



California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) Noncitizen Eligibility Handbook

California Department of Social Services
CFAP Section

Published: XXX

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Introduction	3
What is CFAP?	3
What is the Purpose of The Handbook?	4
How Do I Use The Handbook?	4
Definitions.....	6
General Terminology	6
Noncitizen Statuses	9
CFAP Eligibility Policy	14
Overview	14
LPR Sponsorship	14
Sponsor Deeming Rules.....	15
Sponsor Deeming Exemptions	16
CFAP Budget Methodology.....	18
CFAP-only Household Budgeting	18
CFAP Mixed Household Budgeting	18
Budgeting Methodology	18
Opting Out of Food Assistance	18
CFAP Noncitizen Eligibility Summary Chart.....	19
History of CFAP Policy	20
Summary.....	20
Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996	21
Five (5) Year Waiting Period or an Exemption.....	21
Other Categories of Qualified Noncitizens Exempt From the 5-year Waiting Period	22
California Food Assistance Program (CFAP).....	22
Assembly Bill 1111.....	23
Senate Bill 1569, Chapter 672, Statutes of 2006	24

Noncitizen Survivors of Human Trafficking	25
Noncitizen Survivors of Domestic Violence and Other Serious Crimes	26
Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJs).....	26
Noncitizens Temporarily Granted Admission Under the Biden Administration.....	27
HR 1, 119 th Congress (2025-2026).....	27
Current CFAP Eligibility	28
CFAP Expansion.....	28
CFAP Eligibility Chart with Document Types, Classes of Admission, and Section Codes	30
Employment Authorization Documents	30
References	43

Introduction

What is CFAP?

California provides state funded food benefits through the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) for noncitizens who do not qualify for CalFresh based on Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, but who remain otherwise eligible for CalFresh. CFAP benefits are issued the same way CalFresh food benefits are issued and are accessed through the same application. When a household applies for CalFresh, eligibility is evaluated for both programs. Current CalFresh policies and regulations apply to CFAP, unless otherwise stated.



The creation of CFAP was a result of the PRWORA, a federal welfare reform law that changed the United States (US) social welfare system. Prior to PRWORA, most lawfully present noncitizens were eligible for CalFresh. As a result of PRWORA, most lawfully present noncitizens lost eligibility for CalFresh. In response, California passed [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 1576](#) (1997) into law and established CFAP. CFAP provides state funded food benefits to people in certain “qualified noncitizen” statuses who lost CalFresh eligibility due to PRWORA.

[Assembly Bill 135 \(2021\)](#) and [Senate Bill \(SB\) 187 \(2022\)](#) initiated the expansion of CFAP to all financially eligible Californians age 55 years or older who do not qualify for federal CalFresh because of their immigration status (CDSS, 2023). The CFAP expansion is anticipated to be implemented on October 1, 2027, pending appropriation (Legislative Analyst's Office, 2026).

In 2025, House of Representatives 1, An Act to Provide Reconciliation Pursuant to Title II of H. Con. Res. 14 (HR 1) was signed into law and further restricted CalFresh eligibility to US Citizens, noncitizen US Nationals, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs), Cuban-Haitian entrants, and individuals who reside in the US in accordance with a Compact of Free Association agreement. HR 1 did not impact CFAP eligibility criteria.

Therefore, individuals who lose CalFresh eligibility due to HR 1 are not currently eligible for CFAP. When the CFAP Expansion is implemented, individuals who lose CalFresh eligibility due to HR1 and who are age 55 or older may be eligible for CFAP, assuming all other financial eligibility criteria are met.

What is the Purpose of The Handbook?

The CFAP Handbook (the Handbook) was created to centralize current guidance on CFAP eligibility policy, making the information easier to access and reference. The Handbook breaks down complex CFAP eligibility policies and concepts in an easy-to-understand manner. The Handbook does not supersede any law or regulation regarding noncitizen eligibility.

As previously stated, CFAP policy mirrors CalFresh policy therefore the handbook highlights how CFAP policy differs from CalFresh. As with CalFresh, CFAP noncitizen eligibility criteria is only one part of the determination and applicants must still meet the financial and other program eligibility requirements.

How Do I Use The Handbook?

The Handbook begins with definitions of terms commonly related to CFAP. Readers are encouraged to review all definitions before reading the rest of the Handbook and to reference them as needed. The CFAP Eligibility Policy section includes a chart of noncitizens eligible for CFAP, explains sponsorship rules for LPRs, outlines the CFAP budget methodology, and describes other CFAP regulations. The Policy Overview section provides historical context to understand current CFAP eligibility. Finally, a comprehensive chart summarizes CFAP eligibility for noncitizens by document type, classes of admission, and statute section codes. Due to the length of the Handbook, a few links can be found in the footer of each page which allows readers to easily navigate within the Handbook.

- Selecting the “book” icon  will send you to the table of contents for easier navigation to other sections.
- Selecting the “envelope” icon  will send you to our CFAP@dss.ca.gov email for questions or feedback.

- Selecting the “www” icon  will send you to the CDSS CFAP webpage to other online resources.

In addition, each main section will have a specific-colored header to distinguish each section.

Definitions

General Terminology

Alien: A federal term synonymous to ‘noncitizen’ and used in federal regulations and federal documents that describe any person that is not a citizen or national of the US found in Section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (INA). For purposes of the Handbook, the term ‘alien’ will only be used for consistency with federal legal documents (USCIS, n.d.).

All County Letter (ACL): State guidance setting forth mandated changes in policy, procedures, and statewide requirements.

All County Information Notice (ACIN): State guidance that provides non-mandatory, general, or instructional information.

All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL): State guidance provided to County Welfare Directors on different topics.

CalFresh: Formally known as Food Stamps and federally known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). CalFresh is a federal program that provides monthly benefits to assist households with low income in purchasing the food they need to maintain adequate nutritional levels.

California Food Assistance Program (CFAP): CFAP provides state funded food benefits for certain eligible noncitizens who are not eligible for federal CalFresh benefits. CFAP provides monthly benefits to assist households with low income in purchasing the food they need to maintain adequate nutritional levels.

Classes of Admission: Classes of Admission refer to the noncitizen category that describes how the noncitizen was admitted into the US (US Department of Homeland Security, 2026).

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): The federal regulations that implement federal law, including rules for the federal SNAP (CalFresh) program. [Title 7 Section 273.4](#) (7 CFR 273.4) outlines citizenship and immigration status requirements.

County Welfare Department (CWD): The county-level agency that administers social

services programs in California, including food benefits.

Document Type: For the purpose of the Handbook, document type refers to the type of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) document verifying a noncitizen's immigration status. Some eligible noncitizens may need to provide documentation that is not from USCIS, such as a sworn statement or a document from another agency.

Farm Security and Rural Investment Act (FSRIA) of 2002: The FSRIA restored eligibility for federal SNAP (CalFresh) food benefits to “qualified noncitizens” who received disability benefits regardless of date of entry, are under 18 years of age regardless of date of entry, or have lived in the US for five (5) years as a “qualified noncitizen” (CDSS, 2011).

Five-Year Waiting Period or an Exemption: In addition to possessing a “qualified noncitizen” immigration status, certain noncitizens may have to meet an exemption to be considered eligible for federal SNAP (CalFresh) food benefits based on their status. Exemptions include: five (5) years in any “qualified noncitizen” status; 40 qualifying work quarters; children under 18; blind or disabled; elderly born on or before August 22, 1931, who lawfully resided in the US on August 22, 1996; and military connection (CDSS, 2011). Noncitizen categories for whom the five-year waiting period does not apply also include refugees, asylees, those granted withholding of removal/deportation, Cuban or Haitian entrants, Amerasian immigrants, certain Hmong and Highland Laotians, and certain Native Americans born abroad.

Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA): The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agency responsible for federally administering SNAP (CalFresh).

House of Representatives 1 (HR 1): Signed into law on July 4, 2025, House of Representatives 1, An Act to Provide Reconciliation Pursuant to Title II of H. Con. Res. 14 (HR 1), restricted SNAP (CalFresh) eligibility to citizens, noncitizen US nationals, lawful permanent residents, Cuban-Haitian entrants, and citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia who are in the US under the Compacts of Free Association.

Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) of 1952: The INA is a federal law that first passed in 1952, that collected many immigration provisions and reorganized the structure of immigration law to be all in one place. The INA has been amended many times over the years. The INA is established in Title 8 of the United States Code (USC).

Immigration Status: A person's legal presence in the United States. Immigration statuses can include individuals who are US citizens, non-immigrants, immigrants, have temporary protected status (TPS), are undocumented, and other noncitizens status. To clarify, immigration status is inclusive of all noncitizen statuses (National Latino Network, n.d.).

Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP): The MPP includes CDSS state regulations. [MPP Division 63, Chapter 63](#) contain regulations that outline the state application of the law regarding CalFresh and CFAP.

Mixed Households: For CFAP purposes, mixed households are those households that include some members who get CalFresh and some who get CFAP.

Noncitizen: For the purpose of the Handbook, this term refers to people who are not US citizens or US nationals. This term is synonymous with 'foreign national' and with 'alien' as defined in Section 101 of the INA (USCIS, n.d.). Therefore, noncitizen status is used to describe the status of someone who is not a US Citizen.

