing/health care) over the next two months.
- **Rauschenberg Emergency Grants Program** - A new emergency grant program that will provide one-time grants of up to \$5,000 for medical emergencies.
- **American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) Relief Fund** - Provides support and temporary financial assistance to members who are in need.
- **Equal Sound Corona Relief Fund for Musicians** - Relief for musicians who have lost income due to a cancelled gig as a result of the Coronavirus / Covid-19 outbreak.
- **Foundation for Contemporary Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund Application** - A temporary fund to meet the needs of experimental artists who have been impacted by the economic fallout from postponed or canceled performances and exhibitions.
- **MusiCares COVID-19 Relief Fund** - Relief for lost income due to the cancellation of scheduled gigs or performances due to Coronavirus/COVID-19 precautionary measures.
- **Sweet Relief COVID-19 Fund** - Limited number of funds for musicians and music industry workers affected by the Coronavirus.
- **Passim Emergency Artist Relief (PEAR) Fund** - Grants for artists that have performed a show for Passim or taught at the School of Music in the last 10 years.
- **PEN America Writers Emergency Fund** - Grants for fiction and non-fiction authors, poets, playwrights, screenwriters, translators, and journalists.
- **New Music Solidarity Fund** - Emergency funds to support freelance artists in the new/creative/improvised music community.
- **The Arts Commission (Toledo, Ohio) Emergency Grants for Artists** - Grants for individual artists and artist collectives with a residence or a creative studio within 25 miles of downtown Toledo, Ohio.
- **3Arts + Arts for Illinois Relief Fund** - Unrestricted, one-time grants of \$1,500 for eligible practicing artists in Illinois.
- **San Francisco Arts & Artists Relief Fund** - Grants of up to \$2,000 for eligible artists in San Francisco, CA.
- **Motion Picture & Television Fund (MPTF) COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund** - Temporary financial assistance for members of the entertainment industry that have needs created or complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **City of Newark, NJ, Creative Catalyst Fund** - Fellowships for artists residing in or that have a demonstrable creative practice in Newark, NJ.
- **Creative Compass Emergency Loan Fund (Cleveland, OH)** - Artists, musicians, and other people working in the arts in Northeast Ohio are eligible to borrow up to \$2,500 with no interest and no payments for twelve months to replace lost income.
- **Boston Singers Resource COVID-19 Emergency Relief** - Grants for New England-based classical singers who are dealing with canceled performances.

FOR SMALL BUSINESSES:

- **Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Loans**
- Amazon Neighborhood Small Business Relief Fund - Grants for businesses in Bellevue, WA, and the South Lake Union and

Regrade neighborhoods of Seattle.

- **Facebook Small Business Grants Program** - Facebook is offering \$100M in cash grants and ad credits for up to 30,000 eligible small businesses in over 30 countries where it operates.
- ***Birmingham Strong Fund** (Birmingham, AL) - will rapidly deploy resources to small businesses in Birmingham that are substantially affected by the Coronavirus.
- **Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loans (Washington, DC)**
- **Delaware Hospitality Emergency Loan Program (HELP)** - No-interest loans of up to \$10,000 per business/per month available to eligible businesses in the hospitality industry.
- **Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund** - Grants up to \$10,000 for Maryland small businesses and nonprofits.
- **San Francisco COVID-19 Small Business Resiliency Fund** - Access of up to \$10,000 for employee salaries & rent for eligible businesses in the San Francisco area.
- **Los Angeles City Small Business Emergency Microloan Program** - Loans (\$5,000-\$20,000) for eligible businesses in the Los Angeles area.
- **Denver Small Business Emergency Relief** - Cash grants of up to \$7,500 to small businesses in Denver that have lost the ability to operate because of coronavirus.
- **Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan COVID-19** - Loans of up to \$50,000 available to small businesses in Florida experiencing economic damage as a result of COVID-19.
- **Chicago Small Business Resiliency Fund** - Loans to provide Chicago-area small businesses with emergency cash flow during the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Michigan Small Business Relief Program** - Grants & loans to small businesses affected by the coronavirus.
- **NYC Employee Retention Grant Program** - Grants of up to \$27,000 to cover 40% of payroll costs over the course of 2 months; for small businesses or nonprofits with 1-4 employees that have lost 25% of revenue due to coronavirus.
- **NYC Small Business Continuity Fund** - Up to \$75,000 in interest-free loans to NYC businesses that have experienced at least a 25% reduction in revenue due to coronavirus.
- **Beaverton (Oregon) Emergency Business Assistance Programs** - Businesses in Beaverton, Oregon, that were ordered to close as a result of government coronavirus guidelines can apply for \$2,500 per month in rent or mortgage reimbursement while the city is in a declared state of emergency.
- **Hillsboro (Oregon) Small Business Emergency Relief Program** - Grants of \$5,000 for businesses in Hillsboro, Oregon, to offset losses associated with the coronavirus.
- ***Entrepreneur Fund (MN) Small Business Relief Fund** - Direct grants to small business owners in northeast & central Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin.
- **Grand Rapids (MN) Emergency Working Capital Loan Fund** - Quick turnaround loans to Grand Rapids-based businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- **Itasca (MN) Small Business Relief Fund** - County-wide relief to small businesses in Itasca County, MN, impacted by COVID-19.
- **Dream Maker Small Business Emergency Relief Fund** - Funds to provide short-term gaps of small businesses in Jackson, Michigan.
- **Small Business Continuity Loan Program (KY)** - The loan program will provide zero-interest loans up to \$25,000, with no payments for 12 months, for businesses with 10 full-time employees or fewer. *Applications open April 6*
- **James Beard Foundation Relief Fund** - (Applications suspended due to overwhelming response; Foundation will notify its audience if the application will be reopened.) Provides critical financial assistance to small, independent restaurants that, due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) national disaster, have an immediate need for funds to pay set operating expenses and keep from going out of business.
- **SBA Paycheck Protection Program** - An SBA loan that helps businesses keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis.
- **Michigan Small Business Relief Program** - Grants & loans for eligible small businesses in Michigan.
- **PMBC COVID-19 Emergency Access & Retooling Grants** - Grants for eligible Michigan businesses looking to retool and manufacture critical supplies.

- [Tampa Bay Wave's COVID19 Emergency Fund](#) (FL) - Tampa Bay Wave will offer short-term zero interest microloans for quick cash infusions to Florida startups while they apply for and await state and federal funding.

INTERNATIONAL AID:

- [*Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta, Canada](#) - Funds are being raised for nonprofit organizations in Alberta, Canada, impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- More coming soon - check back for resources
- [Canada AFC COVID-19 Fund](#) - Short-term emergency financial assistance for entertainment industry professionals working in TV and film, music, theatre, and dance.
- [Fondation Des Artistes \(Canada\)](#) - Supports professional artists from all disciplines, whether they work in the performing arts, theater, television, cinema, circus, music, dance or visual arts.

Have a question about this topic? Ask us!

Foundation Center's Ask Us service will answer your questions within one business day.

Ask Us

Candid. Candid gets you the information you need to do good.

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COVID19 INFORMATION, EDUCATION & ACTION

A Living Document of Resources for Immigrant Advocates in Greater Houston

Updates are continuously made (by you!)

- Add resources directly in “suggesting” mode.
- If you have a request for information, please write a comment and others can respond!

For Table of Contents sidebar:

- Go to Toolbar> Help
- Type “show document outline”

Clients can call the Hotline directly: 1-833-468-4664

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MISCELLANEOUS

LEARN ABOUT CORONAVIRUS

[A coronavirus reading guide for the perplexed, the anxious, and the obsessive](#)

From Vox

What to do you if you have symptoms or are sick

If sick, please stay home. Avoid medical settings in general unless necessary, and if you are ill call your doctor's office first before going in.

Harris County Public Health has a hotline available for COVID19-related questions. Please call 832-927-7575 or (713) 634-1110 (ask my nurse hotline) from 9am-7pm.

If you do not have a primary physician or are uninsured, please refer to a FQHC using this locator: <https://www.findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/> or by using this [referral list](#) from the City of Houston. Please call any center before arriving.

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Guidance for the general public

- Do not go to the emergency room unless it's a medical emergency. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs.
- If you have symptoms like cough, fever, or other respiratory problems, contact a healthcare professional. You must call ahead before going.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer when you can't wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, use the elbow of your sleeve. Don't use your hands to cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, especially if you are at higher risk for coronavirus.
- Get plenty of rest, drink plenty of fluids, eat healthy foods, and manage your stress to keep your immunity strong.

- Stay informed. Information is changing frequently. Visit HoustonEmergency.org frequently for updates.

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How to stay safe

[Informational fliers regarding COVID-19](#)

From City of Houston

- Stay Home, Work Safe Order
- COVID-19 presentation
- COVID-19 symptoms
- COVID-19 vs. flu
- Enhanced measures/key messages
- Handwashing
- Sex and COVID-19
- Stop germs
- Social distancing

[What you Need to Know About COVID-19 Community Spread](#), fact sheet

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From City of Houston

[Parent Fact Sheet: COVID 19](#)

[Information Para Los Padres: COVID 19](#)

[Vietnamese](#) | [Arabic](#)

From Houston Independent School District

[COVID 19 health fact sheets](#) in 35 languages

From COVID 19 Health Literacy Project, in collaboration with Harvard Health Publishing.

[CoronaVirus Safety Tips](#)

[Steps to Help Protect Against COVID-19](#)

[Chinese](#) | [French](#) | [Haitian](#) | [Korean](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

From the American Red Cross

[FAQs for People with Weakened Immune Systems](#)

[Preguntas Frecuentes Sobre COVID-19 para Personas con Sistemas Inmunes Debilitados](#)

From CoronaVirus Network

[Tips to Mitigate Risk](#)

- Up-to-date information on the response to COVID-19, and what workers can do to protect themselves, their coworkers and families.
- [Resources](#) are available in 36 languages.

From Western New York Council on Occupational Safety and Health

[Recursos para la Comunidad Inmigrante Durante el Coronavirus](#)

From Inmigrante Informado

[Coronavirus En Espanol](#)

From UnidosUS

[Simple posters, brochures, booklets and audio/video resources](#) for children, parents/caregivers, and for first responders – in multiple languages.

The supplemental resources document on the drive also includes online resources, such as the Guatemalan government's website with audio files in various indigenous languages. This library of resources will be continually updated as we gather materials from additional country offices.

From UNICEF

[PSAs in Indigenous languages](#) available in Español, Ayuujk, Purépecha, Kaqchikel, K'iche', Tseltal, Mam, English, Sunuwar, Tamang, Nepalí, Gurung, Maasai, Hindi, Luo, and Afrikaans. We are working on more languages.

From Cultural Survival

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

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IN AND FOR THE HOUSTON REGION

Issues such as food stability, health, income and education which are already a challenge in our city have only grown worse in the last few days. The CDRC has compiled a list of resources for anyone who might be facing issues in the coming days and weeks. We plan to continually update it with any additional resources we find.

[CDRC COVID-19 Houston Resources](#)

[CDRC COVID-19 Recursos en Houston](#)

From Community Design Resource Center (CDRC)

[Collection of Best Practices and Resources for Houston Region and Non-profits](#)

From Houston in Action

Local Data and Updates

[Ready Harris](#)

From Harris County

[COVID19 Dashboard](#)

From Harris County Public Health

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Updates](#)

From City of Houston Emergency Operations Center

[Houston-Area Nonprofit Capacity and Needs Survey Data](#)

From Greater Houston Community Foundation

[Coronavirus Live Local Updates](#)

From Houston Chronicle

[Relief for Individuals who may be Impacted by COVID-19](#)

From Harris Co Precinct 2

[Harris County areas where residents are most likely to need care](#)

From UT Health

[Harris County populations vulnerable to COVID 19, map](#)

From Texas Children's Hospital

[Harris County foreign-born populations, map](#)

From Kinder Institute and Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative

[COVID 19 Projections, State of Texas](#)

From University of Washington

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Call Centers

Several Houston-area public health departments have set up call centers to answer questions about symptoms, testing and other COVID-19 related issues.

