Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – SIJS

Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

SIJS Children[1]

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**
- **All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status**

Zero Months: Filing *(Lawfully Present)*
CHIP (up to age 19), Wisconsin Works

6 Months after Filing for SIJS:
Approval
-Work Authorization, Deferred Action
Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment

5 Years After SIJS Approval: Apply for Lawful Permanent Residency[2]

5.8 Years after Filing for SIJS:10 Months after filing for Lawful Permanent Residence
-Issued Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)
(*Qualified Immigrant)*
-Federal Student Aid, LIHEAP; Public and Assisted Housing, SNAP (under 18)

10.8 Years after Filing for SIJS: 5 years after Lawful Permanent Residence:
Medicaid[3], TANF, Can apply for Naturalization

10.5 Years after Filing for SIJS: 10 years after lawful permanent residency: **SNAP (age 18+),[4] SSI**

11.5 years after Filing for SIJS: 8 months after Application for Naturalization[5]:
Naturalization Approved

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[1] Child is up to age 21 under immigration law. For public benefits age limit varies by benefits program see state public benefits charts.
[2] Time to application may vary depending on when priority date becomes current. The current backlog is approximately 5 years.
[3] Eligible for federal Medicaid having attained lawful permanent residence and having completed the 5-year bar.
[4] Must be under age 18, disabled, met the 5-year bar, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.
[5] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

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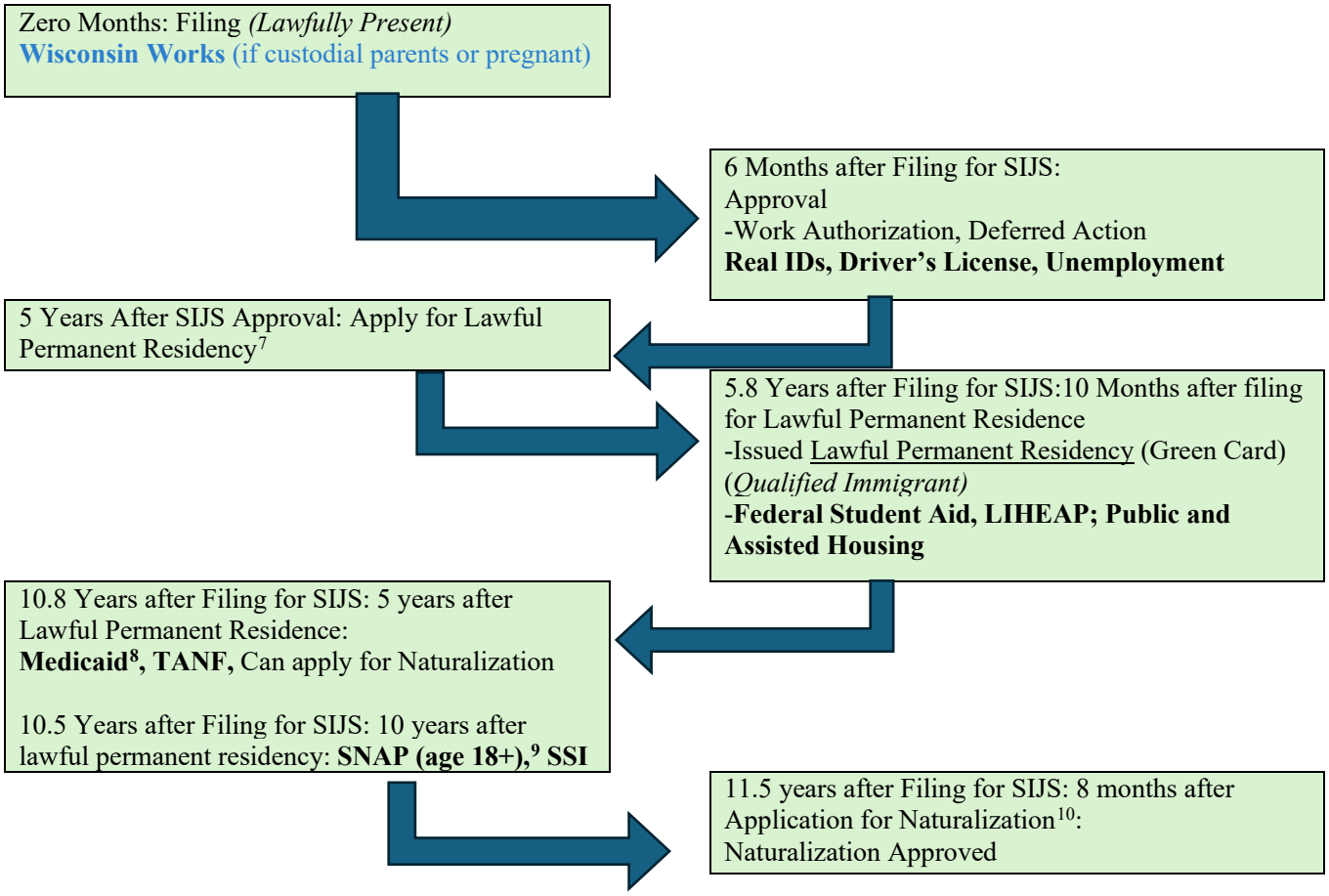
Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – SIJS,

Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

SIJS Applicants Who Become Adults[6]

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**



*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[6] Children must apply for SIJS before age 21. If filed prior to turning 21, the SIJS application can be granted regardless of the applicants age at adjudication.
[7] Time to application may vary depending on when priority date becomes current. The current backlog is approximately 5 years.
[8] Eligible for federal Medicaid having attained lawful permanent residence and having completed the 5-year bar.
[9] Must have met 5-year bar, be disabled, elderly if entered the US before 8/22/96, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.
[10] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – VAWA

Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

VAWA Children[1]

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**
- **All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status**

Zero Months: At Filing:

-Public and Assisted Housing

5 Months after Filing: If abuser citizen parent/step-parent (USC abuser): Work Authorization, **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment**

3-4 Months after Filing:
Prima Facie Determination (*Qualified Immigrant and Lawfully Present*)
- Federal Student Aid, LIHEAP, CHIP (up to age 19), Wisconsin Works

44 Months (3.7 years) after Filing:
-Approval ; Deferred Action,[2]

If abuser lawful permanent resident parent/step parent (LPR abuser): Work Authorization/[3] and eligibility to apply for Lawful Permanent Residency;
Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment

Issued Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) (Green Card)[4] and **SNAP (up to age 18)**: 3.7 (USC abuser) or 4.8 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing
5.3 years after filing with LPR: **SNAP (age 18+)[5], TANF, Medicaid/CHIP**

6.7(USC abuser) or 7.5 (abuser LPR) Years after Filing for VAWA; 3 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence: Apply for Naturalization

7.3 (USC abuser) or 8.2 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA; 8 Months after Application for Naturalization[6]: Naturalization Approved
10.3 (USC abuser) or 13.7 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA: **SSI**

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[1] Child is up to age 21 under immigration law. For public benefits age limit varies by benefits program see state public benefits charts.
[2] Formal protection from removal/deportation.
[3] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition.
[4] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition. Milwaukee Field Office wait time is 9 months.
[5] Must be under age 18, disabled, met the 5-year bar, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.
[6] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

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Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – VAWA,

Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

VAWA Adults

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**

Zero Months: At Filing:

-Public and Assisted Housing

5 Months after Filing: If abuser citizen parent/step-parent (USC abuser):
Work Authorization, **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment**

3-4 Months after Filing:
Prima Facie Determination (*Qualified Immigrant and Lawfully Present*)
- Federal Student Aid, LIHEAP, Wisconsin Works (if custodial parents or pregnant)

44 Months (3.7 years) after Filing:
-Approval; Deferred Action,[7]

-If abuser lawful permanent resident parent/step parent (LPR abuser): Work Authorization/[8] and eligibility to apply for Lawful Permanent Residency;
Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment

Issued Lawful Permanent Residency (LPR) (Green Card)[9]3.7 (USC abuser) or 4.5 (LPR abuser) years after Filing for VAWA
5.3 years after filing: **Medicaid[10], SNAP[11], TANF**

6.7 (USC abuser) or 7.5 (abuser LPR) Years after Filing for VAWA; 3 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence: Apply for Naturalization

7.3 (USC abuser) or 8.2 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA; 8 Months after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence[12]: Naturalization Approved

