

# Move Your Family Forward

## Food & Medical Benefits For Families With Mixed Immigration Status

**Do you have a child who is a U.S. citizen or  
Lawful Permanent Resident (green card holder)?**

*Regardless of your status, your child might be eligible  
for Food Assistance (Food Stamps) or Medicaid benefits.*



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **If my children get food assistance or Medicaid, will it affect my immigration status?**

No. Receiving benefits through the Food Assistance Program (FAP) or Medicaid *does not* affect your children's immigration status or yours and it won't affect your ability to get status in the future.

### **If my child is a permanent resident (green card holder), does she have to wait to get benefits?**

Permanent residents must generally have their status for five years to get Medicaid, but there is *no 5-year waiting period for food assistance for children.*

### **What kind of medical coverage can my child receive?**

Low-income children who are U.S. citizens or have been permanent residents for 5 years or more are eligible for comprehensive Medicaid (full medical, dental, vision and mental health care), not just emergency treatment.

### **What if my family was denied Medicaid in the past because of our income?**

A new law was passed recently that changes some of the rules about who is eligible for Medicaid. If your child was denied Medicaid in the past because your income or assets were too high but you still struggle with medical costs, you should reapply.

## Resources

**Remember, always report all of your income and any changes** in your income to the Michigan Department of Human Services when anyone in your household is receiving benefits. If this has been difficult to do in the past, remember that once you have your new DACA or DAPA (administrative relief) work permit, it might be easier for you to report and verify your income.

**If you think these benefits would help your family, consider applying!** You can apply online at [www.mibridges.michigan.gov/access/](http://www.mibridges.michigan.gov/access/) or in person at your local county Department of Human Services Office. Call 1-855-275-6424 for help finding the office near you. Language assistance should be available at the Michigan Department of Human Services.

**Have more questions?** Want to know how much food assistance you would be eligible for? You can call the free LSEM Nutrition Helpline at 1-800-481-4989. If you have any problems with your application or your benefits, you can also call the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center for help at 269-492-7196.