- City of Houston: 832-393-4220 (Monday- Friday, 9 am- 7 pm; Sat., 9 am- 3 pm)
- Harris County: 832-927-7575 (Every day, 9 am- 7 pm)
- Fort Bend County: 281-633-7795 (Monday- Friday, 8 am- 5 pm)
- Montgomery County: 936-523-5040

- Brazoria County: 979-864-2167 (Monday- Friday, 10 am- 6 pm; Sat., 9 am- 2 pm)
- Galveston County: 409-938-7221, option 1

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Testing Centers | [Centros de Prueba](#)

Testing available at no cost **regardless of immigration status**. Treatment/care depends on existing health centers.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott said in a [press conference](#) on March 18, 2020, that immigrants won't be asked background questions when seeking a COVID-19 test if they have symptoms.

The San Antonio Fire Department has provided a video that includes the [proper procedure when using drive through testing sites](#).

[Harris County Testing](#)

FREE screening for people with COVID19 SYMPTOMS (fever, cough, difficulty breathing).

Testing screening process:

- 1) If you have symptoms go to www.ReadyHarris.org and click the testing button, or call 832-927-7575 to be prescreened.
- 2) Depending on what you report, you will be given a unique pin # and a phone number to a secondary call center; you will then be rescreened.
- 3) Depending on what you report, you will be given a unique pin # and a location to drive to for testing in person. When you get there, keep your window up until you are asked to roll it down.

A photo ID is required, but it does not need to be government issued. For example, a school ID or credit card with a photo are valid.

Test results will not be immediate. Stay isolated even within your family unit at home.

Testing is not treatment; if you do test positive, unless symptoms are severe, you likely will be asked to stay home and isolated.

911 services should, as always, be used for all life-threatening emergencies.

[City of Houston Testing](#)

Will be integrated through ReadyHarris soon; as of March 23, call Houston Health Department's COVID-19 call center at 832-393-4220 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. to get screened. FREE.

Who can access the tests?

Services will continue Monday, March 23 for symptomatic medical professionals, first responders, people 65 and older, and people of any age with chronic illnesses. Cough, difficulty breathing, and fever are the common COVID-19 symptoms.

Everyone should be practicing social distancing. Folks with access to healthcare/own primary physician should call their doctor first.

Folks WITHOUT access to healthcare

Call Harris County residents ASK A NURSE line, 713-634-1110 7 days, 9am-7pm with questions.

[Legacy Community Health](#)

Legacy Community Health has COVID-19 testing. It is not necessary to call ahead.

Find a location near you via the [locations page](#), or the Contact Center: (832) 548 5000.

Testing is on a sliding fee scale, and the clinic will bill insurance companies as applicable.

Who can access the tests?

Only those who screen positive at the door, meaning:

- People who are experiencing symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other respiratory conditions
- People who are over 65 and/or with a chronic illness or underlying condition that results in a suppressed immune system who are showing symptoms of COVID-19. Underlying conditions can include pregnancy, diabetes, Alzheimer's, heart disease, cancer, or a transplant recipient.
- In the past 14 days, you have not traveled to the following states: California, Connecticut, Louisiana, New Jersey , New York
- In the past 14 days, you have not traveled to the following cities: Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago Illinois; or Miami, Florida
- This 14 day travel restriction applies to Texas residents only. If you have traveled to any of the above listed states or cities you are required to self-quarantine for a minimum of 14 days.

My Family Doctor (\$150)

One drive-thru testing site, 6430 Hillcroft Ave., Monday- Friday, 9 am to 4 pm

Who can access the tests?

Those with fever and/or symptoms of respiratory illness (e.g., dry cough). Priorities include older adults and people with chronic medical conditions, or who are otherwise in an immunocompromised state that may put them at higher risk for poor outcomes (e.g., diabetes,

heart disease, receiving immunosuppressive medications, chronic lung disease, chronic kidney disease).

This testing site is currently cash only. You'll need \$25 cash even if you have insurance coverage. They advise all patients to bring \$150 cash for the test just in case they cannot verify your insurance. For more information, [click here](#).

United Memorial Medical Center

510 W Tidwell Road, Houston, Monday- Friday, 8 am- 8 pm

Who can access the tests?

Everyone will be screened, only those who are at risk or exhibiting symptoms will be tested.

There is nothing to suggest that undocumented immigrants will be turned away from this center.

MD Anderson's Diagnostic Imaging Clinic, Bellaire

By appointment only.

Who can access the tests?

Current MD Anderson patients and employees only. Current MD Anderson patients who think they may need testing must call their MD Anderson clinic for further direction.

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Cash Assistance

West Street Recovery, call (832) 356-6073

Direct Assistance Fund

From Memorial Assistance Ministries

- 713) 574-7533 English | (713) 574-7536 Espanol
- [Please see eligible zip-codes.](#)

[La Unidad 11 \(member only\)](#)

[Labor & Domestic Emergency Support Fund](#) (members only)

From Fe y Justicia Worker Center

- Cash support for basic needs such as food and clothing, personal protective equipment, transportation vouchers and hygiene items in an emergency support "dispense".
- Goal is to reach a minimum of 300 families.
- [Donate to the "Labor & Domestic Emergency Support Fund".](#)

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Child Care and Parent Resources

Findchildcarenow.org

From Collaborative for Children

[Family Resource Database](#)

From Children at Risk

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Food & Meals

[Houston Food Bank](#)

- The Portwall Pantry is closed, in order to reach a larger amount of people through over 250 food pantries throughout Houston.
- To find a pantry near you,
 - Call **832-369-9390** 8am- 6pm, Monday- Friday. A Spanish-speaker is usually available, but not other languages.
 - [Online Pantry Finder](#):
 - Enter your clients home address.
 - Select days your client wants to go.
 - Select Pantry and Mobile.
 - The client should **call before going to a pantry**: Confirm schedule, zip code eligibility, and walk in policy. Some pantries will not accept people not in a car.
- For clients over age 65 and/or have a health condition that makes it impossible to go to a food pantry, register for **CrowdSourceRescue**, a volunteer-run program working with HFB. You can [register online](#) or Food Bank staff can register clients over the phone.

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[Your Texas Benefits](#): Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SNAP and Medicaid recipients will have their benefits renewed automatically. No further action is necessary, Recipients will be notified by mail when it is time for them to renew their benefits.

