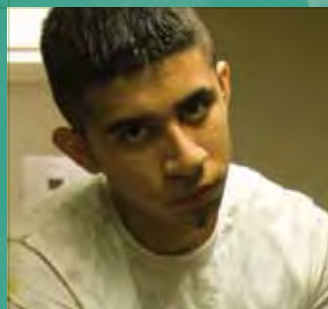




# Services Available To Victims of Human Trafficking

**A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS**



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## Introduction

**T**he Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) authorizes the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to certify foreign victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons, making these individuals eligible for federally funded benefits and services to the same extent as refugees. Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of commercial sex or labor; they can be young children, teenagers, men, and women. There are many benefits and services available for foreign trafficking victims, including Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance, the Matching Grant Program, the Public Housing Program, and Job Corps. In addition, there are many community resources available for them. Trafficking victims generally are not able to obtain these resources by themselves; they need social services providers to assist them in accessing benefits and services so that they can achieve self-sufficiency, become survivors of human trafficking, and rebuild their lives in the United States.

Social services providers play an important role in helping victims of human trafficking restore their lives. The needs of trafficking victims tend to be complex, often involving interactions with multi-jurisdictional law enforcement personnel, lawyers, and an array of benefit providers. Also, service providers must consider the varying levels of trauma the victim has endured and the victim's cultural background when addressing his or her needs. This booklet can guide service providers in helping their clients access services. It briefly describes the many community and State-funded resources available for victims. In addition, it outlines the types of Federal benefits and services available to trafficking victims in various immigration categories.

## Resources for Pre-Certified Victims

Pre-certified victims are persons who are neither U.S. citizens nor Lawful Permanent Residents (“foreign victims”) and who have not yet received a Certification Letter from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) allowing them to access federally funded benefits and services to the same extent as refugees. There are many resources available to pre-certified victims, and many nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are very knowledgeable and helpful in using community resources to assist victims.

### Community Resources

Here are some of the local resources NGOs can use for victims:

- **Food:** Food pantries; soup kitchens; faith-based food programs; supermarkets/restaurants/bakeries providing day-old, slightly damaged, or leftover food items to charitable organizations
- **Shelter:** Domestic violence/women’s shelters; runaway and homeless youth shelters; transitional housing programs; shelters for undocumented immigrants (usually for men); and faith-based housing programs, such as the Catholic Worker Movement that provides housing opportunities in many U.S. communities (<http://www.catholicworker.org/communities/commlistall.cfm>); some faith-based organizations donate rent money or identify church members who can offer temporary housing; temporary shelter in seminaries, convents, or school dorms; State foster care for eligible children; state or local housing and community development agencies can provide lists of affordable housing projects and identify non-profit organizations that manage affordable housing
- **Clothing and Goods:** Local chapters of national organizations providing clothing and goods (Goodwill, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, AMVETS Thrift Stores); many nonprofits operating thrift stores offer free clothing giveaways; professional clothing donation services, such as local Dress for Success® affiliates ([http://www.dressforsuccess.org/dfs\\_affiliates.aspx](http://www.dressforsuccess.org/dfs_affiliates.aspx)) or The Women’s Alliance (<http://www.thewomensalliance.org/>); similar locally operated programs can be found through Internet search engines; some churches, schools, and hospitals operate clothing drives/clothing banks; refugee resettlement agencies provide donated goods; yard sales are excellent sources for inexpensive used clothing and household goods; many department stores give away damaged and out-of-season clothing to charitable organizations; community dry cleaners may operate clothing donation drop-off sites; hotels may donate old furniture when renovating or they may be willing to provide shampoo and other toiletries; sexual assault crisis center clothing collections; churches, businesses, and civic organizations may be willing to donate gift cards for grocery stores or discount department stores

- **Medical:** Community health centers; migrant health clinics; city clinics; homeless clinics; free clinics at universities or in communities; health fairs at community hospitals (for preventive services); county mental health clinics; health programs operated out of NGOs; substance abuse services; maternal and child health programs; parenting classes
- **Legal:** Legal aid clinics/agencies/foundations; law school clinics; *pro bono* services offered by law firms; employment law centers; community-based legal providers, such as those serving particular ethnic communities; immigration rights clinics; nonprofit organizations providing legal assistance to immigrants; faith-based immigration relief organizations, such as the Catholic Legal Immigrant Network, Inc. (CLINIC), which provides support services to diocesan and other affiliated immigration programs, with field offices in 48 States (for a listing of CLINIC members, go to <http://cliniclegal.org/> and click on the icon “Public Directory Clinic Members”)
- **Job Training Programs:** Local affiliates of Goodwill Industries offer job training programs (<http://www.goodwill.org/goodwill-for-you/jobs-and-careers/>); CareerOneStop (<http://www.careeronestop.org/>) lists local contacts for apprenticeships and employment assistance; vocational training and job placement assistance are offered by community colleges and immigrant or refugee assistance organizations
- **Education Services:** GED assistance and general educational assistance programs at local adult education centers; immigrant community organizations; city/neighborhood community centers; ESL (English as a second language) classes held at churches, schools, libraries, community colleges; translation/interpreting services (written/live language assistance; native tongue literacy)
- **Transportation:** Clients enrolled in education programs can sometimes qualify for lower fares for public transportation, such as the subway, bus, or train, with a student ID; voluntary driver programs (often operated out of churches); car and bike donation programs
- **Crime Victim Compensation:** Clients can usually apply at the city or county levels; funds can be used to pay for many of the above services, including relocation costs for safety reasons (see U.S. Department of Justice programs discussed later in this booklet)
- **Other Assistance:** Battered immigrant women’s programs; sexual assault coalitions; rape crisis centers; ethnic community organizations; faith-based organizations

These are only some of the many community resources service providers can use to assist trafficking victims. Service providers are often very creative in using these resources to meet victims' needs. For instance, service providers may ask a local dentist to provide free or low-cost dental services; get onto a donation list for a local department store to receive "out-of-season" clothing; work with a local church to find temporary housing or to identify a member of the church who can provide transportation; ask a local church to place a notice seeking specific donations from parishioners in its church bulletin; develop a car donation program or work with a local nonprofit that operates a car donation program; or approach a local law firm to provide *pro bono* legal services.





