**USDA Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP) Awards and Public Benefits**

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**THE USDA DFAP AWARD MAY AFFECT ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS. EVERYONE’S SITUATION IS DIFFERENT. BE SURE TO CONSULT OR ADVISE TO CONSULT AN ATTORNEY OR ADVOCATE KNOWLEDGEABLE IN YOUR STATE FOR SPECIFIC ADVICE.**

**If you or someone you know are in need of legal advice about how the DFAP award affects benefits, you or they may qualify for free limited assistance.**

* If you live in one of the states listed below, contact the designated program to apply for help. You may have to meet eligibility requirements.
* If you live in any other state, or if you cannot be served by the program listed for your state, you can apply to the ABA Free Legal Answers platform (see below).
* You can also contact your local legal aid to apply for help (see below).
* If none of these options can help, try calling your local bar association and ask if they offer a lawyer referral service. Lawyers you find through the bar association are not free and will charge a fee.

**State Level Legal Services Contacts**

**Alabama**

Call the Legal Services Alabama DFAP Hotline at (866) 278-2440. Or call 334-242-5000.

**Georgia**

Call Georgia Legal Services Program at 1-833-GLSP LAW (457-7529) for all counties except the metro Atlanta area (Fulton, Dekalb, Gwinnett, Clayton, and Cobb) Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can begin the application process online at <https://gaoi.legalserver.org/modules/matter/extern_intake.php?pid=108&h=5c2a5f&>, but you will still need to complete a telephone intake during regular business hours.

**Louisiana**

Call 1-866-ASK-ALSC (1-866-275-2572) for Acadiana Legal Service Corporation to apply for legal assistance.  If you do not live in an area of central and north Louisiana served by ALSC, you can also contact the Legal Aid office that serves your community. Not all Legal Aid programs can assist with these kinds of questions, and they only serve people who meet financial and other eligibility requirements.

**Mississippi**

Call 1-800-498-1804 to be connected with the legal aid office that serves your community. Not all legal aid programs can assist with these kinds of questions, and they only serve people who meet financial and other eligibility requirements.

**South Carolina**

Call SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center at (803) 779-1113 x115 to apply for assistance. You can also contact SC Legal Services (888) 346-5592 to see if they can assist.

[South Carolina Fact Sheet | USDA Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP) Awards and Medicaid](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_SC.pdf)

**FOR ALL OTHER STATES (Florida and Texas)**

**ABA Free Legal Answers**

Visit [https://abafreelegalanswers.org](https://abafreelegalanswers.org/) to see if your state participates. You will need to select the state where you live and provide income and asset information to determine eligibility for free legal advice, which is generally available to people with household income below 250% of the federal poverty guidelines. Note: when answering questions regarding your assets, do not include your USDA DFAP award. Once you are approved, you can create an account to ask a question and get advice from a volunteer attorney.

**Legal Aid**

Contact the Legal Aid office that serves your community. You can look up your local Legal Aid at <https://www.lsc.gov/about-lsc/what-legal-aid/i-need-legal-help>. Not all Legal Aid programs can assist with these kinds of questions, and they may have financial eligibility requirements.

**Private Attorney**

Contact your local bar association to request a referral to a private attorney. You typically have to pay for services from private attorneys.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

* [USDA DFAP Awards and Public Benefits](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/pictures/usda-benefits-faq.pdf) ([Spanish Version](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/pictures/usda-benefits-faq-spanish.pdf))
* [USDA DFAP Awards and Supplement Security Income (SSI)](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/pictures/usda-ssi-faq.pdf) ([Spanish Version](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/pictures/usda-ssi-faq-spanish.pdf))

**Fact Sheets**

**Medicaid and USDA Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP) Awards**

[Alabama](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_AL.pdf)

[Florida](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_FL.pdf)

[Georgia](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_GA.pdf)

[Louisiana](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_LA.pdf)

[Mississippi](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_MS.pdf)

[South Carolina](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_SC.pdf)

[Texas](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_Medicaid_FAQ_TX.pdf)

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and USDA Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP) Awards**

[Alabama](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_SNAP_FAQ_AL.pdf)

[Florida](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_SNAP_FAQ_FL.pdf)

[Georgia](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_SNAP_FAQ_GA.pdf)

[Louisiana](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_SNAP_FAQ_LA.pdf)

[Mississippi](https://www.nlada.org/sites/default/files/USDA_SNAP_FAQ_Mississippi.pdf)

South Carolina (None)

Texas (None)