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996: A federal law enacted on August 22, 1996. The PRWORA required noncitizens to be verified as 'qualified' to access federal benefits (104th Congress, 1996). The PRWORA prevented many lawfully present noncitizens from accessing SNAP (CalFresh) benefits and imposed extra restrictions on certain "qualified" noncitizens. Law changes after 1996 allowed more categories of immigrants to qualify for federal benefits, including CalFresh.

Qualified Noncitizen: "Qualified" is a technical term established by PRWORA related to an individual noncitizen's status and has a separate meaning from the determination that a noncitizen is eligible or qualified to receive a particular program. A list of "qualified noncitizens" is found in [7 CFR 273.4\(a\)\(6\)\(i\)](#).

Sponsor Deeming Rules: The method of presuming income and resources of a sponsor as available to support a sponsored noncitizen (CDSS, 2023).

Sponsored Noncitizens: Persons who are admitted into the US through a family-based petition or a subset of employment-based petitions, where another person known as the "sponsor" signed an "affidavit of support". The affidavit of support under Section

213A of the INA, known as an I-864, is a contract where the sponsor agrees they will use their income and resources to support the noncitizen (CDSS, 1995). Please note that noncitizens ‘sponsored’ by an organization such as a church or nongovernmental organization, are not considered sponsored on most I-864 affidavits.

US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS): The federal agency that oversees lawful immigration into the US.

Waiting Period: The FSRIA restored CalFresh eligibility to noncitizens who had lived in the US as “qualified noncitizens” for a period of at least five (5) years. The five (5) year period is known as the ‘waiting period’ (CDSS, 2011).

Noncitizen Statuses

The following are definitions of noncitizen categories based on immigration statuses that will be used throughout this handbook.

Abused/Battered Noncitizens: The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA) provided the ability for noncitizens who have been abused by their US citizen or lawful permanent resident (LPR) family member to self-petition for lawful permanent residence (USCIS, 2025). These include a battered noncitizen spouse or child, a noncitizen parent of a battered child, or a noncitizen child of a battered parent with a petition pending.

Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (AHP): Certain Afghan individuals have been granted humanitarian parole by the US Department of Homeland Security, in response to their need for rapid evacuation and relocation under Operation Allies Refuge/Operation Allies Welcome. These include Afghan humanitarian parolees paroled into the US between July 31, 2021 through September 30, 2023. Spouses, children, parents, and legal guardians of AHPs paroled after September 30, 2023 are also considered AHPs (Administration for Children & Families, 2023).

Afghan/Iraqi Nationals with Special Immigrant Visas (SIV): The Department of Defense Appropriations Act (DoDAA) of 2010 allowed SIV under section 101(a)(27) of the INA to be granted to Iraqi and Afghan nationals who have worked on behalf of the US government in Iraq or Afghanistan (CDSS, 2011).

Amerasians: The Amerasian Act of 1982 allowed persons born in Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, or Thailand between December 31, 1950, and October 22, 1982,

fathered by a US citizen, to seek admission to the US with the status of a LPR. Such individuals granted LPR admission under the Amerasian Act of 1982 is considered an 'Amerasian' (USCIS, n.d.).

Asylees: Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act 1952 granted asylum to noncitizens already present in the US who apply to stay in the US because they fear persecution in their home country (CDSS, 1995).

Certain Native Americans Born Abroad: A Native American born in Canada who possesses at least 50 per centum of blood as defined by the INA (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026). In addition, a member of a federally recognized Native American tribe as defined in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, which may include tribes across the Southern Border.

Compact of Free Association (COFA) Citizens: Under the COFA Act of 1985, citizens of the Freely Associated States of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are entitled to travel and apply for admission to the US as noncitizens without visas (USCIS, 2020). Under the COFA Approval Act, citizens of the Republic of Palau are entitled to travel and apply for admission to the US as noncitizens without visas (USCIS, 2019).

Conditional Permanent Residents: A noncitizen who has been granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis. Conditional residents will need to apply to remove the conditions of their status within two (2) years of issuance of their permanent resident status (CDSS, 1995).

Conditional Entrants: An immigration status used for refugees prior to the Refugee Act of 1980. To be considered a "Conditional Entrant" the noncitizen must have been granted conditional entry into the US under Section 203(a)(7) of the INA before April 1, 1980 (CDSS, 1995).

Cuban-Haitian Entrants (CHE): Any national of Cuba or Haiti who meets the definition in Section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (CDSS, 2011). This includes Cuban and Haitian nationals who were paroled into the US, have been granted a special status for Cuban or Haitian nationals, have a pending asylum application, or are subject to exclusion or deportation proceedings (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026).

Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan (CHNV) Parolees: The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) established processes for nationals of Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela to lawfully enter the US for temporary parole of two (2) years (USCIS, 2024). Please note that the parole process must take place before the CHNV national enters into the US. CHNV parolees must have a supporter in the US who agrees to provide them with financial support for the duration of their parole in the US. The supporter must submit a I-134A and declaration of financial support. The CHNV program has been terminated effective March 25, 2025.

Granted Withholding of Deportation or Removal: Deportation is being withheld under Section 243(h) of the INA as in effect before April 1, 1997, or removal is withheld under Section 241(b)(3) of the INA (CDSS, 2011).

Hmong or Highland Laotian Tribal Members: An individual lawfully residing in the US and who was a member of a Hmong or Highland Laotian tribe at the time that the tribe rendered assistance to US personnel by taking part in a military or rescue operation during the Vietnam War beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975 (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026). This category includes the spouse (or unremarried surviving spouse) or unmarried dependent children of these individuals.

Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR): Any person who is not a citizen or national of the US who has been granted the right to reside permanently in the US (CDSS, 1995).

Noncitizen Survivors of Human Trafficking: The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 grants survivors of severe forms of trafficking present in the US 'T' nonimmigrant status (also known as a T visa) and a pathway to LPR status (USCIS, 2025). Certain relatives, known as "derivative relatives," may also apply for T status linked to the primary victim. These derivatives may include a survivor's spouse or children under age 21, or parents or siblings of a minor survivor. In some circumstances other relatives may be derivatives of a trafficking survivor. This handbook uses noncitizen survivor of human trafficking and survivor of (human) trafficking synonymously.

Noncitizen Survivors of Domestic Violence and Other Serious Crimes: The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 grants certain victims of criminal activity who have suffered substantial mental or physical abuse a 'U' nonimmigrant status (also known as a U visa) (USDA, 2011). Certain relatives, known as "derivative

relatives," may also apply for U status linked to the primary survivor. These derivatives may include a survivor's spouse or children under age 21, or parents or siblings of a minor victim. This handbook uses noncitizen survivor of domestic violence and other series crimes and survivor of domestic violence and other crimes synonymously.

Noncitizen US Nationals: A person owing permanent allegiance to the United States but is not a citizen. Section 308 of the INA confers US nationality but not US citizenship, on persons born in "an outlying possession of the United States" or born of a parent or parents who are noncitizen nationals who meet certain physical presence or residence requirements. (US Department of State, n.d.)

Nonimmigrant Status: Nonimmigrant status is a temporary visa that allows foreign nationals to enter the United States for a specific purpose, such as: tourism, business, temporary work, study, and medical treatment. There are also nonimmigrant statuses available to certain crime victims.

Parolees: For the purposes of CalFresh and CFAP, parolees are noncitizens paroled into the US under Section 212(d)(5) of the INA, who are allowed to enter temporarily for humanitarian, medical, and legal reasons (CDSS, 2011).

Refugees: Noncitizens admitted to the US under Section 207 of the INA who are admitted to the US due to fear of persecution in their own country based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion and unable or unwilling to return to their home country (CDSS, 2011).

Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJs): SIJs classification is an immigration benefit available to certain noncitizen children who have been subject to state juvenile court proceedings related to parental abuse, neglect, abandonment, or similar maltreatment under state law. SIJs may apply for LPR status, if a visa in the employment-based fourth preference (EB-4) immigrant visa category is immediately available (USCIS, n.d.).

Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (UHP): On April 21, 2022, the United States announced Uniting for Ukraine. The process provides a pathway for Ukrainian citizens and their immediate family members who have fled Russia's invasion of Ukraine the opportunity to come to the United States and stay temporarily on a two (2) year period of parole. These individuals had to be paroled between Feb.24, 2022 and Sept. 30, 2024, The benefit was extended to parents, legal guardians, or primary caregiver of an

unaccompanied refugee minor who may have been paroled after September 30, 2023. (USCIS, 2024).

CFAP Eligibility Policy

Overview

CFAP was established to preserve food assistance for people with certain immigration statuses who lost eligibility for CalFresh due to the passage of PRWORA pursuant to [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) section 18930\(b\)\(1\)](#). For example, LPRs, conditional entrants, and parolees are eligible for CFAP if they have not met the PRWORA imposed five-year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period. Additionally, CFAP extends eligibility to certain vulnerable noncitizen populations. In accordance with WIC section 18930(b)(2), battered noncitizens are eligible for CFAP, regardless of meeting or not meeting the five-year waiting period or an exemption. Also, [WIC section 18945](#) established the Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program (TCVAP) grants certain survivors of trafficking, domestic violence, and other crimes eligibility to CFAP.

People with the following immigration statuses are eligible for CFAP benefits if they have not met the five-year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period:

- Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR)
- Conditional Entrants
- Parolees

People with the following immigration statuses are also eligible for CFAP. However, their eligibility is not dependent on failing to meet the five-year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period:

- Battered noncitizens
- Noncitizen survivors of trafficking who are not certified by the Office of Trafficking in Persons or Office of Refugee Resettlement
- Noncitizen survivors of domestic violence and other serious crimes

More detailed eligibility information can be found in the CFAP Noncitizen Eligibility Summary Chart.

LPR Sponsorship

This section covers sponsorship, sponsor deeming rules and exemptions. A sponsor is a person or organization that signs an agreement to guarantee financial support for a noncitizen applying to be an LPR. Sponsor deeming is the process of counting a portion of a financial sponsor's income and resources as available to a sponsored noncitizen when determining food assistance eligibility.

Sponsorship rules apply to LPRs who are eligible for CFAP. CFAP sponsorship rules differ from CalFresh in that the period for deeming a sponsor's income and resources for CFAP purposes is three (3) years from the date of the sponsor's execution of the affidavit of support pursuant to [Section 1183a of Title 8 of the United States Code](#) (CDSS, 2023).

Sponsor Deeming Rules

In accordance with [7 CFR 273.4\(c\)\(2\)](#), sponsor deeming rules apply to LPRs who have a sponsor, usually those who have been admitted to the country through family relationships. For purposes of CalFresh, sponsor deeming applies if a noncitizen's sponsor has executed an affidavit of support (USCIS Form I-864 or I-864A) on behalf of the LPR pursuant to section 213A of the INA (CDSS, 2009). CalFresh deeming rules apply to sponsored noncitizens for CFAP, unless otherwise specified (California Legislative Information, 1999). The U.S. [Department of Homeland Security lists on their website](#) the Immigrant Classes of Admission that are sponsored.

The income and resources of a sponsor and the sponsor's spouse (if she or he has executed Form I-864 or I-864A) must be deemed to be the unearned income and resources of an eligible sponsored noncitizen. CalFresh regulations provide that all but \$1,500 of the amount of resources of the sponsor and the sponsor's spouse are deemed to the sponsored noncitizen, unless the household is conferred Categorical Eligibility (CE) or Modified Categorical Eligibility (MCE). CalFresh regulations provide that the amount of the sponsor's income attributed to the sponsored noncitizen is the total monthly earned and unearned income of the sponsor and sponsor's spouse reduced by:

- 20 percent of the earned income of the sponsor and sponsor's spouse (if applicable); and
- An amount equal to the CalFresh gross income (130% of Federal Poverty Level) eligibility limit for a household equal in size to the sponsor, sponsor's spouse if applicable, and any other person who is a dependent or receives support from the sponsor or sponsor's spouse.

If the sponsor signs an affidavit of support for more than one noncitizen, the sponsor's income is prorated among the sponsored noncitizens. If a sponsored T noncitizen is subject to the sponsorship provision until the sponsored noncitizen meets one of the following conditions:

- Obtains US citizenship;

- Has credit for 40 qualifying quarters (including credits earned by a parent or spouse as described in MPP 63.405.4);
- Meets one of the deeming exceptions (detailed in the section below); or
- The sponsor passes away.

While the CWD is awaiting receipt and/or verification from the sponsored noncitizen or other members of the noncitizen's household, the sponsored noncitizen is ineligible to participate in CFAP until all necessary facts are obtained (CDSS, 2007).

The [MPP 63-300.5\(e\)\(5\)](#) lists all information a CWD must obtain from the sponsored LPR at the time of the household's initial application and recertification. This includes:

- Affidavit of Support (USCIS Form I-864 and/or I-864A).
- The income and resources of the noncitizen's sponsor.
- The names or other identifying factors of other noncitizens for whom the sponsor has signed an Affidavit of Support.
- The provisions of the INA under which the noncitizen was admitted.
- The date the sponsored noncitizen's entry or admission as a LPR as established by USCIS.
- The noncitizen's date of birth, place of birth, and noncitizen registration number.
- The number of dependents who are claimed or could be claimed as dependents by the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse for federal income tax purposes.
- The name, address, and phone number of the noncitizen's sponsor.

The CWD must verify all other information which they have determined to be questionable, and which affects household eligibility and/or benefit level in accordance with Section 63-300.5(c). In accordance with [7 CFR 273.4\(c\)\(5\)](#), the CWD must assist noncitizens in obtaining verification).

Sponsor Deeming Exemptions

In accordance with [7 CFR 273.4\(c\)\(3\)](#), sponsor deeming rules do not apply to:

- A noncitizen who is a member of the sponsor's CalFresh household (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026).
- A noncitizen who is sponsored by an organization or group as opposed to an individual (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026).
- A noncitizen who is not required to have a sponsor under the INA, such as a refugee, a parolee, an asylee, or a CHE (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026).

- A noncitizen whose sponsor signed a non-enforceable Affidavit of Support, the I-134.
- An indigent noncitizen who “is unable to obtain food and shelter.” This means that the sum of the sponsored noncitizen's household's total income, cash contributions of the sponsor and/or others, and the value of any in-kind assistance the sponsor and others provide, does not exceed 130 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) for their household size. If the CWD determines a sponsored noncitizen as indigent, deemed income and resources from the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse is not attributed to the sponsored noncitizen (CDSS, 2007). This exemption applies for one (1) year starting on the date indigency is determined and can be renewed for additional periods of 12 months at a time. Lastly, the CWD must notify USCIS by written notice at least annually of each indigency determination, which includes the names of the sponsor and the sponsored noncitizen involved (CDSS, 2011). Indigency determination information should be mailed to the address below:

Office of Policy and Strategy
5900 Capital Gateway Drive
Mail Stop 2140
Camp Springs, MD 20588-0099

- A battered noncitizen spouse, noncitizen parent of a battered child, or child of a battered noncitizen (California Legislative Information, 1999).
- A sponsored noncitizen child under 18 years of age of a sponsored noncitizen; or
- A citizen child under age 18 of a sponsored noncitizen (Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture, 2026).

In addition to the exemptions noted above, the following sponsor deeming exemptions only apply to CFAP per WIC section 18930(b)(3):

- A noncitizen whose sponsor is disabled as defined for purposes of an exemption from CalWORKs welfare-to-work requirements in Welfare and Institutions Code § 11320.3(a)(3)(A)
- A noncitizen who is the victim of abuse by the sponsor, or the spouse of the sponsor if the spouse is living with the sponsor. (Welf. & Inst. Code Section 18930(b)(3)).]

Applicants who qualify for an exemption must not be asked to obtain information about the income or resources of their sponsor if they have one and the CWD must not

contact the sponsor for verifications (except where the sponsor is a member of the sponsored noncitizen's CFAP household).

CFAP Budget Methodology

Because the state funds CFAP benefits, unlike CalFresh which is federally funded, it is important to understand how household budgets are calculated for households with CFAP-eligible members. This section briefly goes over CFAP-only and CFAP mixed household budget methodology. CFAP-only refers to households that include only members receiving CFAP benefits, whereas CFAP mixed refers to households that include members receiving both CFAP and CalFresh benefits. For more details and examples on how to calculate budgets for these households, reference [ACL 98-66](#) and [ACL 99-64](#).

CFAP-only Household Budgeting

CFAP-only households follow established CalFresh regulations on income, resources, expenses, and deductions (CDSS, 2008). CFAP-only household benefits must be identical to the benefit allotment that would otherwise be provided to a household eligible for CalFresh benefits.

CFAP Mixed Household Budgeting

When a CalFresh household includes individuals eligible for federal CalFresh benefits and state-funded CFAP benefits, two budgets are required to calculate the federal and state portions of the monthly benefit allotment.

Budgeting Methodology

The CWD must use the following CFAP budgeting methodology to calculate the state and federal share of the CFAP mixed household allotments:

- First, calculate what the household would receive if all included members were eligible for federal CalFresh.
- Then, calculate the federal portion of the allotment, excluding all the CFAP participants' income and deductible expenses.
- The difference between the two allotments is the CFAP share of the budget.

Per WIC section 18930(c)(2), the combination of CFAP and federal benefit allotments cannot exceed what a single federal allotment would be if all household members were federally eligible.

Opting Out of Food Assistance

When a household files an initial application or recertification, noncitizens who are considered part of the household have the option to opt out of applying for food benefits (CDSS, 2023). If a household member chooses to opt out of the benefit determination,

that household member does not participate in CalFresh or CFAP, no further immigration status information is collected, and the noncitizen continues to be treated as an excluded household member for both CalFresh and CFAP (CDSS, 2023). Opting out is an option for noncitizens who do not want their status or information about a sponsor to be verified through USCIS. Only noncitizens can choose to opt out. Noncitizens must opt out before food assistance eligibility is determined; the CWD must not require any individuals to opt out or automatically opt individuals out of the CFAP or CalFresh household without their expressed permission. A county can only verify immigration status for those who are applying for food assistance and a county may not verify the immigration status of non-applicants living in the applicant's household (CDSS, 2011).

Note that a household member who has chosen to opt out of program participation may change their mind and request to join the case at any time (CDSS, 2023).

CFAP Noncitizen Eligibility Summary Chart

This table summarizes which immigration statuses make a person eligible for CFAP.

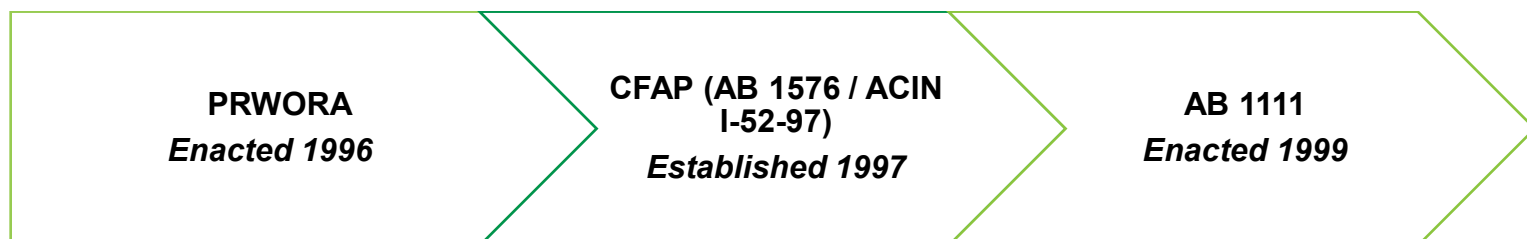
Immigration Status	Current CFAP Eligibility
Abused/Battered Noncitizen (VAWA)	Eligible for CFAP, regardless of whether the person meets the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period.
Conditional Entrant	Eligible for CFAP if the noncitizen has not met the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period.
LPR (including Conditional LPRs)	Eligible for CFAP if the noncitizen has not met the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period. Because sponsor deeming rules may apply to LPRs, please also reference the additional eligibility considerations section.
Parolee	Eligible for CFAP if the noncitizen has not met the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption from the waiting period.

Noncitizen survivor of Human Trafficking (i.e. T visa holder)	Eligible for CFAP if the noncitizen is preparing to file for continued presence or a T visa, has filed a T visa or was granted a T visa or continued presence but does not have ORR/OTIP certification. This includes derivatives relatives for whom an application known as “Supp. A” to the T visa may be filed. Survivors of trafficking lose CFAP eligibility after one year unless an application has been filed, in which case CFAP eligibility can continue. The survivor will lose CFAP eligibility once an ORR/OTIP certification is granted. Eligibility is not dependent on failing to meet five-year waiting period or an exemption.
Noncitizen survivor of Domestic Violence and Other Serious Crimes (i.e. U visa holder)	Eligible for CFAP if the noncitizen has filed an application for or has been issued a U visa by USCIS. This includes derivatives relatives for whom an application known as the “Supp. A” to the U visa has been filed or granted. Eligibility is not dependent on failing to meet five-year waiting period or an exemption.

History of CFAP Policy

Summary

PRWORA barred individuals who are not considered “qualified” noncitizens” from receiving CalFresh and imposed additional restrictions on certain “qualified noncitizens” who remain eligible for CalFresh. This change resulted in many lawfully present noncitizens losing eligibility for CalFresh. The timeline below provides a visual of the policies, most notably PRWORA that have shaped CFAP eligibility. This section provides an overview of the program’s policy history.



SB 1569, Chapter 672
Statutes of 2006

Noncitizens
Temporarily Granted
Eligibility Under the
Biden Administration
Effective 2021 - 2024

HR 1
Enacted July 4, 2025

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996

As a result of the PRWORA's requirement that noncitizens must be "qualified" to access federal benefits and additional restrictions on certain "qualified noncitizens", the law excluded most lawfully present noncitizens from CalFresh eligibility.

Five (5) Year Waiting Period or an Exemption

In accordance with PRWORA, many noncitizens with a "qualified noncitizen" status must meet the five (5) year waiting period or meet an exemption from the five (5) year waiting period for federal eligibility.

To be eligible for CalFresh, a noncitizen must have:

- **Five (5) years in "qualified noncitizen" status:** a noncitizen must have been admitted to the US as a "qualified noncitizen" for five (5) years. This is commonly referred to as the "five year waiting period".

People who are exempt from the five (5) year waiting period include:

- **People with forty qualifying work quarters:** a noncitizen must be credited with 40 quarters (10 years) of qualifying employment to satisfy the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption (CDSS, 2011). One (1) credit equals one (1) calendar quarter of qualifying employment. Noncitizens can be credited with such qualifying credits of employment through their own employment, through their parents work up until the noncitizen turned 18 (including credits earned before the child was born); and/or through their spouse, for work performed during their marriage (CDSS, 2011).
- **Children under 18:** Any "qualified noncitizen" under 18 years of age.
- **People who are blind or disabled:** Blind or disabled individual receiving benefits or assistance for their condition (as specified in [7 CFR 271.2](#)), regardless of entry date.
- **People who are elderly born on or before August 22, 1931:** Lawfully resided in the US and 65 years or older on August 22, 1996.

- **People with a military connection:** A “qualified” individual who is lawfully residing in a State and is on active duty in the US Armed Forces (other than for training) or is an honorably discharged veteran whose discharge is not because of immigration status. The following relatives of the “qualified” individual with a military connection is also eligible: spouse, surviving spouse if not married, and unmarried dependent children. Please note the discharge type “General Discharge Under Honorable Conditions”, is not the same as an Honorable Discharge and does not satisfy the exemption.
- **Certain Hmong and Highland Laotians:** A lawfully present individual who was a member of a Hmong or Highland Laotian tribe at the time that the tribe aided the United States during the Vietnam era, or the spouse, child, or widow(er) of such an individual.
- **Certain Native Americans born abroad:** An individual who is an American Indian born in Canada (as described in 8 U.S.C. 1359); or who is a member of a federally recognized tribe.
- **Amerasian immigrants:** Individuals granted lawful permanent residency under the Amerasian Act of 1982.

Other Categories of Qualified Noncitizens Exempt From the 5-year Waiting Period

PRWORA exempts refugees, asylees, conditional entrants, those granted withholding of removal or deportation, Cuban or Haitian entrants, and survivors of human trafficking from the five-year waiting period. Post-PRWORA but prior to HR 1, these “qualified noncitizens” remained immediately eligible for CalFresh without the need to meet the five (5) year waiting period or an additional exemption. The exemption from the 5-year waiting period follows these individuals in the event they become LPRs, so LPRs formerly in these statuses are not subject to a waiting period and would be eligible for CalFresh under current HR 1 rules.

California Food Assistance Program (CFAP)

On June 12, 1997, following PRWORA, [Public Law 105-18](#) was enacted. The law established a state option to issue food stamp benefits to certain individuals who had been made ineligible by PRWORA. Under this option, California chose to provide state-funded food benefits to noncitizens excluded by PRWORA using the existing CalFresh infrastructure and then reimbursing the federal government for the cost of those benefits.

Based on this state option, California passed AB 1576 (Chapter 287, Statutes of 1997) into law in August 1997. AB 1576 created a state nutrition assistance program, now known as CFAP, to replace federal nutrition benefits for certain “qualified noncitizens”

([ACIN I-52-97](#)) who lost eligibility due to PRWORA. Over the years, eligibility for CFAP has expanded but has remained limited to certain groups of “qualified noncitizens”.



Assembly Bill 1111

[AB 1111](#), enacted in 1999, extended CFAP eligibility to battered noncitizens. Battered noncitizens are noncitizens who have been subjected to battery or extreme cruelty in the United States by a U.S. citizen or LPR with whom they have a qualifying relationship. Battered noncitizens became eligible to self-petition to become LPRs through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) enacted in 1994 (CDSS, 2000). Through AB 1111, California expanded CFAP eligibility to these noncitizens who did not meet the five-year waiting period or meet an exemption as established by PRWORA.

An individual is considered a VAWA battered noncitizen under the following definition outlined in 8 USC § 1641 and [ACL 00-07](#):

1. **A noncitizen who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty** in the US by an LPR or US citizen spouse, parent, or a qualifying household member.
2. **A noncitizen parent of a battered child** whose child was battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the US by an LPR or US citizen spouse, parent, or a qualifying household member.
3. **Noncitizen child of a battered parent** who resides with a parent battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the US by an LPR or US citizen spouse, parent, or a qualifying household member.

Additionally, all the following conditions must be met for the noncitizen to be considered a battered noncitizen:

- The noncitizen has an approved petition or pending petition from USCIS or Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), which sets forth a prima facie case indicated by [Form I-797](#).
- There is substantial connection between the abuser and the need for benefits. Examples include but are not limited to: to enable the survivor and/or their dependents to become self-sufficient; to escape the abuser or community in which the abuser lives or to ensure the safety of the survivor; because of a loss of financial support, shelter or source of income due to separation from the abuser; to alleviate nutritional risk; or because the individual requires medical attention or mental health counseling, or has become disabled, as a result of the abuse (U.S. Department of Justice, 1997).
- The noncitizen no longer resides with the batterer.

Therefore, the following verifications can be used to prove battered noncitizen status, per ACL 00-07:

- **Self-petition:** A pending or approved [Form I-360 petition](#) of a battered noncitizen, a noncitizen parent of a battered child, or a noncitizen child of a battered parent.
- **Self-petition – widower:** A pending or approved [Form I-360 petition](#). A battered noncitizen may file a petition as a widow or widower if all the following conditions have been met:
 - The abusive spouse has died within the past two (2) years.
 - The noncitizen was not legally separated from the abusive spouse at the time of the abusive spouse's death.
 - The noncitizen was married to the abusive spouse for at least two (2) years.
 - The noncitizen has not remarried.
- **Family-based petition:** A pending or approved [Form I-130 petition](#) based on an immediate-relative filing that already occurred with their US citizen or LPR spouse.
- **Cancellation of Removal/Suspension of Deportation:** A pending or approved [Form EOIR-42B](#) or [EOIR-40](#).

Senate Bill 1569, Chapter 672, Statutes of 2006

The 2000 [Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act \(TVPA\)](#) extended CalFresh eligibility to noncitizen survivors of a severe form of trafficking who have been issued a T visa and received certification from US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) or Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). The

TVPA allowed survivors of trafficking to receive CalFresh benefits to the same extent as refugees.

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 1569, Chapter 672, Statutes of 2006](#) created the Trafficking and Victims Assistance Program (TCVAP) which extended CFAP eligibility to noncitizens survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and other serious crimes (CDSS, 2006). These provisions went into effect on January 1, 2007 and are codified under [WIC section 18945](#).

Under the provisions of SB 1569, noncitizen survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and other serious crimes ineligible for CalFresh benefits solely based on their noncitizen status, are eligible for CFAP (California State Legislature, 2006).

Noncitizen Survivors of Human Trafficking

Prior to HR 1, once survivors of human trafficking were issued an ORR or OTIP certificate, they were immediately eligible for CalFresh and ineligible for CFAP (US Department of Health and Human Services, 2025). However, due to HR 1, survivors of human trafficking who have received an ORR or OTIP certificate are no longer eligible for CalFresh and remain ineligible for CFAP.

Individuals eligible for CFAP under the category of human trafficking survivors, if otherwise financially eligible are those who:

- Have filed an application for T nonimmigrant status (also known as “T visa”) with USCIS; or
- Are preparing to file an application for a T visa. After a year from the date of application for public social services, noncitizens must be ineligible for state funded services if a visa application has not been filed; or
- Have been issued a T visa but not a certificate by the ORR or OTIP conferring federal eligibility to benefits to the same extent as refugees.

The primary trafficking survivor may intend to apply or apply for derivative T nonimmigrant status for certain relatives. Like the primary survivor, derivative family members are eligible for CFAP if they already applied or intend to apply for a derivative T visa. Family members are eligible if they made sworn statements that they are relatives of a survivor of human trafficking and that they intend to file for T visas provided they meet all other eligibility criteria (e.g., age, income and resource limits). Like the primary trafficking survivor, after 12 months, they must show that a derivative T application (known as a "Form I-914, Supplement A, Application for Derivative T Nonimmigrant Status" and part of the primary T visa application) has been filed in order to remain eligible. The derivative application may be submitted at the same time or after

the primary's T visa application. Derivative relatives maintain CFAP eligibility while the T visa is pending or approved, until the primary victim is certified as federally eligible by ORR or OTIP.

Noncitizen Survivors of Domestic Violence and Other Serious Crimes

Noncitizen survivors of domestic violence and other serious crimes are eligible for CFAP if they meet any of the criteria below and are otherwise financially eligible:

- Have filed a request for U nonimmigrant status (also known as "U visa") with USCIS; or
- Have been granted U Visa status by USCIS.

The primary survivors may also apply for derivative U status for certain relatives. Unlike T visa derivatives, U visa derivatives are eligible as soon as their application for status is submitted and while they hold derivative U status. They do not file a separate U visa application, but the primary survivor would submit a "Form I-918, Supplement A, Petition for Qualifying Family Member of U-1 Recipient" form for each derivative relative either as part of the primary U application or at any point while the application is pending or after it is granted. An individual for whom a U status Form I-918 has been submitted or for whom it has been granted is eligible for CFAP.

Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJs)

The Immigration Act of 1990 established the SIJ classification to provide humanitarian protection for abused, neglected, or abandoned noncitizen children eligible for long-term foster care (USCIS, 2024). The Trafficking Victims Protection and Reauthorization Act of 2008 expanded the protection to include children who cannot reunify with one or both parents because of abuse, neglect, abandonment, or a similar basis under state law (USCIS, 2024).

For the purpose of determining CFAP eligibility, SIJs are considered battered noncitizens per [MPP 63-405.118](#), [MPP 63-405.5](#), and [ACL 00-07](#) since they require the protection of a juvenile court. SIJs are subject to the same requirements to verify their battered noncitizen status which are outlined in the [AB 1111 section](#).

Like VAWA battered noncitizens, SIJs are eligible for CFAP regardless of whether they meet the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption (CDSS, 2000).

Noncitizens Temporarily Granted Admission Under the Biden Administration

During the Biden Administration, several humanitarian parole programs were established to provide lawful pathways for individuals to enter the US. These included programs such as [Ukrainian Humanitarian Parole](#) (UHP), [Afghan Humanitarian Parole](#) (AHP), and [Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, Venezuela \(CHNV\) Parole](#). These initiatives allowed eligible individuals to lawfully enter and reside in the US for humanitarian or significant public benefit reasons. However, these programs have since been discontinued and are no longer accepting new applicants.

Per ACIN I-29-26E, UHPs and AHPs who are no longer eligible for CalFresh due to HR 1 are also not eligible for CFAP. UHPs and AHPs were extended benefits to the same extent as refugees, and therefore, remain ineligible for CFAP. According to [ACIN I-49-23](#) and [Policy Letter 24-01](#), UHPs and AHPs retain their original immigration status through re-parole, and thus would remain ineligible for CalFresh due to HR 1 and CFAP. However, UHPs and AHPs are eligible for CalFresh without having to meet the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption, if and when they adjust their status to LPRs.

CHNV parolees are not eligible for CalFresh due to HR 1. However, a CHNV parolee with an active parolee status is eligible for CFAP as a parolee if they have not met the five-year waiting period or an exemption. Please note, [Cuban](#) or [Haitian](#) nationals who have been lawfully paroled into the US under INA § 212(d)(5) via the CHNV humanitarian parole process can be designated a CHE based on the conditions listed in [45 CFR 401.2\(b\)](#). If the CH parolee is considered a CHE, they are eligible for CalFresh without having to meet the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption; therefore, they are ineligible for CFAP.

HR 1, 119th Congress (2025-2026)

On July 4, 2025, President Trump signed HR 1 into law, thereby limiting CalFresh eligibility to citizens and a narrower group of noncitizens. However, HR 1 did not impact CFAP noncitizen eligibility criteria and state law governing CFAP eligibility remains unchanged. Therefore, most lawfully present noncitizens who lost CalFresh eligibility due to HR 1 are not eligible for CFAP, with the exception of battered noncitizens per [WIC section 18930\(b\)\(2\)](#). Battered noncitizens are eligible for CFAP as soon as they meet the requirements outlined in [MPP Sec 63-405.51](#) and remain eligible until they adjust their status to a status that makes them eligible for CalFresh.

Lawfully present noncitizens who lost CalFresh eligibility due to HR 1 may qualify for CFAP if they later adjust their status to a CFAP qualifying status. For more information regarding HR 1 and eligibility to CalFresh and CFAP, refer to [ACL 25-92](#).

Current CFAP Eligibility

The state and federal policies outlined in this section are essential for understanding current CFAP eligibility rules. CFAP was created in direct response to the passage of PRWORA, and subsequent California legislation such as AB 1111 and SB 1569 expanded eligibility to additional vulnerable groups of noncitizens. While federal policies affecting humanitarian parolees under the Biden administration and HR 1 did not directly change CFAP eligibility, they provide necessary context for understanding the current food assistance landscape. The following is a list of noncitizens eligible to CFAP, as defined in [WIC section 18930](#) and [WIC section 18945](#):

- LPRs **(Must fail to meet five-year waiting period or exemption)**
- Parolees **(Must fail to meet five-year waiting period or exemption)**
- Conditional Entrants **(Must fail to meet five-year waiting period or exemption)**
- Battered noncitizens
- Survivors of trafficking
- Survivors of domestic violence and other serious crimes

The [CFAP Eligibility Chart with Document Type, Classes of Admission and Section Codes](#), found in the next section, provides additional details of all potential noncitizen section codes (if applicable) and immigration statuses that may be eligible for CFAP benefits. As detailed in the PRWORA section, the majority of those potentially eligible for CFAP are individuals who have a “qualified noncitizen” status and do not meet the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption and are therefore not eligible for CalFresh.

CFAP Expansion

Through Assembly Bill 135 (2021) and Senate Bill 187 (2022), California plans to expand CFAP eligibility to additional citizens based on age criteria. The CFAP expansion scheduled to be implemented on October 1, 2027, pending appropriation, will expand eligibility to financially eligible people aged 55 years of age and older regardless of immigration status.

Effective October 1, 2027, all categories of noncitizens age 55 or older, who are ineligible for CalFresh due solely to their immigration status will be eligible for CFAP. These noncitizens include, but are not limited to:

- Undocumented immigrants
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients
- Immigrant and non-immigrant Visa holders

- Non-immigrant out-of-status: Visa holders who have stayed in the US beyond the period authorized by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The CFAP expansion is contingent upon appropriation by the Legislature. For more information about the CFAP expansion reference [ACL 23-57](#), [ACL 23-57E](#), and [ACL 23-57EII](#).

