

Families should access the health and benefit programs they need in times of health emergencies or economic downturn.

ACCESSING HEALTH AND BENEFIT PROGRAMS:

- **All people can access federally-funded community health centers statewide with or without immigration status**
 - For a list of community health centers near you, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2wTkXXH>
 - You may also visit your federally-funded health center for coronavirus testing if you need it. More info about testing is [here](#).
- Using **ANY** of the following health or benefit programs has **NO** effect on **any** immigrant's ability to get a green card in the future:
 - **Programs open to all immigrants with or without lawful status:**
 - Emergency Medicaid
 - Free/sliding scale health clinic services
 - Women, Infant and Children's Nutrition Program (WIC)
 - Free/reduced price school lunch and "P-EBT" food benefits for families with children
 - **Programs open to some immigrants, depending on status:**
 - Health coverage under the Affordable Care Act/Obamacare
 - Medicaid for pregnant women and children under age 21
 - Unemployment insurance
 - IRS "Economic Impact Payment" (the stimulus check from the government)

- **If your children or family members are citizens or already have green cards, they should continue to use the benefits for which they are eligible.**
Only benefits used by the immigrant him or herself who is seeking a green card will be counted negatively.

ACCESSING HOSPITALS:

- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) stated that during the COVID-19 crisis, "ICE will not carry out enforcement operations at or near health care facilities, such as hospitals, doctors' offices, accredited health clinics, and emergent or urgent care facilities, except in the most extraordinary of circumstances." You can learn more about this policy at: <https://www.ice.gov/coronavirus>

YOUR MEDICAL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL:

- **If you apply for a health benefit program such as Medicaid, or access health services, your information will be and must be kept private and confidential** even if your family has members with different immigration statuses. Your information cannot be used for immigration enforcement purposes. The law protects you and your family's information and privacy.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, VISIT:

www.ncjustice.org/public-charge and www.ncjustice.org/immigrant-health