Benefits have been extended for an undetermined period of time. Clients will be sent notices by mail when it is time to renew. They are also working on a P-Snap application and hope to have remote access. An announcement will be forthcoming.

[FRESH EBT](#): an app to manage EBT funds

From Propel

PEBT (Pandemic EBT)

Proposal to get the amount of money normally spent in school meals on EBT; no immigration requirements. More information to come.

[#SupportYourTribe Local Pet Food Resources](#)

From Friends For Life

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Lunch Distribution

[Curbside Meal Program](#)

From Houston Parks and Recreation Department

- Free lunch and snack for all children onsite.
- Monday- Friday from 1- 3 pm, for youth ages 1- 18.
- 50 meals per site, but may increase to 200 per site based on participation.
- Community Center staff will place meals in the trunk of the recipient's car.
- STRONGLY discourage walk-ups (often turning them away and only allowing vehicles).
- Only children who come to the site for pick-up can receive the lunch and snack.

[Houston ISD, dates and sites](#)

500 meals/day/site. As families arrive at the site, staff members will fill out an Emergency Food Assistance Program Form for them, minimalizing interpersonal contact, and place boxes in car trunks. Participants who walk up to the sites must also adhere to social distancing requirements.

[Aldine ISD](#)

[Fort Bend ISD](#)

[Cy-Fair ISD](#) (also offering dinner)

[Katy ISD](#)

[Alief ISD](#)

[Clear Creek ISD](#)

[Lamar Consolidated ISD](#)

[New Caney ISD](#) (offering adult meals for \$4)

[Sheldon ISD](#) (open to all students in the district, but children must be present to receive meals)

[Pasadena ISD](#)

[Humble ISD](#)

[Spring ISD](#)

[Tomball ISD](#) (requires student ID)

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Housing

[Property Law Issues](#)

From Texas Law Help: The following topics available

- Evictions and COVID-19
Courts will not hear existing eviction cases until April 20, and will not hear newly filed cases until at least May 1.

- Mortgage Payments and Foreclosures during COVID-19
The [federal moratorium on foreclosures](#) is currently very limited. It only applies to a small group of homeowners and only for a limited time.
- Utilities during COVID-19
- Help with Internet Access during COVID-19
- Rights for Tenants with Health Issues
- Lockouts - When your landlord locks you out without getting a court-ordered eviction
- Medical Professional's Guide to Housing Issues During COVID-19 Pandemic

[Eviction Moratorium Proposal tracking](#), via this blog.

From Augrented

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Family & Domestic Violence

[Family Law Issues During COVID-19](#)

Texas Law Help

- Coronavirus and Child Visitation
- Child Support and COVID-19
- CPS Issues and COVID-19

Helpline (713) 981-7645.

From Daya

- All calls are being answered and we [communicate safely](#).
- [COVID-19 resource page](#) and [videos](#) to promote safety, support, and self-care for survivors.

Daya is here for survivors and we need our community more than ever.

- Check in with those in your network by phone, text, email, or video.
- Look for signs of isolation, control, or harm.
- If you think someone needs help – reach out! Tell them they deserve safety and that Daya can help.

[Surviving Domestic Abuse During “Stay Home” Orders: Tips on Staying Safe Resources for Survivors of Domestic Violence During This Health Crisis](#)

From Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA)

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Employment and Financial Support

[#Allinthistogether](#)

A list of funds that are providing direct financial assistance to Houston area undocumented and immigrant neighbors.

From HILSC

[Local Organizations](#)

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[Legal Issues: Employment & Financial Resources](#)

From Texas Law Help

- [Unemployment Benefits during COVID-19](#)
- [Taking Leave during COVID-19](#)
- [Bankruptcy](#)
- [Resources for Small Businesses](#)
- [Disability Discrimination in the Workplace during COVID-19](#)
- [Estate Planning during COVID-19](#)
- [Student Loan Relief and COVID-19](#)
- [Stimulus Package: What you need to know about the economic impact payments](#)

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Paid Leave and Unemployment

[FFCRA: Paid Leave Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#)

Posters and fact sheets in English and Spanish.

From the US Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division

[What To Do If You Need To Take Off Work Because Of The Coronavirus](#)

From Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

[Help for Domestic Workers](#)

From National Domestic Workers Alliance

[Unemployment Insurance Provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#), *From National Employment Law Project*

[Know Your Employment Rights During the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)

[Hiểu Biết Về Quyền Lao Động Của Mình* Trong Đại Dịch Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

From Environmental Justice Center, Workers Defense Project, Lone Star Legal Aid, and Disability Rights Texas

[COVID-19 Resources for Job Seekers I](#)
[Recursos para solicitantes de empleo COVID-19](#)

From the Texas Workforce Commission

DACA recipients and people with Employment Authorization Documents can apply for unemployment as long as they have a valid work permit.

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Stimulus Checks & Immigrants

Who qualifies for stimulus checks and how do you get them?

- Immigrants can get the check if they have an SSN which is valid for employment by the time they file their qualifying return. If they are noncitizens, they must meet the “resident alien” test, which shows they reside in the U.S. =
<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/international-taxpayers/determining-alien-tax-status>
- There is currently no way to “apply” for the rebate if someone does not file tax returns or receive Social Security benefits, which excludes many low-income and homeless people who either are not required to file tax returns because they earn too little or have not been able to file tax returns. The federal government has, however, extended the 2019 filing deadline to July 15, 2020 – so people can still file.
- If you have not filed a tax return recently but do receive Social Security benefits, your rebate will be estimated based on your SSA-1099 Social Security Benefit Statement or form RRB-1099 Social Security Equivalent Benefit Statement. This process only applies to Social Security Retirement or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries and not to recipients of other programs such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for low-income seniors or people with disabilities.
- Self-Evaluation Tool for Qualifying for Stimulus Check and Estimated Amount (provided by HRI).
 - English: <https://forms.gle/G6w7C7YMm7xSUaTa8>
 - Spanish: <https://forms.gle/mdMiN3USbHLsNPVNA>
 - French: <https://forms.gle/Vr786mu2ChnnAhsm6>

[Some Tax-Paying Immigrants Won't Get Coronavirus Stimulus Payments](#)

People with Social Security numbers can qualify for aid but mixed households won't

From Wall Street Journal

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Employment

Now hiring for delivery services, restocking shelves and general support.