10.3 (USC abuser) or 13.7 (LPR abuser) Years after Filing for VAWA: **SSI**

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

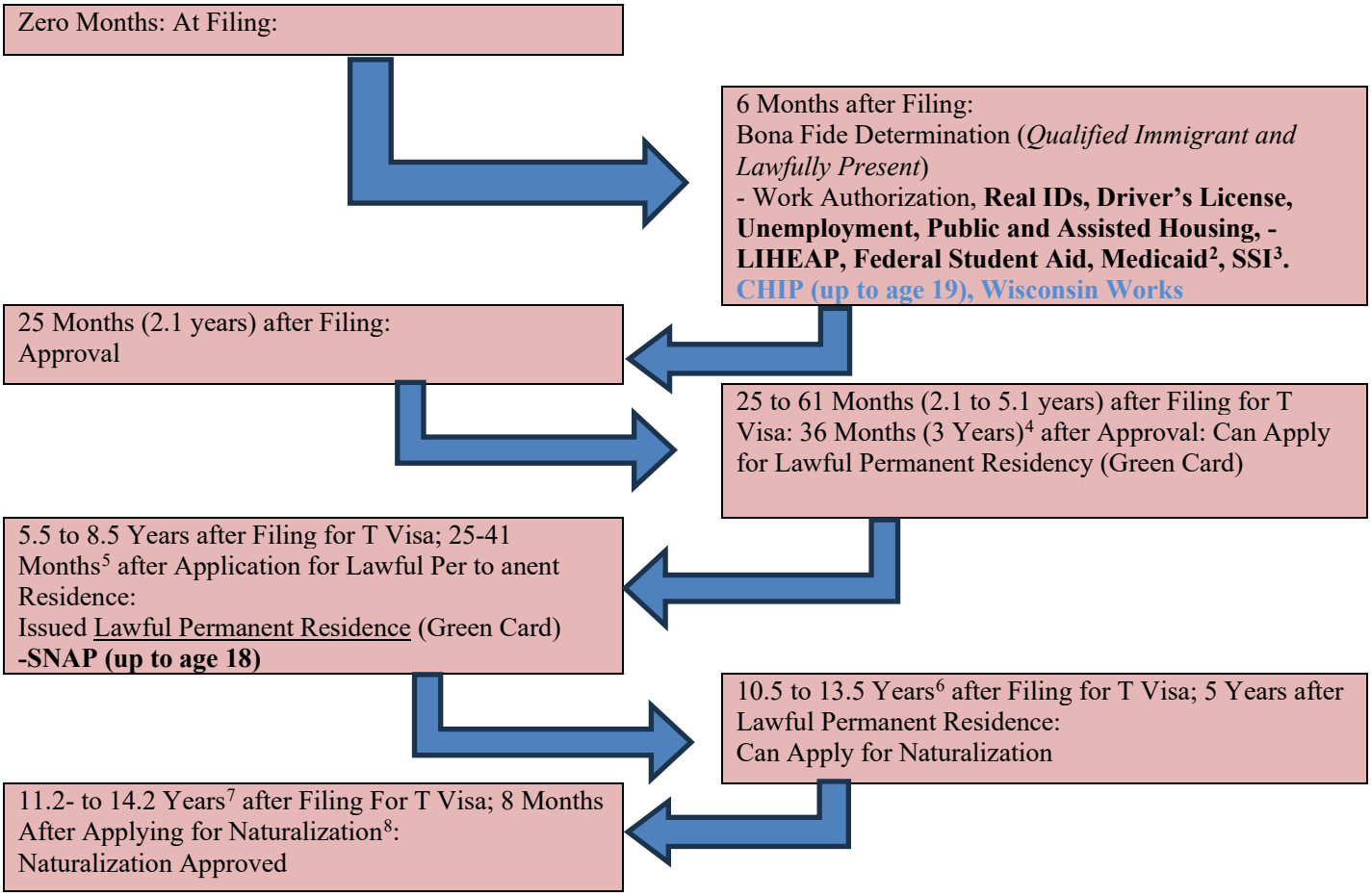
State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[7] Formal protection from removal/deportation
[8] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition
[9] If spouse/child/stepchild of citizen abuser filed lawful permanent resident application with VAWA self-petition. Wait time is 9 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.
[10] Eligible for federal Medicaid 5 years after receiving VAWA prima facie determination. Starting October 1, 2026 will also require lawful permanent residency.
[11] Must have met 5-year bar, be disabled, elderly if entered the US before 8/22/96, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.
[12] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – T Visa,
Sarah Register and Leslye Orloff (February 8, 2026)

T Visa Children[1]

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**
- **All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status**



*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and/or lawful permanent residence requirements.
State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[1] Child is up to age 21 under immigration law. For public benefits age limit varies by benefits program see state public benefits charts.
[2] Victims with T visa bona fide determinations or T visas eligible with no 5-year bar. After October 1, 2026 will require lawful permanent residence.
[3] Eligible only for the first 7 years after T visa receipt or bona fide determination.
[4] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.
[5] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.
[6] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.
[7] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.
[8] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

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Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – T Visa,

Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

T Visa Adults

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**

Zero Months: At Filing:

6 Months after Filing:
Bona Fide Determination (*Qualified Immigrant and lawfully present*)

- Work Authorization, **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment, Public and Assisted Housing, - LIHEAP, Federal Student Aid, Medicaid[9], SSI[10],** **Wisconsin Works** (if custodial parents or pregnant)

25 Months (2.1 years) after Filing:
Approval

25 to 61 Months (2.1 to 5.1 years) after Filing for T Visa: 36 Months (3 Years)[11] after Approval:
Can Apply for Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)

5.5 to 8.5 Years after Filing for T Visa; 25-41 Months[12] after Filing for T Visa; 41 Months after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence:
Issued Lawful Permanent Residence (Green Card)
-SNAP[13]

10.5 to 13.5 Years[14] after Filing for T Visa; 5 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence:
Can Apply for Naturalization

11.2- to 14.2 Years[15] after Filing For T Visa; 8 Months After Applying for Naturalization[16]:
Naturalization Approved

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[9]Victims with T visa bona fide determinations or T visas eligible with no 5-year bar. After October 1, 2026 will require lawful permanent residence.

