

# MASSACHUSETTS State Resources

## **Birth certificate (online only)**

Most records in Massachusetts, including birth, marriage, divorce and death records, are considered public records. Click on the link to find out what steps there are to get a copy of your birth certificate.

[http://www.mass-doc.com/vitals\\_research.htm](http://www.mass-doc.com/vitals_research.htm)

## **Registry of Vital Records and Statistics**

150 Mount Vernon St. 1st Floor  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
(617) 740-2600

RVRS administers and issues copies of vital records that occurred in Massachusetts from 1926 to the present. RVRS also provides statistics on births, deaths, fetal deaths, divorces, and marriages.

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/registry-of-vital-records-and-statistics>

## **MA Registry of Motor Vehicles**

PO Box 55889  
Boston, MA 02205

<https://www.mass.gov/topics/licenses-ids>

## **ACLU Voting Rights and Restrictions**

<https://www.aclu.org/issues/voting-rights/voter-restoration/>

## **Consumer Affairs & Business Regulations**

Obtain information about occupational and business licensing requirements, and access application and renewal forms and more.

[www.mass.gov/ocabr/licensee/license-types/](http://www.mass.gov/ocabr/licensee/license-types/)

## **MA Division of Employment**

Charles F. Hurley Bldg., Govt. Center  
19 Staniford St., 1st Fl.  
Boston, MA 02114  
617-626-6448

<http://www.mass.gov/lwd/>

## **MassHire**

The MassHire Workforce Board creates and sustains powerful connections between businesses and jobseekers through our statewide network of employment professionals.

<https://www.mass.gov/topics/masshire>

## **Dept of Families and Children**

Visit this website to find information about state sponsored programs that support healthy families.

<http://www.mass.gov/portal/home-family-veterans/raising-a-family-in-massachusetts/>

## **MA Department of Children & Families**

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) works in partnership with families and communities to keep children safe from abuse and neglect. In most cases, DCF is able to provide supports and services to keep children safe with parents or family members. When necessary, DCF provides foster care or finds new permanent families for children through kinship, guardianship or adoption. <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-department-of-children-families>

## **Mass. Family Portal Family Engagement:**

The goal of Family engagement in education is to build genuine relationships over time between students, families, educators, and the community. Effective family engagement tries to eliminate barriers to participation and take place in schools, in the community, and wherever students live and learn.

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/families/>

## **Massachusetts Food Pantries**

Find local pantries, soup kitchens, food shelves, food banks and other food help. [www.foodpantries.org/st/massachusetts](http://www.foodpantries.org/st/massachusetts)

## **Assurance Wireless Lifeline Program**

P.O. Box 5040  
Charleston, IL 61920-9907

1-888-321-5880

Assurance Wireless provides eligible consumers with free monthly data, unlimited texting, free monthly minutes plus a free Smartphone. Lifeline enrollment is available to individuals who qualify based on federal or state-specific eligibility criteria. Residents of homeless shelters, nursing homes and temporary addresses may also be eligible. <https://www.assurancewireless.com/lifeline-services/what-lifeline>

### **Freecycle**

We are a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving and getting stuff for free in their own Towns. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Membership is free. <https://www.freecycle.org/>

### **AA, NA, and Al Anon Meetings in MA**

This online resource connects individuals and families to AA Meetings, NA Meetings, Al-Anon Meetings and other supportive information [https://findrecovery.com/aa\\_meetings/ma/](https://findrecovery.com/aa_meetings/ma/)

### **Department of Health and Safety**

Visit this website to find information about Health and Safety, Health Insurance and other information about Massachusetts programs. <http://www.mass.gov/portal/health-safety/>

### **MA Free Clinics and Health Centers**

Helping to connect low-income and uninsured people with a clinic or health center in their area. These clinics offer free and discounted rates for medical and dental care. Our county listings include contact information, a listing of services including free services provided, discounted services provided and clinic operating hours. [https://freeclinicdirectory.org/massachusetts\\_care.html](https://freeclinicdirectory.org/massachusetts_care.html)

### **MassHealth**

In Massachusetts, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

are combined into one program called MassHealth. MassHealth members may be able to get doctors' visits, prescription drugs, hospital stays, and many other important services.

<https://www.mass.gov/topics/masshealth>

### **Department of Public Health (DPH)**

DPH keeps people healthy and communities strong. We promote the health and well-being of all residents by ensuring access to high-quality public health and healthcare services, focusing on prevention and wellness, and health equity for all.

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/department-of-public-health>

### **HIV and AIDS Services**

The Office of HIV/AIDS (OHA), a program of the Bureau of Infectious Disease (BID), works with clinical and non-clinical community programs, people living with HIV/AIDS, and other stakeholders to advance HIV prevention and care services. <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/id/hiv-aids/>

### **Nat'l Foundation for Credit Counseling**

800.388.2227

Free Credit Counseling! Our mission is to help all Americans gain control over their finances. For over 60 years, NFCC and its member agencies have helped people just like you pay off debt and grow in their financial capability. Our services help people overcome financial challenges at nearly every stage of life. <https://www.nfcc.org/>

### **CREDIT REPORT - Free!**

Free credit reports authorized by federal law. Federal law allows you to get a free copy of your credit report every 12 months from each credit reporting company. [www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action](http://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action)

### **Find Help**

Our findhelp technology powers Americas leading social care network. Our network

features more than 300,000 free and reduced-cost programs in all 50 U.S. states, territories, and Puerto Rico, powering social care systems for hundreds of customers nationwide.

[https://www.findhelp.org/find-social-services/massachusetts?ref=ab\\_redirect](https://www.findhelp.org/find-social-services/massachusetts?ref=ab_redirect)

### **Massachusetts 211**

211 connects you with thousands of nonprofit and government services in your area. If you want personal assistance call the three-digit number 211 or 877-947-2211. A friendly voice to talk with you 24/7/365.

<https://mass211.org/>

### **Community Resources for Justice**

355 Boylston Street

Boston, MA 02116

617-482-2520

We support men and women leaving incarceration to make positive, sustainable life transitions. <https://www.crj.org/>

### **MA Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

Known commonly as Fuel Assistance, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides eligible households with help in paying a portion of winter heating bills. <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-home-heating-and-energy-assistance>

### **Massachusetts Low Income Housing**

Find low income apartments in Massachusetts along with non profit organizations that help with low income housing along with HUD apartments, public housing apartments, public housing authorities, and housing agencies.

<https://www.lowincomehousing.us/MA.html>

### **Massachusetts Shelters**

We provide an online directory of shelters in Massachusetts.

[www.shelterlist.com/state/massachusetts](http://www.shelterlist.com/state/massachusetts)

### **Massachusetts Disability Resources**

Government agencies and disability rights organizations in Massachusetts.

<https://www.olmsteadrights.org/>

### **Mass. Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)**

can help you understand how working may affect your benefits.

<https://www.mass.gov/disability-benefits>

### **Elders - Care and Services**

Visit the MA Resources for Elders website to find information about Medicare, support centers, volunteer opportunities and more.

<http://www.mass.gov/ago/consumer-resources/consumer-information/resources-for-elders/>

### **Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA)**

Promotes independence, empowerment, and well-being of older people, individuals with disabilities, and their families. We ensure access to the resources you need to live healthy in every community in the Commonwealth.

[www.mass.gov/orgs/executive-office-of-elder-affairs](http://www.mass.gov/orgs/executive-office-of-elder-affairs)

### **MA Department of Veterans' Services**

The DVS helps connect veterans and their families to resources they need. Eligible veterans and family members may get financial assistance, peer support from the Statewide Advocacy for Veteran

Empowerment (SAVE) team, connection to the Women Veterans' Network, or burial at the Massachusetts Veteran Memorial Cemeteries in Agawam and Winchendon.

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-department-of-veterans-services>

### **MA Community Development**

MACDC is an association of mission-driven community development organizations dedicated to creating places of opportunity where ALL people can live with dignity while participating in and benefiting from our Commonwealth's economy

<http://www.macdc.org>

## Massachusetts

### Resources for People Who Are Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated

GLBTQ Legal Advocates and Defenders (GLAD LAW) generously shares this guide to resources in New England. FIERCELY DEFENDING EQUALITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!

Web: <https://www.glad.org/know-your-rights/publications/>

File: [glad-new-england-incarceration-resources-24.pdf](#)

### Veterans Reentry Guide

Incarcerated Veterans Re-entry Guides contain information on resources and how to plan a successful reentry.

Web: [http://www.va.gov/homeless/reentry\\_guides.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/reentry_guides.asp)

File: [09\\_ma.pdf](#)

### Massachusetts CareerOneStop Centers

Locations all around the state!

File: [ma.pdf](#)

### Boston

#### Coming Home Directory

Reentry resources for the greater Boston area.

Web: <https://www.cominghomedirectory.org/>

File: [boston-coming-home-directory-2024.pdf](#)

### Worcester

#### Coming Home Directory

Coming Home Worcester PO Box 30125 Worcester, MA 01603 Coming Home Worcester, MetroWest and Additional Regions is a directory of re-entry services available to ex-offenders returning to, or currently living in the Central Massachusetts and MetroWest area.

Web: <https://www.cominghomeworcester.org/>

File: [coming-home-2024.pdf](#)

# National Resources for Everyone!

**NATIONAL REENTRY HELPLINE:** 814-916-2577

## **FREE NATIONAL REENTRY PUBLICATION!**

Write for your copy! "Mapping Your Future – National Reentry Guide" (available in English and Spanish). Send your request to: Education Justice Project 1001 South Wright Street Champaign, IL 61820

**Everyone On** connects low-income people to affordable internet service and computers; including delivering digital skills training. [www.everyoneon.org/](http://www.everyoneon.org/)

**LibriVox Free Audio Books** LibriVox provides free audiobooks. [www.librivox.org/](http://www.librivox.org/)

## **Open Culture Free Audio Books**

Free cultural and educational media access. [www.openculture.com/freeaudiobooks](http://www.openculture.com/freeaudiobooks)

**University of The People** (free!) 100% online, tuition-free degree programs that are designed to fit into your life. Programs include: Business Administration, Computer Science, Health Science, Education. Associate, Bachelor & Master Degrees available. [www.uopeople.edu](http://www.uopeople.edu)

**Modern States** - Freshman Year for Free dedicated to making a high quality college education free of cost and accessible to any person who seeks one. Freshman Year for Free is intended to let students earn up to one year of college credit without tuition or textbook expense. [www.modernstates.org](http://www.modernstates.org)

## **National Urban League Jobs Network**

The National Urban League is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to elevating the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities. [www.nuljobsnetwork.com](http://www.nuljobsnetwork.com)

## **America Works**

America Works: work readiness training, vocational training, career placement, career advancement, and employment retention services. [www.americaworks.com](http://www.americaworks.com)

**PeopleReady** connects people and work. Whether you need workers or you're looking for new job opportunities, we're ready to deliver results for you today. [www.peopleready.com](http://www.peopleready.com)

## **Once Fallen**

2211 County Road 400 Tobias, NE 68453  
Once Fallen is a leading reference & resource site for Registered Citizens. It also provides useful information to those seeking to reform or abolish the sex offense laws. Once Fallen provides information and support FREE of charge. [www.oncefallen.com](http://www.oncefallen.com)

**Career Gear** for men [www.careergear.org](http://www.careergear.org)  
**Dress For Success** for women [dressforsuccess.org](http://dressforsuccess.org)

**Parents Anonymous** - now called Raising the Future  
855-427-2736 English and Spanish 8 am - 8 pm pst.  
[www.raisingfuture.org](http://www.raisingfuture.org)

## **National Parent Helpline** 1-855-427-2736

Weekdays: 10:00 am to 7:00 pm pst  
[www.nationalparenthelpline.org](http://www.nationalparenthelpline.org)

**Why Hunger Hotline:** 866-348-6479

**Find food pantries**, soup kitchens, summer meals sites, government nutrition programs and grassroots organizations. [www.whyhunger.org/find-food](http://www.whyhunger.org/find-food)

**Feeding America** Find a food bank near you! The Feeding America nationwide network of food banks secures and distributes more than 3 billion meals each year. Contact your local community food bank to find food. [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org)

## **Assurance Wireless Lifeline Program** (Free Phone)

P.O. Box 5040 Charleston, IL 61920-9907  
1-888-321-5880 [www.assurancewireless.com](http://www.assurancewireless.com) Assurance Wireless provides eligible consumers with free monthly data, unlimited texting, free monthly minutes plus a free Smartphone.

**Freecycle** People who are giving and getting stuff for free to keep good stuff out of landfills. [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

## **National Emergency Hotlines**

Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233 Strong Hearts  
Native Helpline 1-844-762-8483 Human Trafficking  
Hotline 1-888-373-7888 Child Abuse Hotline - 1- 800-422-4453  
Sexual Assault Hotline - 800-656-4673 Suicide  
Prevention Hotline - 800-273-8255

## **National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics**

1,400 Free and Charitable Clinics and Pharmacies provide access to healthcare for uninsured and underinsured people. [www.nafclinics.org](http://www.nafclinics.org)

## **Free Clinics For Uninsured and Low Income**

Clinics listed on our website offer services for free or at a reduced rate. Many clinics are operate under a sliding scale schedule. This means that costs to patients are calculated based on income. [www.freeclinics.com](http://www.freeclinics.com)

**Social Security Benefits** After Incarceration Individuals released from incarceration may be eligible for Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits. 1-800-772-1213. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY 1-800-325-0778. [www.ssa.gov/reentry/benefits](http://www.ssa.gov/reentry/benefits)

## National

### Prisoner Reentry Resources: U.S. Dept. of Labor

Federal Funding for Crime Prevention and Improved Reentry

Web: <https://reentry.ojp.gov/funding/labor>

### New England Guide to Resources 2012

Resources in New England; some may no longer be available. No update was found.

File: [new\\_england\\_reentry\\_guide-1.pdf](#)

### SSI: What Prisoners Need to Know

Benefits after Incarceration: What You Need To Know. An individual released from incarceration may be eligible for Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits Call to see if you qualify 1-800-772-1213

Web: <https://www.ssa.gov/reentry/benefits.htm>

File: [what-prisoners-need-to-know.pdf](#)

### SSI: Entering the Community After Incarceration - How We Can Help

Benefits after Incarceration: What You Need To Know. An individual released from incarceration may be eligible for Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits Call to see if you qualify 1-800-772-1213.

Web: <https://www.ssa.gov/reentry/benefits.htm>

File: [entering-the-community-after-incarceration.pdf](#)

### Transitional Housing.org

TransitionalHousing.org is for those who are in need of locating transitional housing in their area. We also provide halfway housing, shared housing and group housing.

Web: <https://www.transitionalhousing.org/>

### Money Smart for Adults

14 Money Smart for Adults Training Modules

Web: <https://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/adult.html>

### The Quixote Center

The Quixote Center is a multi-issue, grassroots organization founded in the Catholic social justice tradition. This is a link to a map where you can find information about reentry programs available in each state. Quixote Center, 7307 Baltimore Ave. Ste 214, College Park, MD 20740, Ph: 301-699-0042

Web: <https://www.quixote.org/category/criminal-justice/>

File: [quixote-prisoner-resource-guide.pdf](#)

### Homeless Shelters and Service Organizations.

National list of homeless shelters and other services.

Web: <http://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/>

### Food Pantries, Food Banks and Soup Kitchens

Find emergency food resources nearest to you.

Web: <http://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/foodbanks/index.html>

### Career Gear

Career Gear is focused on helping empower men of all ages, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds without judgement; to find success regardless of the obstacles that have held them back in their past. 212-577-6190

Web: <https://www.careergear.org/>

### Social Security Card - Getting Your Number

A Social Security number is important because you need it to get a job, collect Social Security benefits and get some other government services. You should keep your Social Security card in a safe place. In many cases, even if you lost your card, you may not need a replacement; simply knowing your Social Security number may be enough.

Web: <https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>

File: [social-security-card-application.pdf](#)