## State-Funded Assistance

States are considering and enacting anti-trafficking legislation, which often includes restitution to victims of this crime. For example, NY and CA have passed laws that provide State-funded services to pre-certified victims of human trafficking:

- **New York State** enacted legislation that provides services for pre-certified trafficking victims (Chapter 74 of the Laws of 2007). State-funded services include case management, emergency temporary housing, health care (including mental health), drug addiction screening and treatment, language and translation services, and job training. To learn about services for human trafficking victims in New York State, contact the New York State Bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance at 1-518-402-3096 or <http://otda.ny.gov/programs/bria/trafficking.asp>.
- **California** enacted legislation in 2006 (SB 1569) to expand protections for trafficking survivors, including temporary and immediate access to services prior to Federal Certification. The California Department of Social Services' Human Trafficking Fact Sheet (January 2008) provides an overview of State-funded services available to pre-certified victims as well as links to receive additional information and to apply for benefits or services through the County Welfare Department (<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/PG1726.htm>). In December 2006, the California Department of Social Services issued pre- and post-implementation letters to county welfare departments with information and instructions to implement SB 1569 (<http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/getinfo/acl06/pdf/06-60.pdf> and [http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acin07/pdf/I-41\\_07.pdf](http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acin07/pdf/I-41_07.pdf)), and has since also provided Special Notices with additional guidance.

Monitor your State legislature Web sites to identify any pending or enacted legislation that provides services for pre-certified victims of human trafficking.

In addition, the Polaris Project website has detailed information about state anti-trafficking laws, including those with provisions for victim assistance; visit <http://www.polarisproject.org/what-we-do/policy-advocacy/state-policy/current-laws> for more information.



## **Federal Assistance**

Contact the following Federal resources for information about obtaining services for pre-certified victims of human trafficking:

### **HHS Services Grants**

HHS Services Grants provide comprehensive case management services to foreign victims and potential victims of trafficking seeking HHS certification in any location in the United States. The grantees provide case management to assist a victim of trafficking to become certified, and other necessary services after Certification, through a network of nongovernmental service organization sub-awardees in locations throughout the country.

These grants ensure the provision of efficient, high-quality services to victims of human trafficking. They also streamline support to help victims of human trafficking gain timely access to shelter, legal assistance, job training, and health care, enabling them to live free of violence and exploitation.

Please contact the grantees regarding services for a client or to obtain information on how to become a sub-awardee. Below is a list of the HHS Service Grantees, contact information, and the states for which it or its partners provide services:

- U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)  
Contact information: 1-800-307-4712 or [traffickingvictims@uscridc.org](mailto:traffickingvictims@uscridc.org)  
States: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, KS, LA, MD, MO, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV, and WY, plus the following territories: American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.
- Heartland Human Care Services  
Contact information: 1-800-837-5345  
States: CT, IL, IN, MA, ME, MI, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OH, RI, VT, WI
- Tapestri, Inc.  
Contact information: 404-299-2185  
States: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN

### **National Human Trafficking Resource Center**

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) is a national, toll-free hotline for the human trafficking field in the United States and is reached by calling **1-888-373-7888** or e-mailing [NHTRC@PolarisProject.org](mailto:NHTRC@PolarisProject.org). The NHTRC operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year. The NHTRC works to improve the national response to protect victims of human trafficking in the United States by providing callers with a range of comprehensive services, including crisis intervention, urgent and non-urgent referrals, tip reporting, and comprehensive anti-trafficking resources and technical assistance for the anti-trafficking field and those who wish to get involved.



The NHTRC is able to connect community members with additional tools to raise awareness and combat human trafficking in their local areas, as well as guide service providers and law enforcement personnel in their work with potential trafficking victims. To perform these functions, the NHTRC maintains a national database of organizations and individuals working in the anti-trafficking field, as well as a library of available anti-trafficking resources and materials. To view these materials, access online trainings or report tips online, go to the NHTRC website: **<http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org>**

***Office for Victims of Crime***

The U.S. Department of Justice's (USDOJ) Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) provides services for pre-certified trafficking victims (see USDOJ charts for more information). Services include housing or shelter; food; medical, mental health, and dental services; interpreter/translator services; criminal justice victim advocacy; legal services; social services advocacy; literacy education; and/or employment assistance. See **<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/grants/traffickingmatrix.html>** for more information about these services. In addition, OVC's Online Directory of Crime Victim Services identifies local organizations providing services for crime victims: **<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices/>**.



## Certification for Foreign Victims

HHS is the Federal agency authorized to certify adult foreign victims of human trafficking, which allows them access to federally funded benefits and services to the same extent as refugees. Similarly, HHS is the Federal agency authorized to provide Eligibility Letters for foreign child victims of human trafficking, which allows them access to federally funded benefits and services to the same extent as refugees. The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within HHS issues all Certification and Eligibility Letters. Trafficking victims who are U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR)<sup>1</sup> do not need Certification or Letters of Eligibility to be eligible for similar benefits and services.

### Steps to Obtaining Certification for Foreign Victims

**According to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), there are three requirements for Certification for adult victims of human trafficking:**

- An individual must have been subjected to a severe form of trafficking in persons, as defined in the TVPA;
- A victim is willing to assist in every reasonable way in the investigation and prosecution of the trafficking case, or is unable to cooperate with such a request due to physical or psychological trauma; and
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has granted Continued Presence (CP) to the victim, or notified the victim that his or her T visa application is *bona fide* or approved.

<sup>1</sup> A person who obtained Lawful Permanent Resident status prior to being trafficked is not eligible for Certification, nor is an LPR child eligible to receive a Letter of Eligibility. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has already granted an LPR permission to reside and work in the United States for an indefinite period. Therefore, DHS does not grant Continued Presence or a T visa to LPRs, making them ineligible for Certification. LPRs are eligible for many Federal benefits and services, although (as outlined in charts in this booklet), LPRs have a five-year waiting period before they are eligible to apply for certain benefits and services.

## Foreign Victims Who Are Children

While adult trafficking victims need Certification to receive refugee benefits and services, victims who are children (under 18) need an Eligibility Letter or an interim assistance letter issued by HHS to access benefits and services to the same extent as refugees. Unlike adults, children are not required to comply with requests to assist with a law enforcement investigation or prosecution of a trafficking case, or to have Continued Presence or a T visa, to receive an Eligibility Letter or an interim assistance letter. (For the purpose of defining the types of benefits and services eligible to a potential foreign child trafficking victim, unless otherwise noted, the term 'Eligibility Letter' in this document refers to both the Eligibility Letter and the interim assistance letter).

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (Pub. L. 110-457), signed into law on December 23, 2008, directs HHS, upon receipt of credible information that a child may have been subjected to trafficking in persons, to make a prompt determination if the child is eligible for up to 90 days of interim assistance. Before the end of that period, HHS, in consultation with USDOJ, DHS and nongovernmental experts, will determine if the child is eligible for long-term assistance. Not later than 24 hours after a Federal, State, or local official discovers that a person who is under 18 years of age, and who is neither a U.S. citizen nor an LPR, may be a victim of trafficking in persons, the official must notify HHS to facilitate the provision of interim assistance.

To request an eligibility letter for a foreign child victim of trafficking, contact the ORR Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division a [ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov) or (202) 205-4582, or fax your request to (202) 401-5487. An ORR Child Protection Specialist will respond after reviewing the request. You can obtain a copy of a request form at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking>.



### Continued Presence

The Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) grants Continued Presence (CP), which is a one-year form of immigration relief that Federal law enforcement officials request on behalf of a victim of a severe form of trafficking who is also a potential witness. Continued Presence allows the victim to remain in the United States during the course of an investigation or prosecution as well as obtain an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), which provides the victim with the documentation required to work legally in the United States.



## T Visa

The T visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows a foreign victim of human trafficking to remain in the United States for up to four years. The victim must apply directly to DHS for T non-immigrant status by filing an application for a T visa (also called the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services Form I-914). Assistance from an immigration attorney or other legal service provider is often helpful in completing the application.

Since foreign trafficking victims often have complicated legal needs, it is important to connect them with an immigration attorney as soon as possible. For guidance in initiating legal assistance for victims, consult the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and/or local service providers listed in the OVC Online Directory with experience in working with trafficking victims (<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices/>).

As described in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Instructions for Completing Form I-914, a Federal law enforcement officer endorsement is strongly advised. If a victim does not submit a Federal law enforcement endorsement as a part of his or her T visa application, then the victim must submit an explanation describing attempts to obtain the endorsement and accounting for the lack of or unavailability of the endorsement. Alternately, the victim must submit an explanation describing why he or she did not attempt to obtain the Federal law enforcement endorsement.

### **There are several benefits to a T visa, including:**

- Legal non-immigrant status in the United States for a period of four years;
- Employment authorization;
- Possibility of adjusting status to Lawful Permanent Resident; and
- Immediate family members may obtain non-immigrant status as T visa derivatives.

## Derivative T Visas

Family members (known as derivatives) of trafficking victims who have received a T visa can apply for a special T visa for derivatives. Eligible family members include the spouse, child, parent, or an unmarried minor sibling of a victim of trafficking victim who is under 21 years of age, or the spouse or child of a victim of trafficking who is 21 years of age or older. Like Certified trafficking victims, T visa derivatives are eligible for Federal benefits and services to the same extent as refugees. Also, derivatives can apply for EADs.



### After Continued Presence or a T Visa Is Issued

When the U.S. Department of Homeland Security grants an adult victim Continued Presence, a T visa, or notice of a *bona fide* T visa application, DHS notifies the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). HHS contacts the victim-witness coordinator, victim-witness control officer, or the immigration attorney (if any) to obtain the name of the service provider to issue the Certification Letter. The service provider helps the victim apply for and receive the refugee benefits and services for which he or she is eligible.

### The Certification Letter

The Certification Letter indicates a victim's eligibility for federally funded benefits and services. It contains a Certification date; eligibility for benefits and services begins on the date of Certification. Certification letters do not expire, but many benefits and services are time sensitive.

### Derivatives and Certification

Derivatives (family members of a victim) do not receive Certification Letters; however, Derivative T visa holders are eligible for benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee. For an individual who is already present in the United States on the date the DHS issues the Derivative T status, the period of eligibility begins on the date that DHS grants T status, as indicated on the Notice Date on the I-797, the Notice of Action of approval of the individual's Derivative T status. For the individual who enters the United States on the basis of a Derivative T visa, the period of eligibility begins on the date that the individual is admitted to the United States, as indicated by the date stamped on the individual's passport or I-94 Arrival Record.

### Certification and Benefit-Granting Agencies

Adult and minor foreign trafficking victims applying for benefits at a benefit-granting agency must present a Certification or Eligibility Letter in order to apply for benefits. The victim does not need to provide any immigration documents. The victim should always retain the original Certification or Eligibility Letter. The victim may submit a photocopy of the letter to benefit-granting agencies. Benefit-granting agencies may photocopy the letter for record-keeping purposes only.

Benefit-granting agencies should call HHS' Trafficking Victim Verification Line (1-866-401-5510) at intake to verify the validity of each Certification or Eligibility Letter. These agencies should also inform HHS of the benefits for which each trafficking victim has applied.

### State Refugee Coordinators

Every State, except Wyoming, has a State Refugee Coordinator and often a State Refugee Health Coordinator who oversee benefits for trafficking victims as well as refugees and other populations. Contact the State Refugee Coordinator and/or State Refugee Health Coordinator for information on benefits for trafficking victims in your State by visiting the following Web site: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/partners/state\\_partners.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/partners/state_partners.htm).



