

New Asylee Orientation on Benefits & Services – 2023

The San Francisco Asylum Office is pleased to announce virtual orientations for persons with asylum status to understand benefits and resources as a newly granted asylee.

This virtual orientation is offered by partner agencies *and shares important information on:

- Your right to employment
- Health insurance and healthcare
- Cash and food benefits
- The education system in the U.S.
- Family reunification, travel, and how to adjust status to lawful permanent residency
- Contact links to government agencies as well as resource information

Register to receive a zoom link to attend via a computer or smartphone. You will have the opportunity to ask general questions. Your identity will NOT be visible to other attendees. This orientation focuses on California benefits and services; however, some information applies to persons with asylum status throughout the U.S.A.

Some of these benefits are time sensitive, so we recommend you register for the earliest available date.

To register, aim your mobile camera on this QR Code. Then click “open” in your browser link:



Or follow the link: <https://tinyurl.com/NewAsylee>

Orientation Time: 2nd Tues of each month, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

2023 Orientation Dates

(Register for ONLY one session. All sessions present the same material)

Jan 10	Apr 11	July 11	Oct 10
Feb 14	May 9	Aug 8	Nov 14
Mar 14	June 13	Sep 12	Dec 12

This orientation is conducted in English with Spanish interpreting. Please have an interpreter or someone to assist you if needed.

**This virtual orientation is hosted by the following organizations: The California Department of Public Health’s Office of Refugee Health and The San Francisco Department of Public Health’s Newcomers Health Program.*

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WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU ARE GRANTED ASYLUM

Congratulations! With asylum status you have access to new opportunities, programs, and benefits. Please be sure to attend the next New Asylee Orientation to learn important next steps.

Apply for an Unrestricted Social Security Card at your local Social Security Administration- An *unrestricted* social security card proves that you are able to work in the U.S. Bring your I-94 with asylum date and photo ID, **OR** bring the original Court Order document granting asylum and your photo Identification. If you have a restricted card, you must visit Social Security to update your status and obtain an unrestricted card.

Get a receipt of your Social Security Card application. You must go in person to the Social Security Office. To find an office or make an appointment: [www.https://ssa.gov](https://ssa.gov). Or call the national number: 1-800-772-1213.

Apply for Medi-Cal (Health Insurance), CalFresh (Food Assistance) and/or CalWORKS (Cash & Employment Assistance) at your local county Human/Social Services Agency. Visit your county's Human/Social Services Agency local office or you may apply for these programs online at www.mybenefitscalwin.org

- **Be prepared with necessary documents to include:** Proof of asylum, income, residency in your county, photo ID, bank statements, and rental contract if you have one.
- **Be prepared to respond:** You will receive a Notice of Action (NOA) to inform you and your household of your benefits. Respond quickly to requests. The timeline to receive any granted benefits ranges from 30-45 days.
- If you have Emergency Medi-Cal: visit your local Human/Social Services Agency to update your new immigration status and request full-scope Medi-Cal coverage.

Schedule a Health Assessment: If you are approved for Medi-Cal this special assessment includes many lab and vaccines which are required for the application to adjust your status to lawful permanent resident/green card. See the [CA Office of Refugee Health](#) website for a list of Refugee Health Assessment county clinics.

Apply for California State ID (Identification) Card or Drivers License. **Once you have proof of a social security number**, you can apply for these items at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Bring proof of your social security number, valid photo identification, and 2 proofs that you live in CA, such as a phone bill or official mail with your California address. Be prepared to pay the required fees.

For Additional Assistance:

To Access Free On-Demand Interpretation and Translation on Your Mobile Phone download the Tarjimly App. This will allow you to connect to a volunteer interpreter in minutes.



Contact a Refugee Resettlement Agency or Asylee Service Provider in Your Area. Some counties have programs that assist new asylees with social service applications, finding a job, getting a health assessment and more. There is a time limit to enroll in some programs and specific eligibility requirements. See the CA Refugee Programs Bureau website under [Quick Links for a list of RAs in California](#).