CFAP Eligibility Chart with Document Types, Classes of Admission, and Section Codes

The following chart lists noncitizen eligibility to CFAP. The chart is organized by noncitizen status, followed by document type, e.g., I-551, I-94, I-688, etc., the noncitizen classes of admission (COA), statute section code (if applicable), and lastly lists eligibility for CFAP. **Although this chart may indicate eligibility based on document type, all statuses (with or without documentation) must be verified via the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) database with at least an alien number.**

Employment Authorization Documents

The term “Employment Authorization Document” or “EAD” includes an I-766 document or card, or I-797 approval notice for Employment Authorization. These are sometimes also referred to as ‘work permits’. All EADs include a specific code indicating the basis of the individual’s eligibility for the EAD. Some of these codes are quite specific, such as “A16,” which indicates the individual is a noncitizen victim of human trafficking with an approved T visa. Other codes are more general, for example, code “C9” which means the person has filed an application to adjust to permanent residency. The chart in this handbook includes references to some EADs that may be acceptable proof of an eligible noncitizen status. Please note other EAD codes not specified may not be specific enough to determine eligibility OR ineligibility for benefits, and thus an EAD alone should not be used as a basis to deny benefits. As noted above all status should be verified through the SAVE database.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
ALL LPRs NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED BELOW	Any of the following annotated with section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551) (National Immigration Law Center, 2024)		Any class of admission not specified below	Eligible for CFAP if five (5) year waiting period or an exemption are not met.
LPR who is also categorized as “battered noncitizen” for CFAP/CalFresh purposes	Any of the following annotated with section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551)		B11; B16; B20; B21; B22; B24 B26; B29; B31; B32; B36; B37; BX1; BX6; IB1; IB2; IB6; IW1; IW6; P21 or P2-1; P22 or P2-2; P26; P27	Eligible for CFAP if five (5) year waiting period or an exemption are not met.
LPR who is also considered “Cuban-Haitian entrant” for CFAP/CalFresh purposes.	Any of the following annotated with section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551)	Sec. 902(b)(1)(A) or 902(b)(1)(C)(iii) of P.L. 105-277. Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act (HRIFA Oct. 21, 1998); Sections 210 or 245A of the INA, or Sec. 202 of P.L. 99-603 (Cuban-Haitian entrant). Sec. 112 of P.L. 101-649 (Nov. 29, 1990)	CAA66; CB1; CB2; CB6; CB7; CH6; CNP; CU6; CU7; CU8; CU9; CUO; CUP; NC6; NC7; NC8; NC9; HA6; HA7; HA8; HA9; HB6; HB7; HB8; HB9; HC6; HC7; HC8; HC9; HD6; HD7; HD8; HD9; HE6; HE7; HE8; HE9; LB1; LB2; LB6; LB7	Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh without need to meet five (5) year waiting period or an exemption.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
LPR who is also considered a former “refugee” for CFAP/CalFresh purposes.	Any of the following annotated with section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551)	INA § 207.; Sect. 101 of P.L. 95-145 (Oct. 28, 1977); Sect. 5 of P.L. 95-412 (Oct. 5, 1978);	IC6; IC7; IC8; IC9; M83, MB3; R86; Y1-Y14	Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.
LPR who is also considered “Amerasian” for CFAP/CalFresh purposes.	Any of the following annotated with section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551)	Sect. 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988.	AM1; AM2; AM3; AM6; AM7; AM8.	Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.
LPR who is also considered a former “asylee” CFAP/CalFresh purposes.	Any of the following annotated with “asylee,” section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551); I-766 EAD coded “A5”	INA § 208	AS-6; AS-7; AS-8	Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
LPR Juvenile court dependent.	Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551)	INA § 101(a)(27)(J) as added by P.L. 101-649 (Nov. 29, 1990)	SL1; SL6	Eligible for CFAP if 18 years and older and five (5) year waiting period or an exemption are not met.
LPR who is an Afghan arrival, treated as a former refugee for CalFresh/CFAP purposes	Any of the following annotated with section code or statutory basis: Form I-551 • Form I-151 • Form I-327 • Form I-181 • Form I-797 (I-90 receipt) • Form I-94 or 94A (with LPR Stamp) • Foreign Passport (with Temporary I-551)	8 USC § 1101 note	SI1, SI2, SI3, SI6, SI7, SI8, SQ1, SQ2, SQ3, SQ6, SQ7, SQ8, SW1, SW2, SW3; CQ1, CQ2, CQ3	Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.
Conditional Entrant	Any of the below coded “conditional entrant,” “Seventh Preference,” or relevant code section: I-512 Authorization for the Parole of a noncitizen into the US; Form I-94 or 94A	INA § 203(a)(7) as in effect before 4/1/80	P7	Eligible for CFAP if five (5) year waiting period or an exemption are not met.
Granted Withholding of Deportation or Withholding of Removal	• Court order • I-766 EAD coded “A10” or “274a.12(a)(10)” • Any verification from the INS, DHS, or other authoritative document.	INA § 274 (a)(12)(a)(10)		Ineligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Battered noncitizen	Form I-797 Approval Notice (I-130 coded IR or P-2) • Form I-797 Approval Notice (Prima Facie Case) • Form I-797 Receipt Notice (I-360 or I-485) • Court documents confirming filing of I-360, I-485 and/or EOIR-40 or EOIR42 • I-766 EAD coded C31	INA § 204(a)(1)(A) & (B)		Eligible for CFAP.
Pending U Nonimmigrant Status/U visas for survivors of serious crimes	I-918; I-797 indicating: • U1 application received; • Employment authorization for U status received; • Bona fide determination for U status granted; • Fee waiver requested or granted on any of the above; • Biometrics appointment for I-918 Letter from USCIS placing noncitizen on U visa waitlist • OR Other proof I-918 filed (ex: letter from attorney with proof sent to USCIS)	SB 1569 (Chapter 672, statues of 2006); WIC § 18945		Eligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Relative of crime survivor with application for U2-U5 derivative nonimmigrant status/ U visa pending	I-918 with Supp. A naming derivative relative; I-797 indicating: • U2-U5 application received; • Employment authorization for U status received; • Bona fide determination for U status granted; • Fee waiver requested or granted on any of the above; • Biometrics appointment for I-918A Letter from USCIS placing noncitizen on U visa waitlist • OR Other proof I-918 filed including derivative relative (ex: letter from attorney with proof sent to USCIS)	SB 1569 (Chapter 672, statues of 2006); WIC § 18945		Eligible for CFAP.
Survivors of Criminal Activity granted U1 nonimmigrant status/ U visa	I-94 with U1 status I-797 indicating: • U1 approval; • Employment authorization approval based on U status or coded A19; EAD indicating code "A19";	SB 1569 (Chapter 672, statues of 2006); WIC § 18945		Eligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Survivors of Criminal Activity derivative relative granted U2-U5 nonimmigrant status	I-94 with U2-U5 status • I-797 indicating: • U2-U5 approval • Employment authorization approval based on U status or coded A20; EAD indicating code "A20";	SB 1569 (Chapter 672, statues of 2006); WIC § 18945		Eligible for CFAP.
Survivors of Human Trafficking in process of obtaining federal eligibility (T nonimmigrant status/T visa)	Proof filed I-914; I-797 indicating: • T1 application received; • Employment authorization for T status (C40) received; • Fee waiver requested or granted on any of the above; • Biometrics appointment for I-914 OR EAD indicating "C40" OR Letter from agency or entity assisting victim to access victim services and/or file or prepare to file for T visa • sworn statement of victim • OR Other proof I-914 or continued presence filed or will be filed.	SB 1569 (Chapter 672, statues of 2006); WIC § 18945		Eligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Relative of Survivors of Human Trafficking in process of obtaining federal eligibility (T nonimmigrant status/T visa)	Proof filed I-914 with Supp.A listing derivative; I-797 indicating: • T2, T3, T4, T5 or T6 application received; • Application for continued presence or "CP" • Employment authorization for T2-T6 status or coded "C25" received; • Fee waiver requested or granted on any of the above; • Biometrics appointment for I-914A Letter from agency or entity assisting victim to access victim services and/or file or prepare to file for T visa with derivative included • sworn statement of victim or derivative of intent to file • OR Other proof I-914 filed or will be filed with derivative included	SB 1569 (Chapter 672, statues of 2006); WIC § 18945		Eligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Survivors of human trafficking with ORR or OTIP certification	Adult victim with: Letter of Certification from HHS OTIP or HHS ORR Minor victim with: Letter of eligibility from HHS OTIP or HHS ORR	8 USC § 1614(c)(4)		Ineligible for CFAP.
Survivors of human trafficking derivative relative whose principal applicant received an ORR or OTIP certification	NOTE: There is no separate Certification or Letter of eligibility from HHS for relative. I-94 or passport stamped T2-T6 • I512 indicating parole based on T2-T6 status • I797 approval coded T2-T6 • I797 approval of I539 or “extension of T status” • I797 approval of C25 employment authorization • EAD indicating code “C25”; OR [whatever a derivative has if primary has continued presence or BFD].	8 USC §1614(c)(4)	T2; T3; T4; T5; T6	Ineligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Cuban-Haitian Entrants	Cuban or Haitian national with: • I-94 “Cuban-Haitian Entrant” or “parole,” or “212(d)(5)” • Court document or receipt of pending I-589 or asylum proceeding • I-766 EAD (coded C8 or C11) Any verification from the INS, DHS, or other authoritative document.	Sect. 902(b)(1)(A) or 902(b)(1)(C)(iii) of P.L. 105-277. Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act (HRIFA Oct. 21, 1998); INA § 210 or 245A, or Sect. 202 of P.L. 99-603 (Cuban-Haitian entrant). Sect. 112 of P.L. 101-649 (Nov. 29, 1990)		Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.
Humanitarian Parolee, Public Interest Parolee Follow separate rules for special parolees described below	I-512 Authorization for the Parole of a noncitizen into the US • I-94 marked “parole,” or “PIP,” or “212(d)(5)” • I-766 EAD coded “A4” or “C11” • G-639 indicating humanitarian parole or section notation • Any verification from the INS, DHS, or other authoritative document.	INA § 212(d)(5)		Eligible for CFAP if they do not meet the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption.
Afghan Parolees paroled between July 31, 2021, and September 30, 2023; Spouses, children, parents, and legal guardians of AHPs paroled after September 30, 2023.	Form I-766, EAD with C11 parolee category; I-94 or foreign passport stamped OAR, OAW, PAR or DT	8 USC § 1182(d)(5). Afghan Supplemental Appropriations Act (ASAA) 2022, PL 22-01 and PL 22-02		For individuals paroled between July 31, 2021, and September 30, 2023; Spouses, children, parents, and legal guardians of AHPs paroled after September 30, 2023, ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh prior to HR 1.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Ukrainian Parolees paroled between Feb.24, 2022 and Sept. 30, 2024; Includes parents, legal guardians, or primary caregiver of an unaccompanied refugee minor who may have been paroled after September 30, 2023. Includes non-Ukrainian individuals who last habitually resided in Ukraine and received humanitarian parole	I-94 noting humanitarian parole or 212(d)(5) or 8 USC § 1182(d)(5)) • Foreign passport with admission stamp “DT” • Foreign passport with admission stamp “Uniting for Ukraine” or “U4U” or “Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolee” or “UHP” • I-765 EAD receipt notice coded C11 • I-766 EAD coded C11 Non-Ukrainian individual who last habitually resided in Ukraine and received humanitarian parole, they may provide: - Any one of the forms or stamps listed above and - Documentation of last habitual residence in Ukraine. (ex: Ukrainian driver’s license or identification card)	8 USC § 1182(d)(5)); P.L. 117-128, Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act (AUSAA) of 2022; Ukraine Security Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2024		Please note Ukrainian Humanitarian Parole program ended. For individuals paroled between Feb.24, 2022 and Sept. 30, 2024, ineligible for CFAP since they were immediately eligible for CalFresh prior to HR 1. Up
Afghan/Iraqi Special Immigrants	Iraqi or Afghan passport or I-94 with indicated section code		SQ1; SQ2; SQ3; SQ4; SQ5; SQ6; SQ7; SQ8; SI1; SI2; SI3; SI4; SI5; SI6; SI7; SI8	Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan and Venezuelan (CNHV) Parolees	For Cuban and Haitian parolees, follow rules for Cuban-Haitian entrants above; Nicaraguan and Venezuelan parolees, follow general eligibility for humanitarian parolees, above.			For Cuban and Haitian parolees: Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh. For Nicaraguan and Venezuelan parolees: Eligible for CFAP if the five (5) year waiting period or an exemption are not met.
Compact of Free Association (COFA) nationals	Foreign passport indicating citizen of Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) or Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)	P.L. 118-42, Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2024, Div. G, title II		Ineligible for CFAP since immediately eligible for CalFresh.
Hmong or Highland Laotian Tribal Members. The principal member must be from the tribe while assistance was rendered to US personnel by taking part in a military or rescue operation during the Vietnam era (August 5, 1964, through May 7, 1975). This would include the spouse, unremarried surviving spouse, or unmarried dependent child(ren) of tribal members.	Refer to FNA Guidance Technical Assistance Guide for the Implementation of Section 508 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (September 28, 1998), and a follow-up to this Guidance Hmong and Highland Laotian Guidance on Verifying Status (February 24, 1999). (Copies available from FNA Regional Office)			Ineligible for CFAP.

