

Civil Legal Aid for Immigrants & Refugees

Massachusetts
Legal
Assistance
Corporation

Line item 0321-1600

During the COVID-19 crisis, immigration courts have been open for in person proceedings. Civil legal aid provides low-income immigrants advice, representation, and information so they can protect their rights, safety, and financial stability during the pandemic.

Legal Aid lawyers help immigrants and refugees

- Ensuring fair treatment and due process
- Assisting with DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) and TPS (Temporary Protected Status)
- Educating people on their rights and responsibilities through workshops
- Helping people secure the right to live and work in the U.S. legally
- Removing barriers to education for immigrants
- Protecting access to safety net programs

Low-income people at or below 125% of the federal poverty level (\$33,125 per year for a family of four) qualify for civil legal aid.



An attorney with MetroWest Legal Services helped Carmen (left) and her son Bobby receive asylum after fleeing persecution in El Salvador.

MLAC-funded civil legal aid organizations closed

2,611

Immigration Cases in FY20

Last year legal aid provided

\$115 million

in economic benefits
to the Commonwealth
and its residents

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