

COVID-19: Resources for Undocumented Immigrants in Rhode Island

WHERE CAN I GET HEALTH CARE?

If you feel ill, it is safe and smart to get the care you need. These places provide health care regardless of your immigration status:

Community Health Centers - Go to rihca.org to find a health center near you (adults and children)

Rhode Island Free Clinic - call 401-274-6374 (adults only)

Clinica Esperanza- Hope Clinic - call 401-347-9093 (adults only)



Testing:




If you have COVID symptoms and think you need to be tested, call your doctor.

If you do not have a doctor, call a [community health center](#) in your area.

You can also check these testing sites:

- Clínica Esperanza/Hope Clinic. Call 401-408-0238
- The RI Free Clinic. Call 401-922-6843.
- Open Door health. Call 401-648-4700
- Central Falls and Pawtucket residents ONLY. Call 855-843-7620

For more information about testing, including information on testing if you do not have symptoms, see: health.ri.gov/covid/testing/

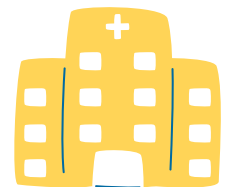
 **Note:** You will not need to provide information about immigration status for testing, and testing is free if you do not have insurance.

Hospitalization:

If you need to be hospitalized, you will be able to access Emergency Medicaid and Charity Care programs at hospitals.

Emergency Medicaid provides medical coverage for emergency situations. The hospital will help you apply for Emergency Medicaid to cover costs.

Charity Care programs at hospitals may cover all or part of your bill if you are unable to pay. Ask the business office of the hospital for an application.



Health Insurance:

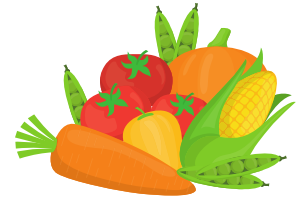
Pregnant women, regardless of immigration status, are eligible for **Medicaid**. You can apply for Medicaid at anytime. Call 1-855-840-4774 or apply online at healthsourceri.com

Know Your Rights:

- ★ **Remember:** you have the right to an interpreter when applying for and seeking health insurance and care, at no cost, and regardless of your immigration status.
- ★ **Remember:** anyone, regardless of immigration status, can seek health care at hospitals, emergency rooms, and health centers. If you are undocumented, you do not need to share your immigration status with hospital or health center workers. If you don't have health insurance, you can say, **"I am not eligible for health insurance and do not want to apply"**.

WHERE CAN I FIND FOOD ASSISTANCE?

Food Pantries: the RI Community Food Bank has a list of food pantries around the state. Food pantries are open to everyone, regardless of immigration status. View the list of food pantries here: rifoodbank.org/find-food/



SNAP (food stamps): although undocumented people are not eligible for SNAP, if you live with children or other household members who may be eligible (e.g. citizens), you can apply for these household members. DHS staff are not allowed to report information to Immigration. Apply: healthyrhode.ri.gov or call 1-855-697-4347

P-EBT COVID-19 emergency SNAP: If you have school-aged children who received free/reduced price meals at school, and you have not been receiving SNAP benefits, you should have received a P-EBT card in the mail for each of your children around May 3.

If you did not receive the card, call 2-1-1 or 1-855-697-4347 to get a replacement. If you used some of the benefits on the card, but lost it, call 1-888-979-9939 to get a replacement. Each child received a total of \$399 in P-EBT.

Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Provides vouchers to purchase foods to pregnant and post-partum women and children under age five who meet certain income guidelines, regardless of immigration status. For information and where to apply: health.ri.gov/wic



'Grab and Go' Summer Meals for school children: Anyone aged 18 or under who shows up at a 'Grab and Go' site gets a free meal. There are no ID or residency requirements. All children, regardless of status, can receive a free meal. Most sites are open through mid-late August. View the latest 'Grab and Go' sites here: health.ri.gov/diseases/ncov2019/about/foodsites/

IS THERE INCOME AVAILABLE TO ME?

Families with children:

RI Works: If you are a parent (or caretaker relative) of children under age 18, you can apply for your citizen children. All information is kept confidential. To apply: healthyrhode.ri.gov or call 1-855-697-4347

weR1 Rhode Island Relief Fund:

The weR1 Rhode Island Relief Fund provides cash assistance to undocumented immigrants who have experienced financial hardship during the COVID-19 crisis. The fund provides **\$400** on a pre-paid no fee debit card to individuals. Only one person per household may receive a cash payment. The debit card can be used at stores and at banks to withdraw cash.

To see how to apply, [see our fact sheet](#).

CAN MY UTILITIES GET SHUT OFF?

Not now. Your gas and electric cannot be turned off for non-payment through September 30, 2020. Call the Center for Justice for help. 401-491-1101.



CAN I BE EVICTED FROM MY HOUSING?

Your landlord must file an eviction action in court to make you leave your home. Your landlord can't evict you without a judge's order. Courts have reopened in Rhode Island and are handling evictions.

If you have received an eviction notice or are being threatened with eviction, you can call the Center for Justice at 401-491-1101 or RI Legal Services at 401-274-2652 if you are being evicted from public or private housing.

If you are having trouble paying rent, but have not yet received an eviction notice, call 2-1-1 to find out whether there are rental assistance programs that can help you.

A NOTE ABOUT USCIS OFFICES AND EMBASSIES CLOSING

USCIS: On June 4, 2020 certain USCIS field offices resumed non-emergency services, and on July 13, 2020 certain application support centers (ASCs) resumed services.

Please note that USCIS locations are not accepting walk-in visits. You must have a scheduled appointment.

For more information, see: uscis.gov/about-us/uscis-response-covid-19

Embassies/Consulates: The Department of State suspended routine visa services worldwide in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As global conditions evolve, U.S. Embassies and Consulates are beginning a phased resumption of routine visa services.

For more information, see: travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/phased-resumption-routine-visa-services.html

A NOTE ABOUT PUBLIC CHARGE

New public charge rules have caused many immigrants to fear seeking and applying for health care and other forms of assistance.

Important: use of assistances/benefits listed above on this document and public benefits used by your family members will not be considered in a public charge determination.

In addition, USCIS has released a [statement](#) declaring that testing, treatment, and preventative care related to COVID-19 will not negatively affect any immigrant in a future public charge determination.

NEED MORE RESOURCES?

For more information on COVID-19, go to:
The Economic Progress Institute- www.economicprogressri.org/covid19
Department of Health COVID19 hotline: 401-222-8022
For Mental Health Services: 401-414-5465