Noncitizen Status	Document Type	Relevant Laws	Classes of Admission	CFAP eligibility
Certain American Indians born abroad Includes (1) American Indians born in Canada or Mexico to whom Section 289 of the INA applies and (2) members of any Federally-recognized tribe.	Tribal membership card or other tribal document establishing membership in an Indian tribe. If an applicant has no documentation, verify membership by contacting the applicable tribe.			Ineligible for CFAP.

References

- 104th Congress. (1996, August 22). *Public Law 104-193: The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA)*. Retrieved from congress.gov: <https://www.congress.gov/104/plaws/publ193/PLAW-104publ193.pdf>
- 105th Congress. (1997, June 12). *Public Law 105-18: Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from Natural Disasters, and for Overseas Peacekeeping Efforts, Including Those in Bosnia*. Retrieved from congress.gov: <https://www.congress.gov/105/statute/STATUTE-111/STATUTE-111-Pg158.pdf>
- 106th Congress. (2000, October 28). *Public Law 106-386*. Retrieved from congress.gov: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/106th-congress/house-bill/3244/text>
- 110th Congress. (2008, December 20). *Food and Nutrition Act of 2008*. Retrieved from USDA.GOV: <https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Food%20And%20Nutrition%20Act%20Of%202008.pdf>
- 119th Congress. (2025, July 4). *H. R. 1 An Act to provide reconciliation pursuant to title of H. Con. Res. 14*. Retrieved from congress.gov: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text>
- Administration for Children & Families. (2023, January). *ACF's Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Benefits for Afghan Humanitarian Parolees*. Retrieved from acf.hhs.gov: <https://acf.gov/sites/default/files/documents/orr/Benefits-for-Afghan-Humanitarian-Parolees.pdf>
- California Legislative Information. (1999, July 22). *WIC section 18932*. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WIC§ionNum=18932.
- California Legislative Information. (2008, January 1). *WIC section 18945*. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WIC§ionNum=18945.
- California State Assembly. (2024, June 26). *Assembly Bill 107 Chapter 22- Budget Act of 2024*. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB107

- California State Legislature. (1997, August 18). *Assembly Bill 1576 Chapter 287*. Retrieved from leginfo.ca.gov: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/97-98/bill/asm/ab_1551-1600/ab_1576_bill_19970818_chaptered.pdf
- California State Legislature. (1999, July 22). *Assembly Bill 1111 Chapter 147*. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=199920000AB1111
- California State Legislature. (2006, September 29). *Senate Bill 1569 Chapter 672*. Retrieved from leginfo.ca.gov: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/05-06/bill/sen/sb_1551-1600/sb_1569_bill_20060929_chaptered.pdf
- California State Legislature. (2021, July 16). *Assembly Bill 135 Chapter 85*. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB135
- California State Legislature. (2022, July 1). *Senate Bill 187 Chapter 50*. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB187
- CDSS. (1995, October 10). *ACIN I-47-95: Alien Eligibility Reference*. Retrieved from cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acin95/I-47-95.pdf>
- CDSS. (1997, September 3). *ACIN I-52-97: CFAP for Legal Immigrants*. Retrieved from cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acl97/97-50.PDF>
- CDSS. (1999, September 9). *ACL 99-64: Noncitizen Reference Guide*. Retrieved from cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acl99/99-64.PDF>
- CDSS. (2000, January 5). *ACL 00-07: Battered Noncitizen Eligibility under CalWORKS and Food Stamp Program*. Retrieved from cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/foodstamps/entres/getinfo/acl00/pdf/00-07.PDF>
- CDSS. (2005, January 19). *MPP section 63-102*. Retrieved from cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/entres/getinfo/pdf/fsman02.PDF>
- CDSS. (2006, December 21). *ACL 06-60: Eligibility for Aid and Services for Noncitizen Victims of Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, and other Serious Crimes*. Retrieved from cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/getinfo/acl06/pdf/06-60.pdf>

- CDSS. (2007, March 28). *MPP sections 63-503 through 63-504*. Retrieved from CDSS MPP Division 63, Chapter 63:
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/entres/getinfo/pdf/fsman07.pdf>
- CDSS. (2008, July 01). *MPP sections 63-501 through 63-502*. Retrieved from CDSS MPP Division 63, Chapter 63:
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/entres/getinfo/pdf/fsman05.pdf>
- CDSS. (2009, February 11). *MPP section 63-300*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov):
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/entres/getinfo/pdf/fsman03.pdf#page=21>
- CDSS. (2010, December 29). *ACIN I-102-10: Food Stamps Program Noncitizen Eligibility Reference Guide*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov):
https://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acin/2010/i-102_10.pdf
- CDSS. (2011, October 14). *ACIN I-65-11: SNAP Guidance on Noncitizen Eligibility*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov):
https://cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acin/2011/I-65_11.pdf
- CDSS. (2011, August 2). *MPP sections 63-400 through 63-405*. Retrieved from CDSS MPP Division 63, Chapter 63:
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/ord/entres/getinfo/pdf/fsman04a.pdf>
- CDSS. (2023, April 20). *ACIN I-14-23: Eligibility of Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan Parolees for Federal and State Benefits*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov): https://cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACINs/2023/I-14_23.pdf?ver=2023-04-20-114942-870
- CDSS. (2023, June 29). *ACL 23-57: CFAP Expansion*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov):
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACLs/2023/23-57.pdf?ver=2023-06-29-134830-473>
- CDSS. (2024, June 28). *ACWDL: Extension of Federal Benefits and Services Eligibility for Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov):
[https://cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACWDL/2024/CL_06-28-24\(3\).pdf?ver=2024-06-28-170207-567](https://cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACWDL/2024/CL_06-28-24(3).pdf?ver=2024-06-28-170207-567)
- CDSS. (2025, March 7). *ACL 23-57E: CFAP Expansion Errata*. Retrieved from www.cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACLs/2023/23-57E.pdf?ver=PU2J0l0gMry1n2n8b64tCg%3d%3d>
- CDSS. (2025, August 20). *ACL 23-57EII: CFAP Expansion Errata No. 2*. Retrieved from www.cdss.ca.gov: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/Additional-Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACLs/2023/23-57EII.pdf?ver=PU2J0l0gMry1n2n8b64tCg%3d%3d>

Resources/Letters-and-Notices/ACLs/2023/23-57EII.pdf?ver=PHt9O0NeoCI8q7wXzx--3A%3d%3d

CDSS. (2026). *CalFresh Data Dashboard*. Retrieved from [cdss.ca.gov](https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/data-portal/research-and-data/calfresh-data-dashboard):
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/data-portal/research-and-data/calfresh-data-dashboard>

Food and Nutrition Administration. (2026, June 6). *7 CFR 271.2 Definition*. Retrieved from [ecfr.gov](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-C/part-271/section-271.2): <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-C/part-271/section-271.2>

Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture. (2026, June 4). *45 CFR Part 401.2- Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program*. Retrieved from [ecfr.gov](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-IV/part-401#p-401.2(b)):
[https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-IV/part-401#p-401.2\(b\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-IV/part-401#p-401.2(b))

Food and Nutrition Administration, Department of Agriculture. (2026, June 6). *7 CFR 273-Certification of Eligible Households*. Retrieved from [ecfr.gov](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-C/part-273):
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-C/part-273>

Legislative Analyst's Office. (2022, February 11). *The 2022-23 Budget: California Food Assistance Program*. Retrieved from [lao.ca.gov](https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4532):
<https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4532>

Legislative Analyst's Office. (2026, February 18). *The 2026-27 Budget: Food Assistance Program*. Retrieved from [lao.ca.gov](https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/5126): <https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/5126>

National Immigration Forum. (2022, April 25). *Explainer: Private Sponsorship Programs for Refugees*. Retrieved from [immigrationforum.org](https://immigrationforum.org/article/a-guide-to-private-sponsorship-for-refugees/#:~:text=In%20total%2C%20PSI%20helped%20to,sponsor%20in%20the%20first%20place):
<https://immigrationforum.org/article/a-guide-to-private-sponsorship-for-refugees/#:~:text=In%20total%2C%20PSI%20helped%20to,sponsor%20in%20the%20first%20place>

National Immigration Law Center. (2024, October). *Documents Typically Used by Lawfully Present Immigrants*. Retrieved from [www.nilc.org](https://www.nilc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Typical-Documents_10.24.pdf):
https://www.nilc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Typical-Documents_10.24.pdf

National Latino Network. (n.d.). *What is Immigration Status*. Retrieved from <https://www.nationallatinonetwork.org/>:
<https://www.nationallatinonetwork.org/en/knowledge-base/content-type/what-is-immigration-status/>

Office of Refugee Resettlement. (2024, April 29). *ORR Matching Grant Program*. Retrieved from [acf.hhs.gov](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/programs/refugees/matching-grants):
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/programs/refugees/matching-grants>

- ORR. (2022, February 18). *Policy Letter 22-02*. Retrieved from [acf.hhs.gov: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/orr/ORR-PL-22-02-Additional-ORR-Eligibility-Categories-and-Documentation-Requirements-for-Afghan-Nationals.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/orr/ORR-PL-22-02-Additional-ORR-Eligibility-Categories-and-Documentation-Requirements-for-Afghan-Nationals.pdf)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (2026, July 27). *ohss.dhs.gov*. Retrieved from Immigrant Classes of Admission: <https://ohss.dhs.gov/topics/immigration/lawful-permanent-residents/immigrant-classes-admission>
- U.S. Department of Justice. (1997, December 11). *federalregister.gov*. Retrieved from Guidance on Standards and Methods for Determining Whether a Substantial Connection Exists Between Battery or Extreme Cruelty and Need for Specific Public Benefits: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/1997/12/11/97-32438/guidance-on-standards-and-methods-for-determining-whether-a-substantial-connection-exists-between>
- United States Code. (2011). *8 USC Section 1183a Requirements for sponsor's affidavit of support*. Retrieved from [govinfo.gov: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2011-title8/html/USCODE-2011-title8-chap12-subchapII-partII-sec1183a.htm](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2011-title8/html/USCODE-2011-title8-chap12-subchapII-partII-sec1183a.htm)
- US Department of Health and Human Services. (2025, March 27). *Certification & Eligibility | The Administration for Children and Families*. Retrieved from [acf.gov: https://acf.gov/otip/research-policy/data/certification-eligibility](https://acf.gov/otip/research-policy/data/certification-eligibility)
- US Department of Homeland Security. (2023, January 1). *Implementation of a Parolee Process for Cubans*. Retrieved from [federalregister.gov: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00252/implementation-of-a-parole-process-for-cubans](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00252/implementation-of-a-parole-process-for-cubans)
- US Department of Homeland Security. (2023, January 9). *Implementation of a Parolee Process for Haitians*. Retrieved from [federalregister.gov: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00255/implementation-of-a-parole-process-for-haitians](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00255/implementation-of-a-parole-process-for-haitians)
- US Department of Homeland Security. (2023, January 9). *Implementation of Changes to the Parole Process for Venezuelans*. Retrieved from [federalregister.gov: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00253/implementation-of-changes-to-the-parole-process-for-venezuelans](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00253/implementation-of-changes-to-the-parole-process-for-venezuelans)
- US Department of Homeland Security. (2026, July 27). *ohss.dhs.gov*. Retrieved from Immigrant Classes of Admission: <https://www.dhs.gov/ohss/topics/immigration/lpr/classes-of-admission>

- US Department of State. (n.d.). *Certificates of Non Citizen Nationality*. Retrieved from travel.state.gov: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/us-citizenship/Certificates-Non-Citizen-Nationality.html>
- USCIS. (2019, October 29). *Fact Sheet: Status of Citizens of the Republic of Palau*. Retrieved from uscis.gov: https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/fact-sheets/FactSheet-Status_of_Citizens_of_Palau.pdf
- USCIS. (2020, September). *Status of Citizens of the Freely Associated States of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands*. Retrieved from USCIS: <https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/fact-sheets/FactSheetVerifyFASCitizens.pdf>
- USCIS. (2024, December 12). *Policy Manual, Volume 6, Chapter 1*. Retrieved from uscis.gov: <https://www.uscis.gov/policy-manual/volume-6-part-j-chapter-1#:~:text=Congress%20initially%20created%20the%20special,still%20required%20for%20SIJ%20classification.>
- USCIS. (2024, April 1). *Processes for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans*. Retrieved from uscis.gov: <https://www.uscis.gov/CHNV>
- USCIS. (2024, October 11). *Uniting for Ukraine*. Retrieved from www.uscis.gov: <https://www.uscis.gov/ukraine>
- USCIS. (2025, January 24). *Humanitarian: Abused Spouse, Children and Parents*. Retrieved from uscis.gov: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/abused-spouses-children-and-parents>
- USCIS. (n.d.). *Glossary*. Retrieved from uscis.gov: <https://www.uscis.gov/tools/glossary>
- USCIS. (n.d.). *Immigration Relief for Abused, Abandoned, or Neglected Children*. Retrieved from USCIS: https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/brochures/OPS_Special_Immigrant_Juvenile_Classification_V7_508%20Compliant.pdf
- USDA. (2008, 24 2008). *FSP – Guidance on Iraqi and Afghani Special Immigrants*. Retrieved from fns.usda.gov: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/guidance-iraqi-afghani-special-immigrants>
- USDA. (2024, June 11). *Non-Citizen Policy: State Agency Webinar*. Retrieved from youtube.com: <https://youtu.be/Bae3rb8DKIs?si=cuFA5esxPD3NqZE2>
- USDA Food and Nutrition Service. (2021, October 15). *SNAP Provisions in the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act*. Retrieved from fns.usda.gov: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/extending-government-funding-delivering-emergency-assistance>

USDA Food and Nutrition Service. (2024, July 12). *SNAP Provisions in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024*. Retrieved from fns.usda.gov: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/consolidated-appropriations-act-cofa-memo#:~:text=COFA%20citizens%20are%20not%20subject%20to%20a%20waiting,the%20Systematic%20Alien%20Verification%20for%20Entitlements%20%28SAVE%29%20program.>

USDA Food Nutrition Service. (2022, June 7). *Provisions in the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022*. Retrieved from fns-prod.azureedge.us: <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/ukraine-supplemental-approp-memo.pdf>