

Asylees may receive certain public assistance benefits and social services from the date their asylum application is granted final approval.

Inside this brochure is a summary of the eligibility requirements and available benefits.



CDSS

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Public Benefits for Asylees in California



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

**HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES AGENCY**
Kimberly Belshé, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Dennis J. Boyle, Director

Eligibility

You may be eligible for benefits if you have received final approval of your asylum application from:

- The U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Asylum Office;
- An Immigration Judge; or
- The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)



You will need one of the following:

- I-94 Card stamped with “Asylum Approved”
- Approval letter from the USCIS Asylum Office, or
- A court order granting asylum



You are NOT eligible for benefits if you have:

- An asylum case pending with the USCIS Asylum Office or an Immigration Judge;
- An asylum case on appeal with the BIA; or
- The USCIS has reserved the right to appeal a USCIS Judge’s decision to grant you asylum.

Benefits

SOCIAL SERVICES

- Refugee Cash Assistance
- Refugee Employment Services
- CalWORKs, Food Stamps, and other Social Services



HEALTH SERVICES

Refugee Medical Assistance

- Health assessments and physical examinations performed by a Licensed Health Care Provider
- Interpreters and culturally sensitive staff are provided
- Preventive health care, which includes dental screening, Pap smear, and mammograms
- Immunizations that will assist in obtaining lawful permanent resident status (green card)
- Blood and skin tests to detect illnesses
- Referrals for identified health conditions
- Translated health education materials and counseling

Time Limit

Asylees may be eligible for cash and health benefits for up to eight months from the date asylum is granted and social services for up to 60 months.

For more information, contact your local county welfare office. For the phone number and location of the local welfare or health department, please call the California Department of Social Services’ Refugee Programs Bureau (RPB) at

(916) 654-6379

or visit the RPB web site at

www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram