



MOIA Update

June 22, 2021

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Dear Member of the Media,

It's Primary Election Day!

As the new Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) Commissioner [Raquel Batista](#) shared during NALEO's Latino Get Out the Vote Press Conference last week, "the primary elections are how we can express our power and make our voices heard. By using the power of our vote, we can help shape a City government that prioritizes our communities as we work towards a full recovery from the pandemic."

Please help spread the word today that the polls are open citywide until 9pm. As long as you are in line by 9pm—you will be able to vote! New Yorkers can find their poll site at findmypollsite.vote.nyc, and [view a list of all the locations that have poll site language assistance in select languages](#).

To encourage civic engagement, MOIA's We Speak NYC free English language learning program released **two new videos** to help immigrant New Yorkers understand how they can rank up to five candidates in order of preference through the new Ranked Choice Voting system. View and share the [Ranked Choice Voting in the Kitchen](#) videos [here](#) and [here](#).

Remember, New Yorkers have a right to bring an interpreter or written materials to their voting site. [Share this message in multiple languages](#).

Share the resources and graphics in this toolkit: on.nyc.gov/CountdownToVote. For more information, explore a full list of translated resources and materials in:

- English: nyc.gov/VotingFAQ
- Albanian: nyc.gov/VotingFAQAlbanian
- Arabic: nyc.gov/VotingFAQArabic
- Bengali: nyc.gov/VotingFAQBangla
- Traditional Chinese: nyc.gov/VotingFAQTraditiona|Chinese
- French: nyc.gov/VotingFAQFrench
- Greek: nyc.gov/VotingFAQGreek
- Haitian Creole: nyc.gov/VotingFAQCreole
- Italian: nyc.gov/VotingFAQItalian
- Korean: nyc.gov/VotingFAQKorean
- Polish: nyc.gov/VotingFAQPolish
- Russian: nyc.gov/VotingFAQRussian
- Spanish: nyc.gov/VotingFAQSpanish
- Yiddish: nyc.gov/VotingFAQYiddish
- Urdu: nyc.gov/VotingFAQUrdu

As we participate in our democracy, all month long, New Yorkers are celebrating our LGBTQ+ communities this Pride month and uplifting our immigrant neighbors in celebration of Immigrant Heritage Month. Visit nyc.gov/immigrants or on.nyc.gov/IHM2021Events to learn more about upcoming cultural events, art fairs, panels, and more, and help spread the celebration to your communities with resources in our social media toolkit at on.nyc.gov/IHM2021.

Please also share the following **Immigration Policy Developments** and **Citywide Updates** with your network.

IMMIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Support Permanent Relief for Dreamers

Nine years ago, the immigrant rights movement won a major victory with the creation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This critical program offers opportunity and stability to hundreds of thousands of immigrants across the country who have grown up nearly all their lives with the US as their only home. But DACA is conditional and limited; the program does not offer a pathway to citizenship and the program continues to be under legal attack. MOIA is committed to not only continuing to fight for the program, but also to advocating a more just and welcoming immigration system for all. Dreamers and their families deserve a permanent place in our communities. **Show your support and help push for a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers with [this new video series](#) and [these social media graphics](#).**

Updates on Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Program

The federal government has recently made new announcements and published new guidelines regarding the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program, which provides temporary legal status to certain immigrants.

No matter what your immigration status, all New Yorkers can get immigration legal assistance, including comprehensive immigration legal screenings and legal representation. If you have questions or concerns, call ActionNYC at 1-800-354-0365 and say “public charge” to connect with City-funded, free and safe immigration legal help.

Remember, immigration law is complicated. Beware of fraudulent immigration providers who may make false promises. Learn how you can avoid becoming the victim of immigration fraud and report immigration fraud by [visiting our webpage](#).

Haiti Redesignated for TPS

On May 22nd, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designated Haiti for TPS for 18 months. This would allow any Haitian national currently residing in the United States to file applications for TPS. However, **this redesignation has not yet gone into effect**; a notice with details about how to apply will be available later. Check MOIA's site [TPS section](#) for updates.

Under this new redesignation, existing Haitian TPS beneficiaries will still be able to retain their TPS and TPS-related documents, and DHS will continue to extend the benefit and documents as required to comply with court orders. These beneficiaries can also choose to apply under the new designation to receive TPS for the entire 18-month period that will be described in the soon-to-be published Federal Register notice. [Learn more at MOIA's website.](#)

TPS Updates for Burma/Myanmar

The Department of Homeland Security designated Myanmar/Burma for Temporary Protected Status in March, and has recently made this official by publishing the policy in the Federal Register.

Through this Federal Register Notice, DHS is officially designating Burma for TPS for 18 months, effective through November 25, 2022. This designation allows eligible Burmese nationals who have continuously resided in the United States since March 11, 2021, and have been continuously physically present in the United States since the date of publication to the Federal Register, to apply for TPS. **Eligible individuals must apply by November 22, 2021.** [Learn more at MOIA's website.](#)

CITYWIDE UPDATES

Tune In LIVE this Thursday, June 24 at 12pm: MOIA Discussion on New API Fact Sheet

This **Thursday, June 24 at 12pm**, the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) will hold a virtual presentation to discuss key findings from MOIA's new report on NYC's Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities.

The new report features a new analysis of API immigrant populations, highlighting their economic contributions and the diverse demographic characteristics of NYC's API communities. This report also comes at a moment when the City is celebrating Immigrant Heritage Month while recommitting to fight bias and discrimination citywide.

Watch the livestream on June 24 at 12 pm at [facebook.com/nycimmigrants](https://www.facebook.com/nycimmigrants).

Rental Assistance Available for New Yorkers

The New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) is open for New Yorkers with unpaid rent. If you qualify, you could get up to 12 months of your back rent paid, along with up to 3 months of additional future rental assistance, up to 12 months of electric or gas payments to cover utility arrears, and access to additional protections. All payments will be made directly to your landlord. Individuals do not need to have a lawful immigration status to qualify for the program. You can also apply for rental assistance through ERAP even if you have an eviction case pending against you. There are community-based organizations in all five boroughs who can assist you with application and directly process

payments. You can also directly apply online [here](#). Learn more about eligibility, find graphics and resources in more than 10 languages, and learn how to apply at the HRA website for the [New York Emergency Rental Assistance Program \(ERAP\) \(nyc.gov\)](#).

For more information on landlord-tenant mediation, payment plans, accessing other public benefits, and more, call 311 and ask for the Tenant Helpline. The [Mayor's Office to Protect Tenant's website](#) also offers current information on the eviction moratorium and tenant rights.

Utility Assistance Available for New Yorkers

New Yorkers are encouraged to apply for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and Cooling Assistance Benefit, which provide funds for households to meet the costs of heating and cooling their homes. Applications are being accepted right now on a first-come-first-serve basis. Learn more about eligibility for the [Home Energy Assistance Program](#) and [Cooling Assistance Benefit](#) from ACCESS NYC.

Use Your IDNYC To Apply for Affordable Housing

Did you know? You can use your IDNYC to apply for affordable housing and access a wide variety of other discounts and services across the five boroughs.

[Housing Connect](#) is your portal to find and apply for affordable housing, including rental and homeownership opportunities. Rentals are regulated so the rent cannot go up too much over time, and condos, co-ops, and 1-4 family homes have restricted prices.

With IDNYC, you don't need a driver's license, social security card or birth certificate to be eligible for housing on Housing Connect. All New Yorkers above the age of 18 can sign up for Housing Connect. Your immigration status does not matter. Learn more at [on.nyc.gov/IDNYCForHousing](#).

City Announces "NYC Business Quick Start" to Make Opening Small Businesses Easier

Small businesses are critical to NYC's economic recovery. This week, the City launched "NYC Business Quick Start", a historic \$11 million initiative that will cut red tape and make it easier than ever to open, or re-open, a small business. This initiative will provide small businesses with a sole point of contact to help navigate City regulations, as well as a public dashboard, and guarantees a 48-hour response to all small business inquiries. Learn more about NYC Business Quick Start at [nyc.gov/business](#) or call 888-SBS-4NYC (888-727-4692).

NYC Artists: Apply for a \$5,000 Grant through New York City Artist Corps

Artists working in any discipline are encouraged to apply for a one-time, \$5,000 grant to engage the public across New York City's five boroughs this summer and fall. Through the New York City Artist Corps, more than 3,000 working artists will be selected and empowered to participate fully in the overall recovery of the City. Applications for the next cycle open on July 6. Learn more about City Artist Corps Grants, including how to apply, on [New York Foundation for the Arts' website](#). Additional information about City Artist Corps is available at nyc.gov/cityartistcorps.

New Paid Safe & Sick Leave for New Yorkers

As we continue to recover from the pandemic, it's important for all New Yorkers to know that NYC's Paid Safe and Sick Leave Law is strong and broad. No matter if you have a cold or COVID-19, workers have a right to paid leave. And some workers are now entitled to even more leave than ever. If you work for a private employer, including as a domestic worker, you can get up to 40 or 56 hours of leave a year to care for yourself or family. For health or safety reasons. Visit nyc.gov/workers to learn more about your rights as a worker or your responsibilities as an employer in NYC.

There's No Stopping New York

The City recently launched the "No Stopping New York" campaign to support the economic and cultural recovery of New York by instilling confidence that the city will come out of the past year better than ever. If you love this City and you agree that there is No Stopping New York, share #NoStoppingNewYork videos and images on social media and display No Stopping New York posters at retail locations, offices, or other prominent places. Learn more and download the graphics: recoveryforall.nyc.gov/nostoppingnewyork

WATCH: MOIA Roundtable on Anti-Asian Discrimination

Hate has no place in our city. And amid the troubling rise in incidents of anti-Asian bias, discrimination, and harassment, the City of New York stands firmly with our Asian and Pacific Islander communities. MOIA and the NYC Commission on Human Rights recently hosted a roundtable conversation around Uniting NYC Against Anti-Asian Discrimination to build a more just city through law enforcement and restorative justice. The event featured important information about resources for victims, the City's efforts to protect our API communities, key data on the trends around these incidents, and discussions with community members and leaders around how we can all step up to support our communities. [Watch the full event here](#), and visit nyc.gov/StopAsianHate for more information and resources.

WATCH: MOIA Roundtable on Youth Vaccines & Other COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

All New Yorkers 12 years of age and older are eligible to receive a free Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. It's important that all New Yorkers have the knowledge and resources they need to feel comfortable getting their families vaccinated. [As Test & Trace Corps Youth Advocate T'Shon Skeete explained at a recent forum on youth vaccines](#), our immune system gives us our armor — but vaccines are like our shield. That's why it's important to get the facts so we can help make sure our families have even more protection. Learn more about recent updates and new resources around COVID-19 vaccines:

- No appointment is needed to get a vaccine at an NYC Vaccine Bus
 - Call 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692) and ask for the "vaccine mobile clinic" or visit vax4nyc.nyc.gov
 - Learn more about Vaccine Bus schedules and locations at nyc.gov/vcc.
- New Yorkers can use IDNYC as proof of age to get the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - When you go to get the vaccine, all you need is a form of ID and a guardian's consent in-writing or in-person for minors.
 - Help spread the message with the [new IDNYC vaccine toolkit](#) with graphics in 25 languages. You can #RenewYourIDNYC online today at nyc.gov/IDNYC to continue getting all the [benefits](#) that come with having an IDNYC.
- Many New Yorkers are now eligible to receive in-home Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines.
 - If you think you may be eligible for an in-home vaccination, [fill out the interest form here](#).
 - Eligible New Yorkers can also request free transportation services to and from vaccination sites. New Yorkers over 65-years-old or those with disabilities can request to be picked up anywhere in the five boroughs and taken to any vaccination site located within the City. For more information, call the NYC Vaccine Hotline at 877-VAX4NYC.
- [New Yorkers are using TikTok to help educate our communities around vaccines.](#) Follow and amplify [@COVIDAwarenessCrew](#).
- [Watch MOIA's recent virtual roundtable on youth vaccines with the Department of Health.](#)
 - Health experts and outreach specialists discuss resources and answer common questions about vaccines for younger New Yorkers.

As a reminder, many [City services](#) are available for all New Yorkers. Immigration status does not matter. Download and print a quick and easy road map of these resources:

[English](#) | [shqip](#) | [العربية](#) | [বাঙালি](#) | [简化字](#) | [正體字](#) | [فارسی](#) | [Français](#) | [Fulani \(Fulfulde\)](#) | [Kreyòl Ayisyen](#) | [Hausa](#) | [हिंदी](#) | [日本語](#) | [한국어](#) | [Lingala](#) | [Maninka](#) | [नेपाली](#) | [Polskie](#) | [Português](#) | [ਪੰਜਾਬੀ](#) | [русский](#) | [Español](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [தமிழ்](#) | [Twi \(Akan\)](#) | [اردو](#) | [o'zbek](#) | [Tiếng Việt](#) | [Wolof](#) | [יידיש](#)

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