[10] Eligible only for the first 7 years after T visa receipt or bona fide determination.

[11] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval

[12] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

[13] Must have met 5-year bar, be disabled, elderly if entered the US before 8/22/96, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.

[14] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

[15] Can be in the earlier range if trafficking investigation is completed prior to 3 years after Approval.

[16] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – U Visa,
Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

U Visa Children[1]

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**
- **All children are eligible for K-12 public education regardless of immigration status.**

Zero Months: At Filing[2]:

28.5 Months (2.4 Years) after Filing:
Bona Fide Determination *(Lawfully Present)*
Deferred Action[3], Work Authorization **Real IDs, Driver's License, Unemployment,** **CHIP (up to age 19), Wisconsin Works**

8.5 Years after Filing:
-Approval[4]

11.5 Years after Filing for U Visa: 3 Years after Approval: Apply for Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)

13.7 Years after Filing for U Visa; 26 Months after Application for Lawful Permanent Residence:
Issued Lawful Permanent Residency (Green Card)
(Qualified Immigrant)
-Public and Assisted Housing, LIHEAP, Federal Student Aid, SNAP (up to age 18)

18.7 Years after Filing for U Visa; 5 Years after Lawful Permanent Residence: Can Apply for Naturalization
Medicaid[5], SSI, TANF

19.3 Years after Filing for U Visa; 8 Months after Applying for Naturalization[6]:
Naturalization Approved

*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[1] Child is up to age 21 under immigration law. For public benefits age limit varies by benefits program see state public benefits charts.
[2] Obtaining a certification from a government official is a required prerequisite to filing for a U Visa
[3] Formal protection from removal/deportation
[4] As of October 2025 they began issuing U visa approvals for cases filed in early 2017.
[5] Eligible f for federal Medicaid having become a qualified immigrant by attaining lawful permanent residence and having completed the 5-year bar.
[6] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

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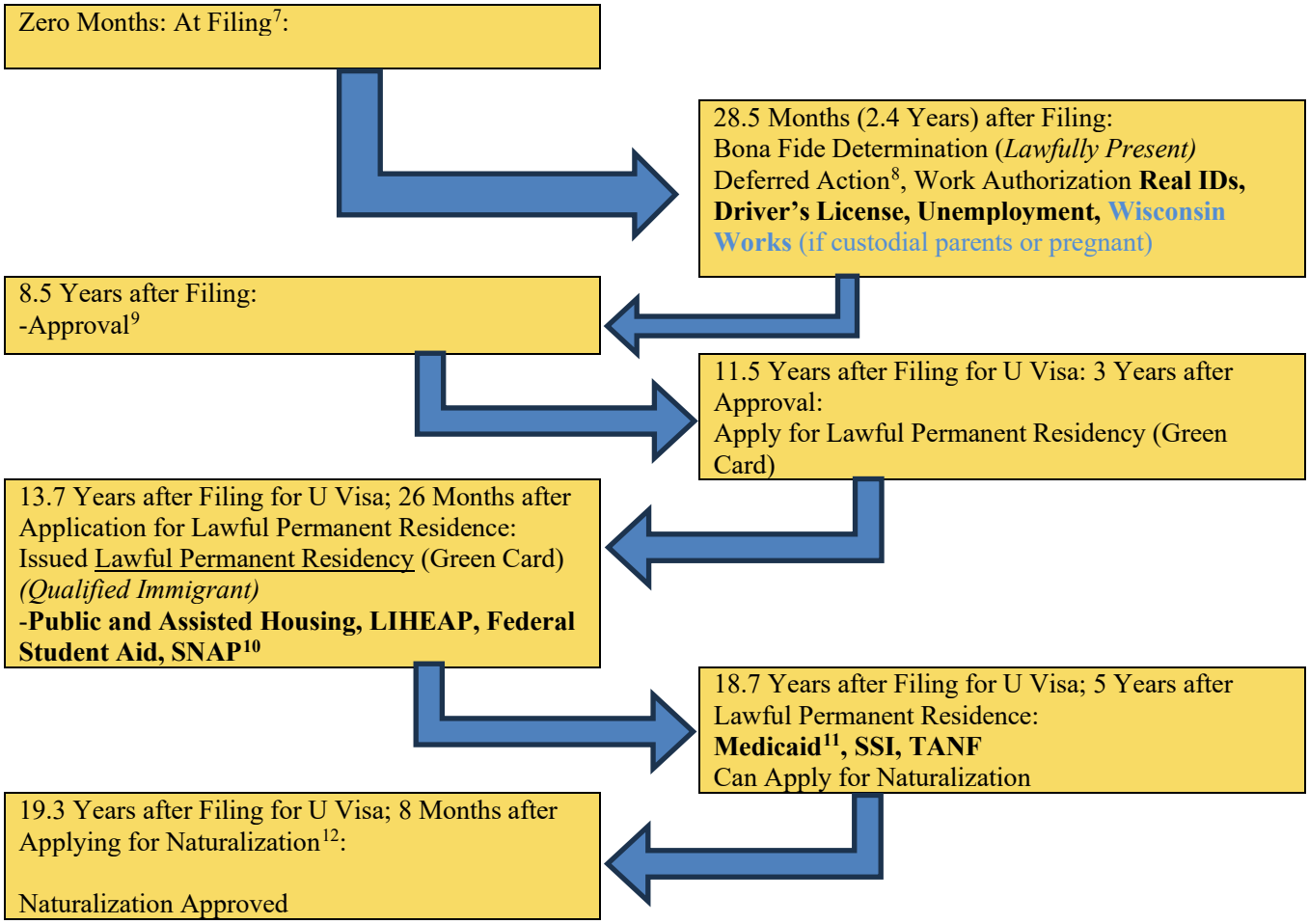
Wisconsin Benefits Infographic – U Visa,