## Federal Benefits and Services

The following is an overview of the Federal benefits and services available to trafficking victims, as well as charts regarding program eligibility for Certified, Eligible, non-U.S. citizen, U.S. citizen, and Lawful Permanent Resident victims.

**In addition to having a qualifying immigration status, applicants (including derivatives) must meet certain eligibility requirements for each program, such as age, family composition, residence, and limitations on income and resources. For children granted interim assistance, the 90-day limit on the period of interim assistance may preclude or interfere with participation in programs or benefits with minimum participation periods longer than 90 days or where the benefits of the program cannot practicably be realized within that time period.**

These charts provide a general overview of eligibility for services. Please contact your State Refugee Coordinator, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center—1-888-373-7888—or the appropriate Federal agency directly for additional information.

### **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

#### ***Eligibility for HHS Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*</b>	<b>Medicaid</b>	<b>Children's Health Insurance Program</b>	<b>Health Resources and Services Administration Programs</b>	<b>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Programs</b>
<b>Certified Adult</b>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)**</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

\* Through TANF, States may only provide assistance to a financially needy family that consists of, at a minimum, a child living with his/her parent or other caretaker relative, or consists of a pregnant woman. Therefore, the adult individual must be the parent or other caretaker relative of a minor child or a pregnant woman. Conversely, the minor child must be living with his/her parent or other caretaker relative.

\*\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:



**Eligibility for HHS Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking**

Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*	Medicaid	Children's Health Insurance Program	Health Resources and Services Administration Programs	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Programs**
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)***	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Lawfully Present in U.S. (not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)****	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes, after a five-year waiting period.	Yes, after a five-year waiting period.	No for adults; yes, after a five-year waiting period for minors.	Yes	Yes
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes	No for adults; yes for minors.	Yes	Yes

\* Through TANF, States may only provide assistance to a financially needy family that consists of, at a minimum, a child living with his/her parent or other caretaker relative, or consists of a pregnant woman. Therefore, the adult individual must be the parent or other caretaker relative of a minor child or a pregnant woman. Conversely, the minor child must be living with his/her parent or other caretaker relative.

\*\* All decisions regarding eligibility for these services and types of treatment are made at the local and State levels or by the benefit-granting agency.

\*\*\* Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection or who overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), HHS:** TANF funds State programs that provide assistance for families with children when the parents or other caretaker relatives are unable to provide for the family's basic needs. Each State and territory decides both the benefits it will provide and the eligibility criteria for receiving financial assistance payments or other types of TANF benefits and services. In order to be eligible for TANF, the client must be a member of an eligible family that also meets other TANF programmatic eligibility requirements, such as income, resources, and residency. If a Certified adult victim (or Eligible minor) is not eligible for TANF, he or she may be eligible for ORR Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), as long as the victim meets RCA program eligibility requirements (see the following section on ORR benefits and services). Check with your local TANF office to obtain information on eligibility for TANF assistance or other TANF benefits and services.

**<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/>**



***Medicaid, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS:*** Medicaid provides health coverage for low-income pregnant women, children, parents, adults, and those with disabilities who may have no insurance or inadequate medical insurance. Although the Federal Government establishes general guidelines for the program, each State establishes Medicaid program requirements. The local Medicaid office evaluates a Certified adult victim for eligibility for Medicaid. If the Medicaid office determines the person is not eligible for Medicaid, then the victim may be eligible for ORR Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA), as long as the victim meets RMA program eligibility requirements (see the following section on ORR benefits and services). For specific information about enrollment in Medicaid, eligibility, coverage, and services for your State, please contact your local Medicaid office: <http://www.govbenefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/606>. For additional information on Medicaid, go to: <https://www.cms.hhs.gov/home/medicaid.asp>

***Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), CMS, HHS:*** CHIP provides health coverage for children who do not qualify for Medicaid, yet do not have private insurance. Children who do not currently have health insurance may be eligible, even if parents are working. This insurance pays for doctor visits, prescription medicines, hospitalizations, and other services. The Federal Government and individual States jointly finance CHIP, and each State administers CHIP. Within broad Federal guidelines, each State determines the design of its program, eligibility groups, benefit packages, payment levels for coverage, and administrative and operating procedures. States have different eligibility rules, but in most States, uninsured children 18 years old and younger, whose families earn up to \$34,100 a year (for a family of four) are eligible. <https://www.cms.gov/home/chip.asp>; [www.insurekidsnow.gov](http://www.insurekidsnow.gov), 1-877-KIDS-NOW

***Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HHS:*** HRSA offers health care and support to uninsured, underserved, and special needs populations. HRSA issues grants to federally funded health centers that are available to anyone regardless of their ability to pay. The health centers charge patients using a sliding fee scale, based on their income. Health centers provide well-care checkups, treatment for sick patients, complete care for pregnant patients, immunizations and checkups for children, dental care, prescription drugs, as well as mental health and substance abuse care. Health centers are located in most cities and many rural areas. To find a health center, go to: [http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/Search\\_HCC.aspx](http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/Search_HCC.aspx); <http://www.hrsa.gov/index.html>; 1-888-ASK-HRSA

***Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA),***

**HHS:** SAMHSA funds services for individuals who have or are at risk for mental and substance abuse disorders. State substance abuse and mental health agencies administer these programs. All decisions regarding eligibility for services and types of treatment are made at the local and State levels or by the provider. Contact your State substance abuse and mental health agencies to find out what services are available in your area.

**Substance Abuse Resources:**

- For a listing of State substance abuse agencies, go to:  
<http://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/ufds/abusedirectors>
- To find a substance abuse and/or mental health treatment program near you, go to: <http://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>

**Mental Health Resources:**

- For a listing of State mental health agencies, go to:  
<http://store.samhsa.gov/mhlocator>
- To find a mental health treatment program near you, go to:  
<http://store.samhsa.gov/mhlocator>

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:**

SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services funds a 24-hour, toll-free, suicide prevention service available to anyone in emotional distress or suicidal crisis. **If your client needs help, call 1-800-273-TALK (8255).** Crisis counselors will locate the closest possible crisis center in your area. With more than 130 crisis centers across the country, the Lifeline's mission is to provide immediate assistance to anyone seeking mental health services. See <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/> for more information.

