



Mayor's Office of  
Immigrant Affairs

## Services and Benefits Available to NYC Residents Regardless of Immigration Status

### Public Education

- **Pre-kindergarten (age 4):** All children who live in New York City and are 4 years old on or before December 1 of the current year are eligible to attend a free pre-kindergarten program. Call (718) 935-2009 or go to [www.nyc.gov/prek](http://www.nyc.gov/prek).
- **Public school (age 5-21):** All NYC residents have the right to attend public school until graduation or until the end of the school year in which they turn 21 years old. For help enrolling in school or finding the right school placement or English Language Learners program, call 311 about "education."
- **College/university:** All residents of New York State are eligible to pay in-state tuition at City University of New York (CUNY) and State University of New York (SUNY) colleges and universities. For information on CUNY, call (800) CUNY-YES(286-9937) or go to [www.cuny.edu](http://www.cuny.edu). For information on SUNY, call (800) 342-3811 or go to [www.suny.edu/attend](http://www.suny.edu/attend).

### After-School and Community Programs

- The NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) provides after-school and community programs for children and families, including free after-school help, information about jobs and internships, English-language and adult education, and free immigration legal help. Call (800) 246-4646 or go to [www.nyc.gov/dycd](http://www.nyc.gov/dycd).

### Child Care and Early Childhood Education

- **Child care:** The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) provides free or low-cost child care services for low-income families with children ages 6 weeks through 12 years old. Children with special needs may be eligible through age 18. Call 311 about "child care."

- **Head Start (age 3-4):** Children from low-income families are eligible for free early childhood education. Call (212) 232-0966 or visit [www.nyc.gov/acs](http://www.nyc.gov/acs).

### Health Care

- **Child Health Plus:** All children under the age of 19 in New York State are eligible for Child Health Plus public health insurance coverage for free or at low cost, depending on family income. For more information, call (800) 698-4543 or go to [www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/child\\_health\\_plus](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/child_health_plus).
- **Emergency Medicaid:** Emergency Medicaid will provide medical payment for care and services necessary to treat an emergency medical condition. It is available to low-income individuals in New York State. You can sign up at a hospital during an emergency. To sign up in advance, call (718) 557-1399 or go to [www.nyc.gov/html/hra/html/services/medicaid\\_offices.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/hra/html/services/medicaid_offices.shtml) to find a Medicaid Office in your neighborhood.
- **Affordable health care clinics:** You can find affordable hospitals and health care clinics in your neighborhood at [www.nyc.gov/hhc](http://www.nyc.gov/hhc) or <http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov>. Insurance is not required.

### Food Help

- **Emergency Food Assistance Program:** More than 550 food pantries and community kitchens across the city can provide free food in an emergency. Call 311 about "emergency food assistance."
- **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC):** The WIC program provides food, nutrition education, and referrals to low-income pregnant women, breastfeeding women, infants, and children up

to age 5. Call (800) 522-5006 or go to [health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/wic](http://health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/wic).

## Family Support

- **Preventive services:** The Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) provides free counseling and support to families to ensure that children are safe in their homes and prevent children from entering foster care. Call (800) 342-7472 or go to [www.nyc.gov/acs](http://www.nyc.gov/acs).

## Workplace Protections

- **Paid sick leave:** If your employer has 5 or more employees and you work at least 80 hours per year, then you have the right to earn paid time off when you are sick or to care for a sick family member. Call 311 about “paid sick leave” or go to [www.nyc.gov/PaidSickLeave](http://www.nyc.gov/PaidSickLeave).
- **Workers’ compensation:** If you get hurt or disabled because of your job, you may be eligible for weekly cash payments and free health care, even if you are paid in cash, paid off the books, paid as independent contractors, or otherwise not reported to the government as an employee. Call the New York State Workers’ Compensation Board at (800) 877-1373 or go to [www.wcb.ny.gov](http://www.wcb.ny.gov).

## IDNYC Photo Identification Card

- IDNYC is a government-issued photo identification card available, regardless of immigration status, to all New York City residents age 14 and up. You can use your IDNYC card to access NYC services, as proof of identity with the police, to open a bank account, and more. For more information and to make an appointment, call 311 about “IDNYC,” go to [www.nyc.gov/idnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/idnyc), or text “IDNYC” to 877877.

## Financial Advice

- The NYC Department of Consumer Affairs’ Office of Financial Empowerment can help low-income New Yorkers open a bank account, check credit scores, reduce debt, and file taxes. Call 311 about “financial empowerment” or go to [www.nyc.gov/ofe](http://www.nyc.gov/ofe).

## Homelessness Prevention

- The NYC Department of Homeless Services “Homebase” program can help prevent evictions, provide financial counseling, and help NYC residents apply for other resources to stay in their homes and avoid entering the shelter system. Call 311 about “Homebase.”

## Domestic Violence

- **Telephone hotline:** For confidential help with safety planning, referrals, and connections to emergency housing for victims of domestic violence, call (800) 621-HOPE(4673) or call 311 about “domestic violence.”
- **In-person assistance:** The Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence operates Family Justice Centers throughout New York City to provide many support services for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, and sex trafficking. Call 311 about “Family Justice Centers” or go to [www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence](http://www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence).

## Emergency Help with Expenses (“One Shot ”)

- If you need emergency financial help to prevent eviction, pay your energy or utility bills, or buy health-related items, you can apply to the NYC Human Resources Administration for a one-time emergency grant, also called a “One Shot” grant. For more information, call (718) 557-1399.