- Kroger: <https://jobs.kroger.com>
- HEB: <https://careers.heb.com>
- Randalls: https://www.albertsonscompanies.com/careers/randalls-careers.html?mc_cid=bb94cab117&mc_eid=d58a545c4d
- Amazon: <https://www.amazondelivers.jobs>

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US Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans

- Low interest loans for small businesses and nonprofits.
- May be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact.
- Small business interest rate is 3.75%, without credit available elsewhere; businesses with credit available elsewhere are not eligible.
- Nonprofit interest rate is 2.75%
- [Online Application](#)
- More info: Call 1-800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

[Economic Injury Disaster Loan \(EIDL\)](#) - Applications open now

[Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#) - Applications open now for small businesses, April 10 for independent contractors on a first come, first serve basis

Information in 8 languages

From OCA

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Financial assistance for people in the alcohol industry

- USBG National Charity Foundation [COVID-19 Relief](#)
- Eligible if worked for at least one year directly serving or in the production, promotion or distribution of alcoholic beverages, or the spouse or child of someone in the industry.

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[Citibank](#) fee waivers and waived penalties for customers

- Starting March 9, 2020 and effective for an initial 30 days, bank customers can get fee waivers on monthly service fees and penalties for early Certificate of Deposit withdrawal. Small Business customers can get fee waivers on monthly service fees and remote deposit capture and waived penalties for early Certificate of Deposit withdrawal.
- Call the phone number on the back of your card to inquire about account assistance 24/7.

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U-Haul free storage space for college students

- [30 Days Free Self Storage](#), usage of U-Box portable moving, and storage containers for college students impacted by unforeseen schedule changes at their universities. Offer valid for new customers with college IDs.
- [Find a participating location](#)

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Service Updates from HILSC Partner Organizations

Legal Service Partners

Immigration Court Help Desk

Tahirih Justice Center, HRF, YMCA, Catholic Charities, and RAICES

Closed and will re-open July 3, 2020

The Alliance

- Offices are closed to the public and open by appointment only for limited services.
- Staff continue to serve the community remotely during regular operating hours Monday-Friday 8:30am- 5:00pm.
- Alliance Language Network, The Community Cloth, and The Alliance Driver's Education and Mobility Center are all continuing work remotely.
- For more information: 713-776-4700 or info@thealliancetxt.org

BakerRipley

- No longer taking in-person client meetings or walk-in clients. All consultations by phone.
- To get an appointment, call 346-867-3871 to be placed on the waitlist.

Bonding Against Adversity

- Until further notice, will provide services at our offices by appointment only.
- Call 281-799-9076 or email info@baatexas.org.

BPSOS-Houston

- Phone assistance, call 281-530-6888 or text 405-977-0725.

Catholic Charities Cabrini Center

- Charlas are postponed.
- Clients will be served telephonically by appointment only. All in-person meetings are being rescheduled for after April 10. Call 713-874-6750 for assistance

JFON Houston

- Has moved to telephonic consultations: call 713-454-6470 and leave a message. Messages are being retrieved throughout the day.

KIND

- Are not currently taking new client intakes

Lone Star Legal Aid

- Accepting [online applications](#).

Memorial Assistance Ministries

- Closed to the public and will no longer have a walk-in day until further notice.
- People should call 713-468-4516, ext. 187 in order to be placed on a waitlist for a call from an attorney for a phone consultation.

Tahirih Justice Center

- Has moved to telephonic consultations: (713) 496-0100
- Office will re-open July 1, 2020.

YMCA

- Working to implement phone screenings, details soon: 713-758-9280

Social Services PartnersECHOS Houston

- Open and providing essential services only, call 713-270-0369

Healthy Women Houston

- Continues to accept referrals and provide medical and social support services for pregnant women in the Third Ward/Sunnyside area and Southwest Houston area. More information, including the Referral Form, is [online](#).
- Support by the Community Care Coordinators is being done via phone calls, texts and video conference. If allowed by the health care provider, the Community Care Coordinator may accompany the woman to her OB appointment.

Ibn Sina Foundation

- Screening all patients over the phone before asking them to come in.
- Encouraging patients for TeleHealth Consultations and are providing TelePsych and mental health counselling.
- Screening patients at the entrance and have made arrangements for them to wash their hands before entering the clinic.
- Rearranged our chairs in the lobby keeping social distancing in mind.
- Equipped our lobby with educational material on COVID-19.
- Have a designated room for patients with flu-like symptoms.

- Staff is provided with PPE which is in limited supply; we are in dire need.
- Physicians age 60+ are providing TeleConsultations.
- Providing prescription refills over the phone for those with chronic conditions.
- Only taking emergency dental cases.
- Limited testing in the lab is still available.
- We have ordered Rapid Test kits and will be able start once we receive them.

Interfaith Ministries' Asylum Seekers Case Management

- Is seeing clients by appointment only, conducting telephonic screenings at open and providing essential services only, call 713-382-5045

Living Hope Wheelchair Association

- Has reduced operations.
- Not picking up donations but still providing medical supplies and equipment. People needing medical supplies or equipment have to call in advance, we will call them back to assess their needs and see if we have what they need, then we will make an appointment.
- We focus on the needs of uninsured and underinsured and work mostly (but not exclusively) with immigrants with disabilities. Call 281-764-6251

TCH Mobile Clinic

- Closed for the foreseeable future. Patients are advised to seek care at low cost clinics in their communities. Uninsured should request "discount" or "sliding scale" payments.

*If your agency has service changes, please email Marva: marva@houstonimmigration.org.

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Local (non-immi) Courts

The City of Houston Municipal Courts Department

- The Court remains open for all proceedings except: jury and judge trials, jury duty, arraignments and parking adjudication hearings through May 1, 2020:
 - NO COURT PROCEEDINGS SCHEDULED. If you are a defendant scheduled for court during this period, you do not have to appear. You must reschedule your setting in person no later than May 15, 2020, 9:00p.m. All court functions will resume on Monday, May 4, 2020 unless further notification is provided. Please

note:if an individual fails to reset their case(s) during the reset period (May 4-May 15, 2020), an arrest warrant may be issued.

- NO JURY DUTY. If you have been scheduled for jury duty, you do not need to reschedule your Jury Service. Jury duty will resume May 4, 2020 unless further notification is provided.
- PARKING ADJUDICATION: [Contest your parking citation online.](#)

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Individual Rights and Navigating Court Proceedings during COVID-19

From Texas Law Help

- [What can I do if I need more time to get ready for a court hearing or trial?](#)
- [Can I attend court by telephone or videoconference?](#)
- [What are my voting rights when it comes to early voting and absentee voting by mail?](#)
- [What can I do if I encounter price gouging or scams related to COVID-19?](#)
- [If I am a person with a disability, what resources are available to me?](#)
- [What could happen if I refuse to self-quarantine?](#)
- [How does the public charge rule and accessing health services affect my immigration status?](#)
- [My city or county has issued a "shelter-in-place" or "stay-at-home" order. What does that mean?](#)
- [I am having issues having my documents notarized right now. What are my options?](#)

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Harris County

Please add

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Essential Workers

Definition: pharmacy and healthcare, first responders, critical local and state government staff, mail/delivery services, nursing homes, child care, home healthcare, and other direct care providers, grocery stores, gas stations, banks, restaurants (drive-through and delivery), military personnel, any other worker deemed essential by TWC or local workforce development boards

From Texas Workforce Commission

[Governor Abbot's Executive Order](#)

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IMMIGRATION IMPACT

Analysis

[COVID 19 Policy Shifts](#)

From The Justice Collaborative

[Crisis within a Crisis: Immigration in the United States in a Time of COVID-19](#)

From Migration Policy Institute

[COVID-19 Legislation: Quick Facts and Analysis for Refugees and Resettlement Offices](#)

An analysis from the resettlement community

[Judges, attorneys, ICE union call for closing immigration courts over coronavirus](#)

From Houston Chronicle

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Policy Positions

- [Immigration Enforcement](#)
- [Criminal and Immigrant Justice](#)
- [Immigrant Detention](#)
- [Immigrant Youth](#)
- [Immigration Proceedings](#)
- [Public Charge](#)
- [Naturalization](#)
- [Census](#)
- [Immigrant Community Safeguards](#)

From Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

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Financial Assistance for Undocumented Immigrants

[TX UndocuWorker Fund](#)

From Workers Defense Project

Expanding its support immigrant families impacted by COVID19 who are shut out of other forms of government relief. Goal up to 600, \$250 grants in metro DFW, Houston and Austin.

- [Application for assistance](#). The initial application period is April 1-12, 2020.
- [Donation page](#)

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Healthcare & Public Charge

On March 13, USCIS announced that testing, prevention, or treatment for COVID-19 would NOT be used against immigrants in a public charge test. This means that immigrant families should seek the care they need during this difficult time.

[Immigrant Eligibility for Federal Disaster Relief Programs](#)

From Penn State

[Overview of Immigrant Eligibility for Federal Programs](#)

[Update on Access to Health Care for Immigrants and Their Families](#)

From the National Immigration Law Center

[Legal Issues in Health Care and Public Benefits](#)

From Texas Law Help

- Resources for uninsured Texans needing help with COVID-19 testing or treatment
- Medicare Coverage
- Private Insurance
- Public Benefits
- How does the public charge rule and accessing health services affect my immigration status?

[You Have Rights: Protect Your Health infosheet](#)

[Public Charge Updates](#)

From Protecting Immigrant Families

[Health Care for Immigrants and Public Charge](#)

From Immigration Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

Federal Government Waiver

[Information on emergency declaration waivers, nursing homes, respirators, public charge determinations and new testing codes](#)

From the American Hospital Association

[Public Charge Update](#)

From Immigration Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

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Immi Court, USCIS, ICE: Updates

EOIR: Immigration Court

Non-Detained Courts

- [Updates](#): All non-detained hearings scheduled through May 1, 2020, have been postponed. Respondents will receive a new hearing notice.
- [Court closures](#): All three Houston Immigration Courts (1801 Smith, 1919 Smith, S. Gessner) remain **open** for filings. Mail filings are strongly preferred.

The **Pro Bono Help Desk** at the Immigration Court will re-open July 3.

Rescheduling Hearings

- Make sure the correct address is on file with the court.
- If a court hearing is rescheduled, EOIR will mail a new notice to the address on file.
- The case hotline (1-800-898-7180) may not be updated for cases postponed due to COVID-19. Information will be updated once a new print hearing notice has been issued.

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Filing Documents

EOIR has established temporary email accounts for immigration courts nationwide for electronic filing while the rollout of the EOIR Court & Appeals System (ECAS) is delayed due to COVID-19.

- Those who have already opted in to ECAS should continue to use ECAS where available.
- [Memo on electronic signatures](#)
- Houston area court emails (link shows physical address & phone #):
 - [Conroe \(Detained\)](mailto:Conroe.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov): Conroe.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov
 - [Houston \(Downtown courts\)](mailto:Houston.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov): Houston.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov
 - [Houston \(Gessner\)](mailto:HoustonGessner.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov): HoustonGessner.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov

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MPP, Migrant Protection Protocols

- All master calendar and merit hearings presently scheduled through May 1 will be rescheduled. Neither the MPP program nor any hearings will be cancelled.
- Any individual with an MPP hearing date through May 1 should present themselves at their designated port of entry on their **previously scheduled date** to receive a tear sheet and hearing notice containing their new hearing dates.

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Detained Courts

Custody: Samples to get Released

[Practice advisory](#) and [sample filings](#) to help you advocate for your clients' release.

Will continue to update [the landing page](#) as more materials become available.

From the National Lawyers Guild, National Immigration Project

[Pro se Packet to advocate for release](#) from detention (parole/bond packet) (bilingual)

Innovation Law Lab

[Template motion for custody redetermination in light of Covid-19 pandemic](#)

From the Immigration Defense Project

Conroe Immigration Court

- Any attorney or accredited representative for any party may appear telephonically in hearings without prior approval and without filing a motion in advance.
 - Attorneys or representatives who would like to appear telephonically for a particular hearing should call the main desk in advance of the hearing at 1-936-520-5400 and provide the Alien number, the name of the Immigration Judge presiding over the hearing and the best phone number to reach the attorney or representative.
- If the Court is unable to reach the attorney or representative by telephone for the hearing, the attorney or representative will be required to appear in-person at any rescheduled hearing.
- Any attorney or accredited representative who wishes to appear telephonically does so with the understanding that any paper or electronic filings must be filed in advance of the hearing in sufficient time to be included in the official record of proceeding in accordance with any deadlines set by the Court or, if none, in accordance with the filing deadlines set forth in the Immigration Court Practice Manual. No additional filings will be accepted

at the hearing, and the decision of the Court will be based on the documents in the record at the close of the hearing.

- No filings for any hearing will be accepted over the bench unless filed by pro se litigants. All other filings must be made via ECAS, at the filing window prior to the hearing, or via mail-delivery service.
- Requests to continue cases due to COVID-19 concerns should be filed with as much notice as possible. On an emergency basis, requests may be made to the Court by email to tammy.young@usdoj.gov and serving the request to opposing counsel.
- Attendees at all hearings may be limited to attorneys, respondent, witnesses, security officers and other persons determined by the IJ to be necessary.
- Each Immigration Judge has the discretion to alter this standing order on a case by case basis.

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USCIS: U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services

[Updates](#)

USCIS have closed offices to the public until at least May 3. USCIS staff will continue to perform duties that don't involve contact with the public.

- There will be no interviews, naturalization ceremonies, or biometric collection appointments. You will receive a new appointment letter in the mail. Individuals who had InfoPass or other appointments must reschedule through the [USCIS Contact Center](#) once field offices are open to the public again.
- USCIS will provide emergency services for limited situations. To schedule an emergency appointment contact the [USCIS Contact Center](#).
- For attorneys:
 - [USCIS will accept all benefit forms and documents with reproduced original signatures](#). This means that a document may be scanned, faxed, photocopied, or similarly reproduced provided that the copy must be of an original document containing an original handwritten signature, unless otherwise specified.
 - The Houston Asylum Office will consider emergency service requests - please contact the asylum office: **(281) 931-2100** or Houston.Asylum@uscis.dhs.gov
 - RFEs, NOID, NOIR, and NOIT: For applicants and petitioners who receive such notice dated between March 1 and May 1, 2020, any responses submitted within 60 calendar days after the response deadline set forth in the notice will be considered by USCIS before any action is taken.
 - Applicants who had an appointment scheduled with an ASC after their closure on March 18 or who have filed a Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, extension will have their application processed using previously submitted biometrics.

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ICE: Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Updates: [Website](#) or [Twitter](#)

- ICE Reception at 126 Northpoint Drive is closed, except for:
 - ICE Check-in in Houston, call: 281-774-4782 or 281-774-4784. An officer will record the information and issue a new date to report. **Also email ICE** as part of the reporting: Houston.Outreach@ice.dhs.gov. They should include their A#
 - ICE bond:
 - Only the person who is paying (signing the bond) will be allowed to enter 126 Northpoint Drive.
 - Some facilities in other parts of the US are CLOSED even to pay bond. Call the facility in advance to ensure they can pay there.
 - Those who received an I-340, Notice to Deliver Alien: only the person who paid the bond and the person who was released on bond will be allowed to enter the building at 126 Northpoint Drive.
- [ICE Enforcement](#)
 - ICE will focus enforcement on public safety risks and individuals subject to mandatory detention based on criminal grounds. For those who do not fall into those categories, ERO will exercise discretion to delay enforcement actions until after the crisis or utilize alternatives to detention, as appropriate.

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Houston Detention Centers

NO attorney contact visits in any of the four Houston facilities.

Telephonic appearances are up to each judge, no guarantee but DDH has had good luck to appear telephonically due to not being able to access a facility because of COVID-19.

Montgomery Processing Center (Conroe, run by GEO)

- Visitation -- ICE ERO has suspended detention facility social visits (no family or friends).
- Screening -- as of March 14, GEO began corona virus screening based on CDC guidance.
- Attorneys:
 - Must have PPE (personal protective equipment) to enter the facility (to file documents in court, etc). Masks are not required.
 - All legal professionals must answer screening questions. If there is a "yes" response, attorneys can have a telephonic visit/appointment instead.
 - Attorneys are encouraged to have no contact with the detainees -- no exchange of letters, forms, pens etc.

- Detained courts: attorneys are encouraged to ask for continuances or telephonic appearances with the court. Courts will be wiped and disinfected.

Houston Contract Detention Center (run by Core Civic)

- Visitation -- no visitation allowed for family and friends.
- Screening -- will adopt a screening process like that of MPC and Conroe.
- Attorneys/Court:
 - Courts will be wiped and disinfected after each hearing.
 - Attorneys are encouraged to have no contact with the detainees -- no exchange of letters, forms, pens etc.
 - ICE communicated to AILA that, generally, only those conducting in-person contact visits need personal protective equipment (PPE) but recommend checking with the facility on their individual policy.

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Visitor Visas

[Extend your tourist visa](#), if you cannot depart the U.S. due to Coronavirus.

[Extend your nonimmigrant stay in the US](#)

[Other type of visa extensions](#)

From US Citizenship and Immigration Services

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TAKE ACTION

National/Statewide Campaigns

[Ensure All People Have Access to Care](#); individual sign-on

From United We Dream

[Letters You Can Send Demanding Decarceral Guidelines](#)

From The Justice Collective

[Coronavirus & Immigration Detention: Call to Action](#)

From Detention Watch Network

#FreeThemALL [Release All Immigrants at Risk of Coronavirus](#); individual sign-on

From RAICES

#WorkerMigrantJustice Demands: on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

From NDLO

[#CloseTheCourts for children](#); individual sign-on

From KIND

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News Releases of Campaigns

[LGBTQ and Immigrant Rights Organizations Demand ICE Release All People Currently Detained & Shut Down All Detention Centers in Light of Global Health Crisis](#)

From Transgender Law Center

[Human Rights Advocates with Medical and Legal Expertise Call on Governors, State Health Officials to Direct Reduction, Release of Immigration Detainees to Prevent Coronavirus Spread](#)

From Human Rights First, Amnesty International USA, and Physicians for Human Rights

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Local Opportunities to Donate or Volunteer

[Volunteer Houston](#)

Houston Food Bank: [Volunteer](#) and [Donate](#)

[Houston Virtual Tip Jar](#)

[Houston Crisis LGBTQI+ Latinx COVID-19: Donate](#)

Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM): [Volunteer](#) | [Donate](#)

[Sign On to Texas Gulf Coast Area Labor Federation Letter to Houston Mayor and City Council to support local workers](#)

We're here to support the establishment of a COVID-19 fund to be used to provide for urgent health needs such as sanitary supplies, medical care, and hotel rooms possibly for those who need to self quarantine.