For additional SAMHSA substance abuse and mental health resources, go to: <http://www.samhsa.gov/treatment/index.aspx> or call SAMHSA's 24-Hour Toll-Free Referral Helpline at **1-800-662-HELP (1-800-662-4357).**



**Eligibility for HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking (Table 1)**

Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim	Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)*	Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)*	Refugee Social Services and Targeted Assistance	Voluntary Agency Matching Grant Program
Certified Adult	Yes, available up to eight months from the date of Certification.	Yes, available up to eight months from the date of Certification.	Yes, available up to 60 months from the date of Certification.	Yes, enrollment must occur within 31 days of the date of Certification; only available for six months from the date of Certification.
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)**	No	Yes, available up to eight months from the date of Eligibility.	Yes, available up to 60 months from the date of Eligibility for minors 16 years of age and older who are not full-time students. Full-time students may apply if they are seeking part-time or temporary employment while a student, or full-time permanent employment upon completion of school.	Children under 18 are only eligible if they are part of a family/case where there is an employable adult; the adult/ case must enroll within 31 days of Eligibility.

\* In order to be eligible for RCA and/or RMA, a Certified or Eligible victim must first be found ineligible for TANF, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

\*\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

**Eligibility for HHS/ORR Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking**

Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category	Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)	Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)	Refugee Social Services and Targeted Assistance	Voluntary Agency Matching Grant Program
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)*	No	No	No	No
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	No	No	No	No
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes, if within time limits.	Yes, if within time limits.	Yes, if within time limits.	Yes, if within time limits.
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No	No	No	No
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No	No	No	No

\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), HHS:*** RCA provides cash assistance for trafficking victims who are ineligible for TANF or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). RCA benefits are available for up to eight months from the date of Certification. Recipients of Refugee Cash Assistance are required to register for employment services and participate in employability service programs, unless specifically exempted by State criteria. Minors who cannot comply with the employability service requirements such as minors in school or those without work authorization are not eligible to receive RCA. Also, a full-time student in an institution of higher education is not eligible to receive RCA.

**<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/benefits/cma.htm>**

***Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA), ORR, ACF, HHS:*** RMA provides medical assistance for trafficking victims who are ineligible for Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). RMA benefits are available for up to eight months from the date of Certification, or the date of Eligibility if the client is a minor. Depending on the State, RMA may cover costs associated with a medical screening.

**<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/benefits/cma.htm>**

***Refugee Social Services and Targeted Assistance, ORR, ACF, HHS:*** These programs support employability services and other services that address participants' barriers to self-sufficiency and integration and may include employment services, employability assessment, on-the-job training, English-language training, vocational training, social adjustment services, interpretation and translation services, job-related day care for children, citizenship and naturalization services, etc. Employability services are designed to enable trafficking victims and other eligible populations to obtain employment and become self-sufficient as soon as possible. Services provided by Refugee Social Services and Targeted Assistance programs differ by State. Benefits are available for up to 60 months from the date of Certification or Eligibility. Citizenship and naturalization services and referral and interpreter services are not time limited; they may be provided beyond 60 months. Minors must have work authorization in order to benefit from employment services.

**[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/ref\\_social\\_prg.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/ref_social_prg.htm)**

**<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/tap.htm>**

***Voluntary Agency Matching Grant Program, ORR, ACF, HHS:*** The Voluntary Agency Matching Grant Program is an alternative to public assistance designed to enable clients to become self-sufficient within four to six months from the date of Certification or Eligibility. A network of approximately 230 local resettlement offices in 43 States provides Matching Grant services, which are provided in a comprehensive multilingual, multicultural manner. Clients must complete enrollment in Matching Grant within 31 days of the date of Certification or Eligibility. Required services are case management, maintenance assistance (cash

assistance and housing, when needed), and employment services. Matching Grant can make referrals for additional services such as English-language training, social adjustment services, health and medical services, employment training/re-certification, and support services. Matching Grant enrollees can receive Refugee Medical Assistance, but they are not eligible for Refugee Cash Assistance or TANF. [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/match\\_grant\\_prg.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/match_grant_prg.htm)

***Eligibility for HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking (Table 2)***

Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim	ORR Medical Screenings	Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) Program	Services for Survivors of Torture*
Certified Adult	Yes	No	Must meet definition of torture victim.
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)**	Yes	Yes	Must meet definition of torture victim.

\* Clients are determined eligible for the Services for Torture Survivors Program in accordance with the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (TVRA). To view the TVRA’s definition of torture, please see the following Web site: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/services\\_survivors\\_torture.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/services_survivors_torture.htm)

\*\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

***Eligibility for HHS/ORR Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category	ORR Medical Screenings	Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) Program	Services for Survivors of Torture*
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	No	No	Must meet definition of torture victim.
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)***	No	No	Must meet definition of torture victim.
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes, if within time limits.	Yes, if within time limits.	Must meet definition of torture victim.
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No	No	Must meet definition of torture victim.
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No	No	Must meet definition of torture victim.

