# Public Assistance & Employment Services Division Updates

**November 4, 2021** 





## VEC Update: New Virginia Unemployment Insurance System (VUIS)

- The current filing system will be down starting November 9 at 5 p.m., weekly claims will need to be made prior to 2 p.m.
- Customers will not be able to file initial/additional, reopened, or weekly claims by phone or through the system for several days during the system changeover.
- All current and pending UI claimants will be required to register in the new system.
- Additional FAQs are available at <a href="https://www.vec.virginia.gov/node/13530">https://www.vec.virginia.gov/node/13530</a>.



### **Employment Services for Public Assistance Recipients**

### **VIEW** - TANF recipients

- Email <u>DFSVIEWTeam@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> or contact benefits worker
- **SNAP E&T** SNAP recipients
  - Email <u>DFSSNAPET@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> or contact benefits worker

Bridges to Success - TANF recipient with hidden or diagnosed disabilities

• Email <u>DFSSSBridgesTeam@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> or contact benefits worker

### Services:

- ✓ Job readiness assistance including career assessment and coaching
- ✓ GED/HS diploma prep
- ✓ Occupational training
- ✓ Child care and transportation assistance
- ✓ Access to technology
- ✓ Additional services for Bridges clients: therapy/counseling, medication management, job/life coaching









# UPDATE to Benefits for NEWLY Arrived Afghan Immigrants





# Newly Arrived Afghan Immigrants Are Eligible for <u>ALL Services</u>

### Medicaid

Medical assistance

### SNAP

Food assistance

### TANF

Financial assistance for families with children under 18

### Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)

Financial assistance for adults

(Limited to 8 months of eligibility from date of approved status- apply ASAP!)



# **Immigrant Category Definitions**

### **Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)**

• Individuals who have worked as translators, interpreters, or other professionals employed by or on behalf of the United States government in Afghanistan or Iraq.

### **Special Immigrant Visa SI**

• Specifically for translators or interpreters who have worked with U.S. military forces.

### **Special Immigrant Visa SQ**

 Available to any other Afghan national who was employed by or on behalf of the United States government in the region.

### **Humanitarian Parolee**

 An individual, who may be inadmissible or otherwise ineligible for admission into the United States, to be paroled into the United States for a temporary period. The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) allows the secretary of Homeland Security to use their discretion to parole any alien applying for admission into the United States temporarily for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.





If you encounter an adult or family who meets the definition of the immigrant categories described in the previous slide who have been DENIED recently- please contact us.

Please email our Intake Supervisors:

Antoinette Reeves: <u>Antoinette.Reeves@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> & Amy Walker: <u>Amy.Walker@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>

And CC:

Rina Courtell: <u>Rina.Courtell@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> (Intake Program Manager)

Angela Walker-Scott: <u>Angela.Walker-Scott@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> (Intake Manager)

# Apply online ANYTIME via CommonHelp at

https://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov/ or by phone at 1-833-5CALLVA

# SKIDTHE MID YOU DON'T NEED TO TURN IN YOUR DOCUMENTS IN-PERSON!

For your safety and convenience, you can provide documents for Medicaid, SNAP, TANF, or other programs anytime, 24/7 without having to enter one of our buildings.

#### EMAIL

DFSMyCase@FairfaxCounty.gov

### FAX

703-653-6679

#### MAIL

12011 Government Center Parkway Suite 232 Fairfax, VA 22035

#### DROP BOX

- Drop boxes are located outside our human service buildings.
- Documents deposited in these boxes before 4:30 p.m. will be date stamped with the current day.
- Documents received after 4:30 p.m. will be date stamped for the next business day.



#### PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND CASE NUMBER ON ALL DOCUMENTS

For questions about your case please call your worker, or call our Call Center at **703-324-7500** 



# **General Updates**

1. SNAP interviews for new applications and renewals are waved.

Advise households to complete the application as thoroughly as possible

The public health emergency was extended to January 16, 2022

Reductions and/or terminations in Medicaid coverage are prohibited (some exceptions apply).

3. <u>Open Enrollment</u> for the Health Insurance Marketplace is November 1-January 15, 2022

□ Virginians who apply for health insurance through the Marketplace need to sign up during Open Enrollment to ensure coverage in 2022. The Marketplace will transfer applications to the local agency for applicants that appear to be eligible for Medicaid (and vice versa- local agencies transfer ineligible applications for Medicaid to the Marketplace).