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CENSUS 2020

[DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH TOOLKIT: Ensuring an Accurate Count of Latinos in Census 2020 Amid COVID-19 Situation](#)

From NALEO

Adjusted Timeline

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PRIORITIZING MENTAL HEALTH

Local Support

Self-Care Support Group for Service Providers
 Wednesdays at 10am, [Register here!](#)
From the Alliance

General Information

[The Disaster Distress Helpline](#), 1-800-985-5990; or text 'TalkWithUs' to 66746

- A 24/7, 365 national hotline to provide immediate crisis counseling for people experiencing emotional distress related to any disaster, including pandemics.
- Toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support available in the U.S. and territories.
- Stress, anxiety, and other depression-like symptoms are common during and after a man made or natural disaster.

[Mental Health and Coping During COVID19](#)

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

[How to Care for Your Mental Health During the Corona Virus Lockdown](#)

From Slate

[16 Directories for Therapists of Color](#)

From Just Davia

[QTPOC Mental Health Practitioner Directory](#)

From National Queer and Trans Therapists of Color Network

[Living with Mental Illness during COVID-19 - Preparing For Your Wellness](#)

From Mental Health America

Controlling Anxiety

- [Controlling Coronavirus Anxiety](#)
- [Virus Anxiety](#)
- [Anxiety is Also Contagious. Here's How to Calm Down](#)
- [If coronavirus scares you, read this to take control over your health anxiety](#)
- [How to STOP, Breathe, Listen and Connect During the COVID Outbreak](#)
- [Tips for the Public - Managing Your Stress](#)
- [Helping Children Cope with Stress \(World Health Organization\)](#)
- [Self-Care - 5 minute Breaks during COVID-19 \(The Jung Center\)](#)

[\(Back to Top\)](#)**Need Help?**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

800-273-8255 | 888-628-9454 (Spanish) | [Deaf, Hard of Hearing](#)

24-hour Crisis Line: 713-970-7000, option 1

Mental Health Support Number: 833-251-7544

From The Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities

Domestic Violence Hotline: 713-528-2121

Sexual Assault Hotline: 713-528-7273

From Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC)

[Telehealth Group Supports](#)

From Olive Branch Muslim Family Services

[\(Back to Top\)](#)**DIGITAL RESOURCES IN A TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING****Computers and Internet**

'Computer Drive-Thru' lottery for free computers for kids!

- [Comp-U-Dopt reservation system](#).
- 1602 Airline Drive
- Not a loan but a permanent placement.
- Currently booking 60 reservations per day for a weekly lottery. Reservations open each day at noon and fill up in minutes.

From ComputDot

[Comcast](#) free internet service for two months

- New families who connect to Comcast's Internet Essentials program will get free internet service for two months. The Internet Essentials program is normally available to qualified low-income households in Comcast's service area for \$9.95/month (check for <https://www.internetessentials.com/> for eligibility requirements). You can cancel at any time (no contract and no term) if you don't want to continue the program after the first two months.
- Visit <https://www.internetessentials.com/> to sign up online or call 1-855-846-8376 (English) and 1-855-765-6995 (Spanish) to sign up over the phone. After you sign up, Comcast will mail you a free self-install kit with a cable modem and a Wi-Fi router.

Digital [toolkit](#) from LASSA:

- Exploring technology in the context of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and violence against women

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Working from Home: Legal Providers

[Best Practices for Providing Legal Aid and Working Remotely](#)

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Useful Tech

[Zoom Video Tutorials](#)

[Netflix Party](#) - watch Netflix with your friends online

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Virtual Field Trips

[Discovery Education Field Trips](#)

[12 Museums You Can Tour From Your Couch](#)

[Google Arts & Culture Database](#)

[Take a 5 Hour Tour of Russia's Iconic Hermitage Museum](#)

[Walk Through the Thyssen Museum Rembrandt or Permanent Collections](#)

[View the Monterey Bay Aquarium](#)

[View the Webcams at the Houston Zoo](#)

[The Metropolitan Nightly Opera Stream](#)

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Mind & Body Care

[UndocuHealth](#)

[Mental Health Toolkit](#)

From UnitedWeDream

[Yoga with Adriene](#)

[United We Move – Planet Fitness](#)

[Core Power Yoga On Demand](#)

[NY Times How to Meditate Guide](#)

[PopSugar Active](#)

[YMCA 360](#): free Instructor-led fitness classes online, accessed via tablet or computer

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Mental Floss

[Browse SkillsShare for How To Videos](#)

[Live Stream the Met Opera](#)

[Houston Oral History](#)

[Ivy League Free Online Courses](#)

[What to Watch, Listen to and Cook During Quarantine](#)

[Quarantine Kitchen: Iranians share recipes, flavors, and joy despite the threat of coronavirus](#)

[Free Personal Finance Courses and Resources](#)

[List of Online Resources for those Isolated at Home](#)

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Reading Material

[Longreads](#)

[Longform](#)

[Maptia: A World of Stories](#)

[The Guardian: Long Reads](#)

[Aeon: A World of Ideas](#)

[Narratively: Human Stories, Boldly Told](#)

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Education Resources for Adults and Children

[YMCA International Services: ESL, Pre-GED, and Citizenship Prep](#)

[Neuhaus Academy: adolescent through adult learners](#)

[Anti-Oppressive, Anti-Racist Homeschool Curriculum](#)

[Scholastic: Learn at Home](#)

[Celebrities Reading Children's Books](#)

[Brooklyn Public Library Family Storytime](#)

[Think Indigenous - Online Indigenous Education K-8](#)

[Sesame Street Preschool](#)

[Girls Who Code: Code at Home Activities](#)

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MISCELLANEOUS