\* Clients are determined eligible for the Services for Torture Survivors Program in accordance with the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (TVRA). To view the TVRA’s definition of torture, please see the following Web site: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/services\\_survivors\\_torture.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/services_survivors_torture.htm)

\*\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***Medical Screenings, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), HHS:*** Preventive health medical screenings and assessments are available to Certified trafficked persons and Eligible minors for early diagnosis and treatment of illnesses that are contagious or are barriers to self-sufficiency. This usually includes screening for tuberculosis (TB), parasites, and hepatitis B, as well as school vaccinations. Screenings are not available in every location. To arrange for a referral for a medical screening, contact your State Refugee Coordinator or Refugee Health Coordinator via the following Web site:

**[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/partners/state\\_partners.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/partners/state_partners.htm)**

***Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program (URM), ORR, ACF, HHS:*** ORR's URM program can provide care to an unaccompanied child victim of trafficking who has received an Eligibility Letter and met established criteria for reclassification or designation as an unaccompanied refugee minor. The URM program provides specialized, culturally appropriate foster care or other licensed care settings according to children's individual needs. Legal responsibility is established, under State law, to ensure that there is a legal authority to act in place of the child's unavailable parent(s). Unaccompanied child trafficking victims receive the full range of assistance, care, and services that are available to other foster children in the State. Depending on their individual needs, children are placed in foster homes, group care, independent living, or residential treatment settings. Services include: indirect financial support for housing, food, clothing, and medical care; intensive case management; family reunification; independent living skills training; educational supports; English-language training; career/college counseling; mental health services; assistance adjusting immigration status; cultural activities; recreational opportunities; support for social integration; and retention of ethnic and religious heritage. To access the URM program for a child victim of trafficking who has received an Eligibility Letter, contact the ORR Child Protection Specialist at 202-205-4582. For more information on ORR's URM program, visit the following Web site:

**[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/unaccompanied\\_refugee\\_minors.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/unaccompanied_refugee_minors.htm)**

***Services for Survivors of Torture Program, ORR, ACF, HHS:*** ORR's Services for Survivors of Torture provides rehabilitative services, including treatment for the psychological and physical effects of torture; social and legal services; and research and training for health care providers outside of treatment centers or programs. Individuals eligible for services are those who suffered torture in foreign countries and are now present in the United States regardless of their immigration status. Individuals who have suffered torture only as a result of trafficking experiences in the United States do not meet the eligibility standard for this program.

**[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/services\\_survivors\\_torture.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/services_survivors_torture.htm)**



## **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

### ***Eligibility for USDA Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>Child Nutrition Programs</b>	<b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamp Program)*</b>	<b>Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)</b>
Certified Adult	No	Yes	Yes
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)**	Yes	Yes	Yes

\*From October 1, 2008 forward, the Food Stamp Program will be known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

\*\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

### ***Eligibility for USDA Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category</b>	<b>Child Nutrition Programs</b>	<b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamp Program)*</b>	<b>Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)</b>
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	No for adult; yes for minor.	No	Yes
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)***	No for adult; yes for minor.	No	Yes
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	No for adult; yes for minor.	Yes	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No for adult; yes for minor.	Yes, after a five-year waiting period for adult (contact USDA for other LPR eligibility requirements); yes, no waiting period for minor.	Yes
U.S. Citizen, Adult and Minor (Under 18)	No for adult; yes for minor.	Yes	Yes

\*From October 1, 2008 forward, the Food Stamp Program will be known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

\*\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.



***Child Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA:*** Child Nutrition programs offer nutritious meals and snacks for low-income children in schools, child care institutions, and after-school care programs.

**<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/>**

***Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly called the Food Stamp Program), Food and Nutrition Service, USDA:*** SNAP provides nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families so they can buy the food needed for good health. Benefits are provided on an electronic card that is used like an ATM card at participating grocery stores. To apply for benefits, or for information about the SNAP, contact your local SNAP office at **<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/map.htm>** or call your State's SNAP hotline number at **<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/map.htm>**. An online Pre-Screening Tool is available at **<http://www.snap-step1.usda.gov/fns/>** to find out if your client could be eligible prior to applying at your local office.

***Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Food and Nutrition Service, USDA:*** WIC provides supplemental food packages for nutritionally at-risk, low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women; infants; and children up to five years of age. The following benefits are provided to WIC participants: supplemental nutritious foods; nutrition education and counseling at WIC clinics; and screening and referrals to other health, welfare, and social services. The following Web site has toll-free numbers for WIC State agencies: **<http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/contacts/tollfreenumbers.htm>**.

## **U.S. Department of Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

### ***Eligibility for HUD Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>Public Housing Program</b>	<b>Tenant-Based Vouchers</b>
Certified Adult	Yes	Yes
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)*	Yes	Yes

\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

### ***Eligibility for HUD Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category</b>	<b>Public Housing Program</b>	<b>Tenant-Based Vouchers</b>
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)*	No	No
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	No	No
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes

\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***Public Housing Program, HUD:*** This program provides safe and affordable rental housing for low-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

**[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/ph](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph)**

***Tenant-Based Vouchers, HUD:*** Low-income housing agencies issue Housing Choice Vouchers to very low-income individuals and families, so that they can lease safe and affordable privately owned rental housing.

**[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv)**

**U.S. Department of Department of Justice (USDOJ)**

***Eligibility for USDOJ Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>Victims of Crime (VOCA) Emergency Funds</b>	<b>Victim Rights and Services – Federal Victim-Witness Coordinators</b>	<b>Emergency Witness Assistance</b>	<b>Witness Security Program</b>
Certified Adult	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

***Eligibility for USDOJ Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category</b>	<b>Victims of Crime (VOCA) Emergency Funds</b>	<b>Victim Rights and Services – Federal Victim-Witness Coordinators</b>	<b>Emergency Witness Assistance</b>	<b>Witness Security Program</b>
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, refugees, asylees, Cuban/Haitian Entrants and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Emergency Funds, Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ):*** VOCA emergency funds, which assist victims with emergency needs when other resources are unavailable, include crisis intervention, shelter/temporary housing, food, clothing, legal assistance, transportation costs, forensic medical examinations, emergency child care, and interpreters. Similar funds are available through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Executive Office for United States Attorneys at USDOJ, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

**Victims Rights and Services, Federal Victim-Witness Coordinators within Criminal Section of Civil Rights Division; FBI; U.S. Attorneys' Offices; and Other USDOJ Agencies:** Victim Witness staff ensure that victims of Federal crimes, regardless of age or citizenship, are afforded rights and services as set forth in the *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance* (May 2005), including rights afforded by the Federal Crime Victims Rights Act, such as privacy and confidentiality, restitution, notification of case status, and protection against threats and intimidation. Victim Witness staff may also provide information about and referrals for direct services such as medical assistance, mental health counseling, shelter, *pro bono* and low-cost legal services, and other essential services.  
[http://www.justice.gov/olp/pdf/ag\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.justice.gov/olp/pdf/ag_guidelines.pdf)

**Emergency Witness Assistance Program (EWAP) USDOJ:** EWAP provides emergency funds to assist witnesses and potential witnesses on an emergency basis to ensure their well-being and availability for court proceedings or other activities related to ongoing civil or criminal cases. Services include relocation and moving expenses; emergency telephone service to maintain contact with the Government; temporary subsistence and housing; emergency needs (clothing, furniture) when the individual must be moved quickly; and child or senior care expenses. The Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys administers these funds. EWAP is usually limited to less than 30 days and less than \$4,000.