Sarah Register and Leslye Orloff (February 8, 2026)

U Visa Adults

- **Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.**



*State funded available prior to meeting federal: 5-year bar, 40 quarters, and lawful permanent residence requirements.

State funded blue font – State benefits charts https://niwaplibrary.wcl.american.edu/all-state-public-benefits-charts/

[7] Obtaining a certification from a government official is a required prerequisite to filing for a U Visa.

[8] Formal protection from removal/deportation.

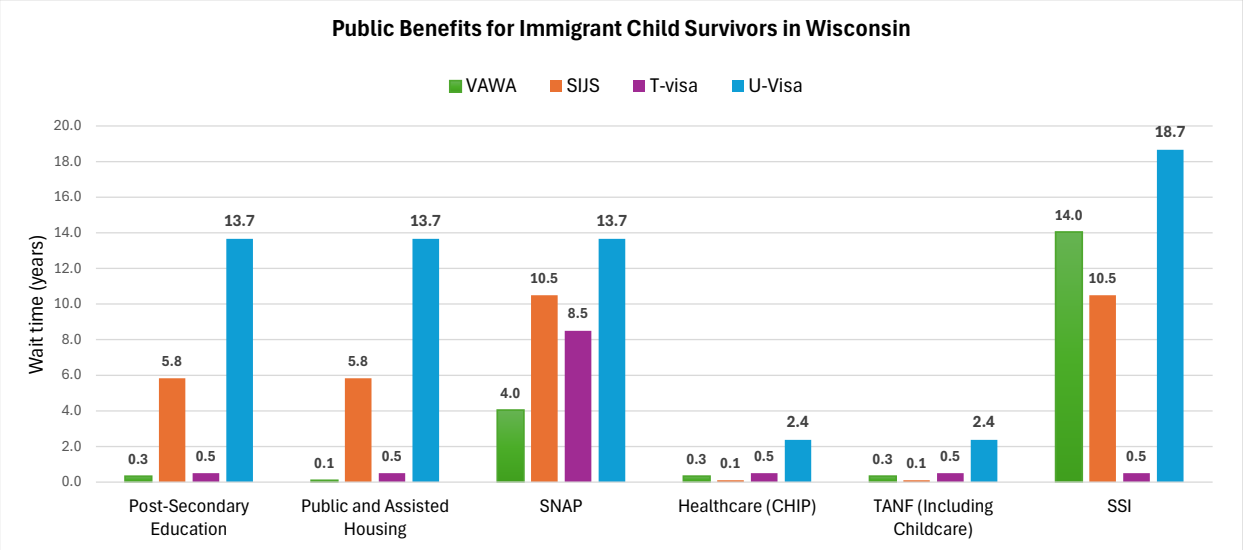
[9] As of October 2025 they began issuing U visa approvals for cases filed in early 2017.

[10] Must be disabled, have met the 5-year bar, be elderly and entered the US before 8/22/96, or earned 40 quarters (10 years) of work credit since work authorization.

[11] Eligible for federal Medicaid having become a qualified immigrant by attaining lawful permanent residence and having completed the 5-year bar.

[12] Wait time is 8 months at the Milwaukee Field Office.

Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivor Children in Wisconsin						
By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff February 8, 2026						
	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Conditions Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.3	5.8	0.5	13.7	State/Federal	Must be qualified immigrants for Federal student aid. For Wisconsin post-secondary educational benefits, student must be a lawful permanent resident and have 12 months state residence in Wisconsin.
Public and Assisted Housing	0.1	5.8	0.5	13.7	Federal	VAWAs eligibe upon filing, T visas, U visas and SIJS must be qualified immigrants.
SNAP	4.0	10.5	8.5	13.7	Federal	Must be lawful permanent residents. Must also be under 18 , disabled, elderly who was lawfully residing in the U.S. on 8/22/96, have been a qualified immigrant for 5 years or a lawful permanent resident with 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit measured from the date they receive work authorization. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visa victims are exempt from the 5 year bar and 40 quarter requirement. SIJS and U visa victims who work become eligible 10 years after receiving work authorization and those who do not have 40 quarters of work credit when they become lawful permanent residents would need to wait to complete the 5 year bar. SIJS or U child who can use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less.
Healthcare (CHIP)	0.3	0.1	0.5	2.4	State	Wisconsin provides CHIP to lawfully present children who are under the age of 19.
TANF (Including Childcare)	0.3	0.1	0.5	2.4	State	Wisconsin provides Wisconsin Works to lawfully present and to qualified immigrants with legal work authorization. To qualify the person must be a custodial parent, pregnant, or a child.
SSI	14.0	10.5	0.5	18.7	Federal	Federal laws apply no state funded SSI.
						0.1 = immediately eligible at filing



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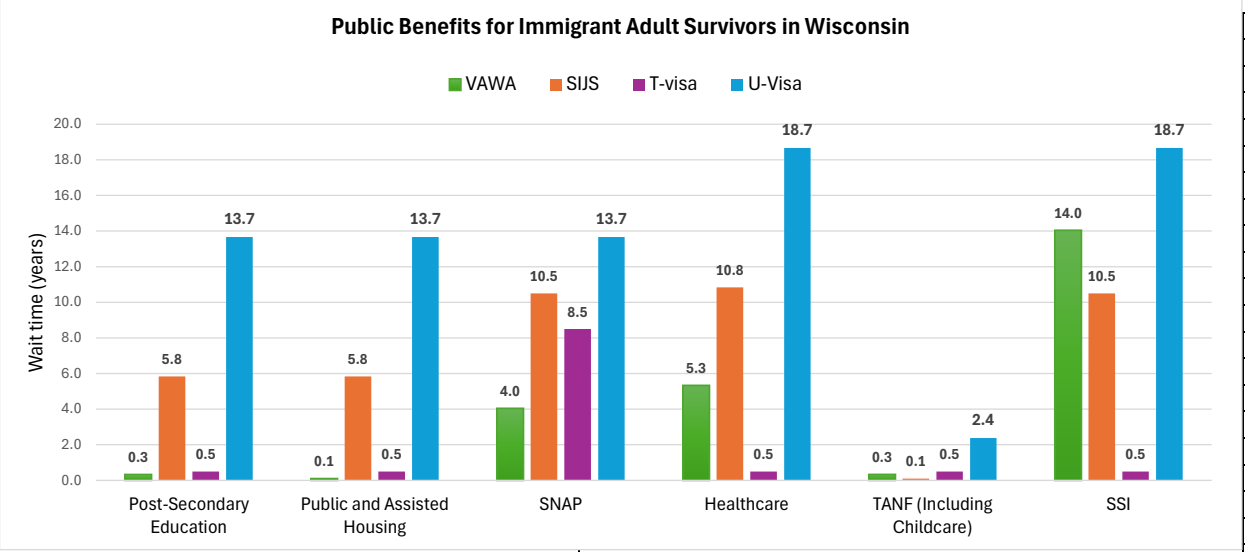
Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivor Adults in Wisconsin						
By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff February 8, 2026						
	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Conditions Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.3	5.8	0.5	13.7	State/Federal	Must be qualified immigrants for Federal student aid. For Wisconsin post-secondary educational benefits, student must be a lawful permanent resident and have 12 months state residence in Wisconsin.
Public and Assisted Housing	0.1	5.8	0.5	13.7	Federal	VAWAs eligibe upon filing, T visas, U visas and SIJS must be qualified immigrants.
SNAP	4.0	10.5	8.5	13.7	Federal	Must be lawful permanent residents. Must also be under 18 , disabled, elderly who was lawfully residing in the U.S. on 8/22/96, have been a qualified immigrant for 5 years or a lawful permanent resident with 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit measured from the date they receive work authorization. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visa victims are exempt from the 5 year bar and 40 quarter requirement. SIJS and U visa victims who work become eligible 10 years after receiving work authorization and those who do not have 40 quarters of work credit when they become lawful permanent residents would need to wait to complete the 5 year bar. SIJS or U child who can use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less.
Healthcare	5.3	10.8	0.5	18.7	Federal /State	Must be qualified immigrants. If entered the U.S. before 8/22/96 subtract 5 years. (T visa exempt from bar). After 10/1/26 requires lawful permanent residence. This will increase the wait time for T visas to between 5.5 and 8.5 years. Wisconsin provides prenatal care, full healthcare and 90 days post-partum care to uninsured low-income pregnant persons.
TANF (Including Childcare)	0.3	0.1	0.5	2.4	State	Wisconsin provides Wisconsin Works to lawfully present and to qualified immigrants with legal work authorization. To qualify an adult must be a custodial parent or pregnant. For adults who are not parents or pregnant see federal law tab of this chart.
SSI	14.0	10.5	0.5	18.7	Federal	Federal laws apply no state funded SSI.
						0.1 = immediately eligible at filing



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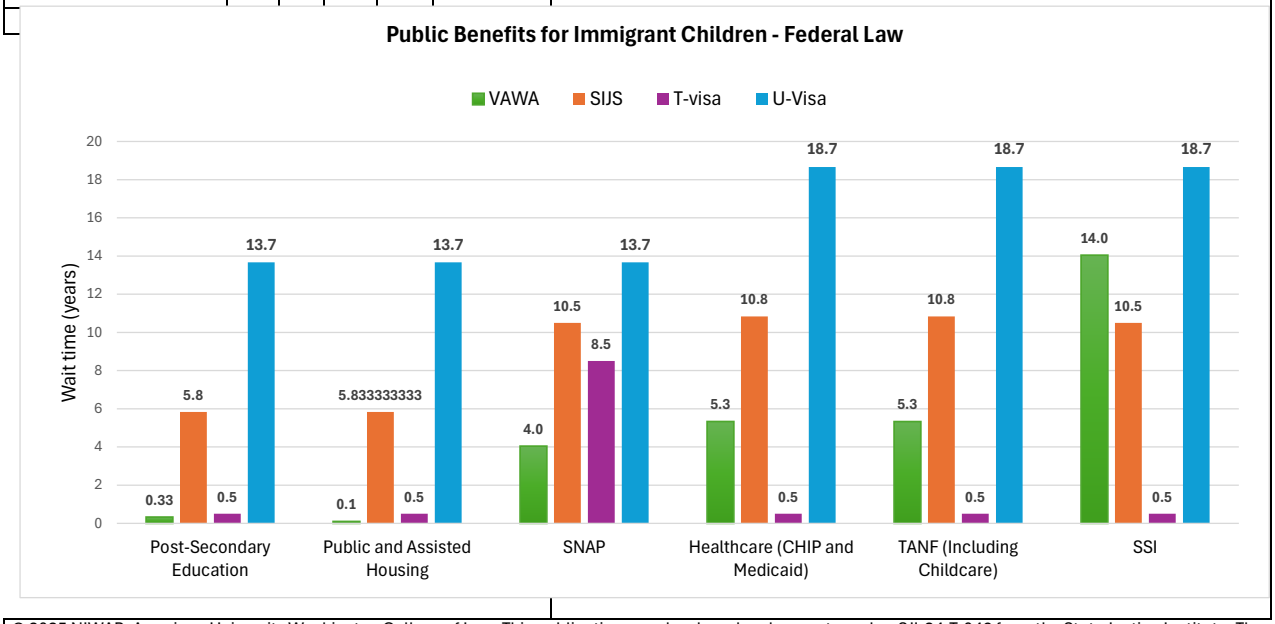
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE of LAW

Federal Public Benefits for Immigrant Survivors

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (December 11, 2025)

	VAWA	SIJS	T-visa	U-Visa	Governing Law	Notes
Post-Secondary Education	0.33	5.8	0.5	13.7	Federal	Must be qualified immigrants.
Public and Assisted Housing	0.1	5.83	0.5	13.7	Federal	VAWA self-petition eligible upon filing; T visa, U visa and SIJS must be qualified immigrants.
SNAP	4.0	10.5	8.5	13.7	Federal	**Must be lawful permanent residents**. Must also be under 18 , disabled, elderly who was lawfully residing in the U.S. on 8/22/96, have been a qualified immigrant for 5 years or a lawful permanent resident with 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit measured from the date they receive work authorization. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. **T visa** victims are exempt from the 5 year bar and 40 quarter requirement. **SIJS and U visa** victims who work become eligible 10 years after receiving work authorization and those who do not have 40 quarters of work credit when they become lawful permanent residents would need to wait to complete the 5 year bar. SIJS or U child who can use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less.
Healthcare (CHIP and Medicaid)	5.3	10.8	0.5	18.7	Federal	Must be qualified immigrants. If entered the U.S. before 8/22/96 subtract 5 years. (T visa exempt from bar)
TANF (Including Childcare)	5.3	10.8	0.5	18.7	Federal	Must be qualified immigrants. If entered before 8/22/96 have a 5 year bar (T visa exempt from bar)
SSI	14.0	10.5	0.5	18.7	Federal	**Must be a lawful permanent resident and have 40 quarters (5-10 years) of work credit, and subject to 5 year bar if arrived after 8/22/96**. The 5 year bar and 40 quarters can be earned simultaneously. T visas exempt from 40 quarter and 5 year bar and are eligible for 7 years after becoming a qualified immigrant. Children can use credit from themsleves and that their parents earned when they were under the age of 18. Children who use the work credit for themselves and a parent, could be up to 5 years less. U visa victims eligibe 5 years after lawful permanent residence if have earned 40 quarters work credit. VAWAs calculated as 10 years after attaining work authorization. Spouses of citizens will be eligible 3.4 years faster.



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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE of LAW

VAWA - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations -Wisconsin

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years citizen spouse	Total years LPR spouse	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category		
Filing VAWA Self-petition	0						VAWA self-petitioners who are abused by citizens can file their green card applications at the same time as they file their self-petitions.	PRUCOL		
Prima Facie Determination	3 to 4	Months		0.33	0.3	0.3	VAWA self-petitioners abused by citizens who file green card applications together with their VAWA self-petition receive **work authorization i**n a similar time frame.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
VAWA Self- Petition Approval	44	Months		3.67	3.7	3.7	All VAWA self-petitioners receive **deferred action** a formal protection against deportation.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Apply for Green Card	0			0.00	3.7	3.7	VAWA self-petitioners who are abused by lawful permanent residents receive **work authroization** and are eligible to file green card applications once their self-petition is approved.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Green Card Approval	9.00	Months		0.75	**3.7**	**4.4**	Lawful Permanent Residence	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant	average	4.0
Apply for Naturalization	3	Years		3	6.7	7.4		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Naturalization approval	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**7.3**	**8.1**	Naturalized Citizen	Citizen		
Naturalization (N-400)	months									
Milwaukee, WI	8									
Green Card (I-485)	months									
Milwaukee, WI	9									

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T Visa - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Wisconsin

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years if trafficking case is completed when victim is granted a T visa	Total years if case not completed	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category		
T visa Declarations							Best practice (not required)	None		
Filing for T visa	0			0.00				PRUCOL		
Bona Fide Determination	6	Months		0.50	0.5	0.5	Includes **deferred action** a formal protection against deportation and **work authorization.**	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
T Visa Adjudication - Approval	25	Months		2.1	2.1	2.1		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Apply for Green Card	3	Years		3.00	0.0	5.1	Either three years or when trafficking investigation complete whichever is sooner.	Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Green Card Approval	41	Months		3.42	**5.5**	**8.5**		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant	average	7.0
Apply for Naturalization	5	Years		5.00	10.5	13.5		Lawfully Present and Qualified Immigrant		
Naturalization approval	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**11.2**	**14.2**		Citizen		
Naturalization (N-400)	months									
Milwaukee, WI	8									

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SIJS - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Wisconsin

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

				Year calculation	Total years	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category
Judicial Findings						Must obtain judicial findings before the child turns the age of majority in the state.	None
Filing for SIJS	0				0.1	Must file before child turns age 21.	Lawfully Present
SIJS Adjudication - Approval	6	Months		0.50	0.5		Lawfully Present
Apply for Green Card	5	years		5.00	5.0	The SIJS applicant's priority date is date USCIS accepts the SIJS application for processing.	Lawfully Present
Green Card Approval	11.00	Months	average	0.83	**5.8**	When SIJS applicants are granted lawful permanent residence they are **work authorized** and receive protection from deportation.	Qualified Immigrant
Apply for Naturalization	5	Years		5.00	10.8		Qualified Immigrant
Naturalization approval	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**11.5**	Naturalized Citizen	Citizen
Naturalization (N-400)	months						
Milwaukee, WI	8						
Green Card (I-485)	months		*SIJS is employment based				
All Field Offices	11						
SCOPS	30						

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U Visa - Immigration and Public Benefits Timeline Calculations - Wisconsin

By Sarah Register and Leslye E. Orloff (February 8, 2026)

				Year calc	Total years	Notes	Benefits Eligibility Category
U Visa Certification						Obtaining a certification from a government official is a required prerequisite to filing for a U visa.	None
Filing for U visa	0	Months		0.00	0.0	Certification is valid for 6 months. Must file within 6 months of the certification date or must obtain a new certification.	PRUCOL
Bona Fide Determination	28.5	Months		2.4	2.4	Includes **deferred action** a formal protection against deportation and **work authorization.**	Lawfully Present
U Visa Adjudication - Approval	8.5	Years		8.5	8.5	As of October 2025 they began issuing U visa approvals for cases filed in early 2017	Lawfully Present
Apply for Green Card	3	Years		3.00	11.5	Eligible to apply three years after receiving a U visa.	Lawfully Present
Green Card Approval	26	Months		2.17	**13.7**		Qualified Immigrant
Apply for Naturalization	5	Years		5.00	18.7		Qualified Immigrant
Naturalization approval	8.00	Months	average	0.67	**19.3**		Citizen
Naturalization (N-400)	months						
Milwaukee, WI	8						

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