<http://www.justice.gov.oig/reports/EOUSA/e0102/index.htm>

**Witness Security Program, USDOJ:** The Witness Security Program provides protection and assistance to witnesses and their immediate family members before, during and after a trial. The Attorney General determines whether a witness qualifies for the Witness Security Program, based on recommendations from U.S. Attorneys. The U.S. Marshals Service moves a witness and his or her immediate family to a secure location and typically provides them with authentic documentation to assume a new identity. In addition to providing witnesses with 24-hour protection during all court proceedings, the U.S. Marshals Service assists with housing, medical care, job training, employment and subsistence funding to cover basic living expenses until witnesses achieve self sufficiency.

<http://www.usmarshals.gov/witsec/index.html>



### Eligibility for USDOJ Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking

Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim	OVC Services for Trafficking Victims Discretionary Grant	VOCA Victim Assistance	VOCA Victim Compensation
Certified Adult	No	Yes, but see below.	Subject to specific State guidelines.
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)*	No	Yes, but see below.	Subject to specific State guidelines.

\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

**Eligibility for USDOJ Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking**

Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category	OVC Services for Trafficking Victims Discretionary Grant	VOCA Victim Assistance	VOCA Victim Compensation
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)*	Yes	Yes, but see below.	Subject to specific State guidelines.
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	Yes	Yes, but see below.	Subject to specific State guidelines.
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No	Yes, but see below.	Subject to specific State guidelines.
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	No	Yes, but see below.	Subject to specific State guidelines.

\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, refugees, asylees, Cuban/Haitian Entrants and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

**Services for Trafficking Victims Discretionary Grant, Office of Victims of Crime (OVC), USDOJ:** OVC funds services for trafficking victims prior to HHS granting a Certification Letter to the victim. Services include housing or shelter; food; medical, mental health, and dental services; interpreter/translator services; criminal justice victim advocacy; legal services; social services advocacy; literacy education; and/or employment assistance.

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/grants/traffickingmatrix.html>

**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance, VOCA Formula Grants to States, USDOJ:** OVC provides formula grant funding to the States to support local victim assistance programs that provide direct services to victims. Typically the State awards sub-grants to victim assistance programs to provide specialized services at the community level. Some victim assistance providers serve all crime victims; others may limit services to a specific type of victimization, such as child abuse, sexual assault, or domestic violence. While there are few VOCA-supported programs that are dedicated solely to serving human trafficking victims, many programs, such as rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters, do provide services to human trafficking victims.

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/factsheets/cvf2010/intro.html>



## **U.S. Department of Department of Labor (DOL)**

### ***Eligibility for DOL Programs for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>One-Stop Career Centers Core Services</b>	<b>One-Stop Career Centers Intensive Services</b>	<b>Job Corps</b>
Certified Adult	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)*	Yes	Yes	Yes

\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

### ***Eligibility for DOL Programs for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Trafficking***

<b>Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category</b>	<b>One-Stop Career Centers Core Services</b>	<b>One-Stop Career Centers Intensive Services and Training Services</b>	<b>Job Corps</b>
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)*	Yes	No	No
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	Yes	No	No
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes	Yes	Yes

\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***One-Stop Career Centers, DOL:*** With more than 2,900 delivery points nationwide, One-Stop Career Centers provide a vast network to address the human resource and employment needs of both business and job seekers in every community. The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) provides funding for One-Stop Career Centers to offer a wide array of services and delivery options to build a skilled workforce that supports current and future economic growth. Some of these services are training referrals, career counseling, job listings, and other employment services for jobseekers and employers at convenient locations throughout the United States.

Core services include resume development, job referrals, job clubs and workshops, job listings, resource rooms, and computer, phone and bank access. Intensive services include comprehensive and specialized assessments, group and individual career counseling, and case management; training services provide individualized training through State/local approved training providers.

- Call **1-877-US2-JOBS (1-877-872-5627)** or visit America's Service locator at: **<http://www.servicelocator.org>** (enter zip code information in the search tool to find local One-Stop Career Centers)
- Visit **<http://www.careeronestop.org>** to explore careers, conduct job searches, and receive tips on resume writing and interviewing techniques.

***Job Corps Program, DOL:*** The 122 Job Corps centers help eligible economically disadvantaged youth between the ages of 16 and 24 achieve employment, earn a high school diploma or GED and/or learn a vocational trade. Students who join the program are paid a bi-weekly allowance; the longer they stay with the program, the more their allowance will be. Job Corps provides career counseling and transition support to its students for up to 12 months after they graduate from the program. **<http://www.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx>**



## **U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA)**

### ***Eligibility for SSA Program for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Human Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>Supplemental Security Income</b>
Certified Adult*	Yes
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)**	Yes

\*Persons who have Continued Presence or a *bona fide* T visa application but are not yet certified by HHS, and derivative T visa holders, may apply for SSI.

\*\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter.

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

### ***Eligibility for SSA Program for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Human Trafficking***

<b>Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category</b>	<b>Supplemental Security Income</b>
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)*	No
Lawfully Present in U.S. (not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	No
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes, after a five-year waiting period.
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes

\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***Supplemental Security Income (SSI), SSA:*** The SSI program provides monthly income to adults or children who are blind or disabled, or to low-income adults age 65 and older. Eligible applicants must meet program requirements regarding income, resources, residency, and living arrangements. The monthly payment varies up to the maximum Federal benefit rate, which may be supplemented by the State or decreased by countable income and resources. For more information about Supplemental Security Income, please visit the following Web site:

**<http://www.ssa.gov/pgm/ssi.htm>**

## **U.S. Department of Education (ED)**

### ***Eligibility for ED Program for Certified or Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Human Trafficking***

<b>Certified or Eligible Trafficking Victim</b>	<b>Title IV Federal Student Financial Aid</b>
Certified Adult	Yes
Minor with Eligibility Letter (Under 18)*	Yes

\* Includes a child with an interim assistance letter

If your client is not Certified or is a minor who does not have an Eligibility Letter, please see the following chart, which indicates eligibility according to immigration status:

### ***Eligibility for ED Program for Non-Certified and Non-Eligible (if Minor) Victims of Human Trafficking***

<b>Trafficking Victim by Immigration Category</b>	<b>Title IV Federal Student Financial Aid</b>
Unlawfully Present in U.S., Adult or Minor (Under 18)**	No
Lawfully Present in U.S. (Not U.S. Citizen or LPR), Adult or Minor (Under 18)***	No
Refugees, asylees, and Cuban/Haitian entrants	Yes
Lawful Permanent Resident, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes*
U.S. Citizen, Adult or Minor (Under 18)	Yes

\*A Lawful Permanent Resident who has an I-151, I-551, or I-551C (Permanent Resident Card) is eligible for Federal Student Financial Aid as long as the individual meets financial and other eligibility requirements.

\*\*Includes persons who entered the United States without inspection, or who have overstayed their visas, and persons not in compliance with the terms of their visas or orders of the Immigration Court.

\*\*\*Includes persons paroled for at least one year, persons whom the Government has agreed not to remove from the United States for a temporary period, and some other categories. Also includes nonimmigrants who are persons admitted to the United States on a temporary basis, such as a person on a student visa, exchange visitor visa, or temporary worker visa.

***Federal Student Financial Aid, ED:*** Federal Student Financial Aid programs are the largest source of Federal student aid in America. These programs provide more than \$90 billion a year in grants, loans, and work-study assistance. While student aid provided by the U.S. Department of Education provides billions annually to assist students and their families, these are not the only source of student financial aid. Non-Federal financial assistance programs and requirements often vary from school to school, so check with the financial aid departments at the school the student plans to attend for information about State and institutional aid, including scholarships.

Certified victims of human trafficking as well as minors who have received an Eligibility Letter are eligible for Title IV student aid as long as they meet other eligibility requirements, such as enrollment in an eligible institution of higher learning. In addition, family members of Certified or Eligible victims who have derivative T visas, including spouses, children, or parents, may also be eligible for Title IV student aid to assist that family member in covering the cost of higher education. The following document from the U.S. Department of Education details eligibility for Title IV program assistance for victims of human trafficking and outlines how to apply for Federal financial aid: <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpclatters/GEN0609.html>

The following Web site provides additional information to trafficking victims and case managers on applying for Federal student financial aid: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TraffickingFaqs.jsp>

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the form used by all eligible and participating institutions of higher education (two and four-year colleges, universities, and career schools) for awarding Federal student aid, as well as most State and college aid. For more information about applying for Federal financial aid using the FAFSA, including Federal and State application deadlines, go to: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

For additional information on Federal student aid, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or go to: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/funding.jsp>



## Additional Resources

### Resources for Initiating Services for Certified Victims

- **HHS Service Grants**  
See page 6.
- **National Human Trafficking Resource Center—1-888-3737-888**  
See page 6.

### Resources for Initiating Services for U.S. Citizen and Lawful Permanent Resident Victims

U.S. citizen and Lawful Permanent Resident victims cannot receive Certification or an Eligibility Letter from HHS, but they may already be eligible for many benefits and services. Contact the State and Federal agencies implementing programs identified in this booklet to initiate services for them, such as your State's Department of Social Services. You can also connect domestic victims to services through local Government health and social service agencies providing services to children and adults, including faith-based social-service providers, domestic violence/women's shelters and safe houses, shelters for runaways and troubled teens, food pantries and other food programs, community health clinics, legal aid organizations, and mental health service providers.

The following resources also can help identify National and local organizations that can assist in initiating these types of services:

- **Child Welfare Information Gateway, Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), HHS:** This is a resource clearinghouse for child welfare professionals. See the following link (<http://www.childwelfare.gov/organizations/index.cfm>) for resources and services such as National hotlines and State child abuse reporting numbers; Federal child services clearinghouses; organizations dealing with child protection/abuse, family and domestic violence, foster care, health, mental health, and substance abuse; State child welfare agency Web sites; and State foster care program managers.  
<http://www.childwelfare.gov/aboutus.cfm>
- **Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice:** Search OVC's online directory of crime victim services for public, nonprofit, and community agencies that provide assistance and services to victims. The directory includes local, National and international agencies; a directory of crime victim services (searchable by location, type of victimization, service needed); an interactive map to search for victim services and compensation programs for victims; as well as links to National crime victim service organizations and hotline numbers for National victim-serving organizations, clearinghouses, and referral organizations. <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices/>



- **2-1-1:** This resource number connects individuals to local community services, including rent assistance, food banks, affordable housing, health resources, child care, after-school programs, elderly care, financial literacy, and job training programs. 2-1-1 systems operate in 41 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The 24/7 number is accessible at no cost, and has multilingual capabilities. It is funded through local and State sources, including local United Ways and other nonprofits, foundations, businesses, and State and local Government. <http://www.211.org>
- **Child Protective Services (CPS):** CPS programs operate in every State, providing services for children who have been abused or neglected, regardless of immigration status. The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline is 1-800-4-A-CHILD; <http://www.childhelp.org/pages/hotline>



*This booklet is brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For information on human trafficking and the HHS Anti-Trafficking in Persons Program, visit [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking) or contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888.*

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