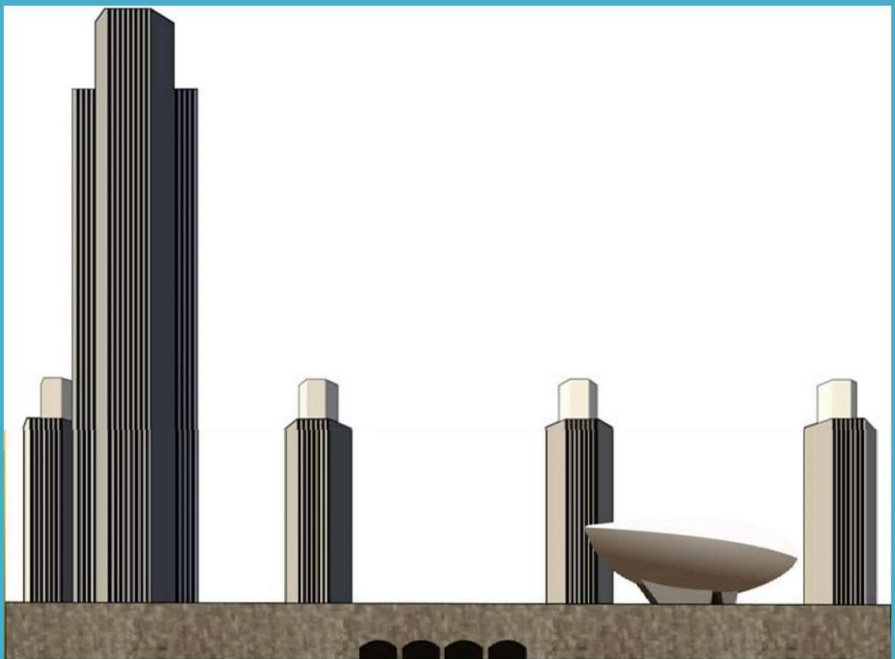


Fourteenth Edition: 2023-2025

Capital Region Connections

A resource guide for Capital
District residents presently or
formerly incarcerated and their
families.



A Publication of the Center for Law and Justice, Inc.
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From the Executive Director



It is again my pleasure to introduce you to the updated 14th edition of the Capital Region Connections. We hope that this directory of free or low-cost services and criminal legal information is especially helpful to those directly impacted by the criminal legal system. This edition is perhaps the most complete one ever. The scope of available support services and information has been expanded and new laws and new criminal legal services and information have been added.

This edition is also very special, because new staff and community volunteers through teamwork provided the Center with valuable research, writing, and editing support, allowing us to complete this edition with the most up-to-date available and reliable information. We are indebted to the following people who worked tirelessly to make this the most complete edition yet. They include Maritza Martinez, Michelle Stroe, Sianie Flannery, Darryl Johnson, Mary Ellen Frieberg, Onyedika Nwike, Jonathan Braithwaite, and Shivika Gupta.

Our last print edition of Connections was distributed free of charge to over 2,000 persons incarcerated throughout the state, or recently released, and their family members. Because copies are often shared, it is estimated that more than 6,000 people use Connections over a two-year period. And because Connections is available on

our website, many more community members have access to the publication.

The coming year of 2023 will mark the 38th anniversary of the Center, which provides advocacy and limited client services throughout the Capital Region. Since we are unable to help all those in need of client and support services, the Center is committed to developing ways to promote and teach self-advocacy skills that can be used in the community and in incarcerated settings.

During the past two years, the Center has communicated not only with large numbers of persons incarcerated but provided support services to their families and others; advocated for prison reform; supported those returning to our community after incarceration; and strongly supported legislative changes in parole, bail reform, and raise the age of criminal responsibility to curtail the incarceration of our youth. Much of our work has also focused on diverting people from the criminal legal system through the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program. Our hope is that we can begin to seriously address mass incarceration that continues to harm and destroy individuals, their families, and communities.

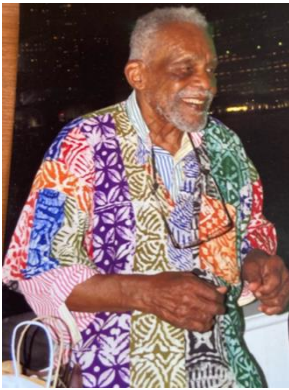
Of major importance, the Center will redouble its efforts to advocate for the right of incarcerated people to vote while imprisoned. This, we believe, will provide the greatest impetus for change.

Dr. Alice P. Green

Dedication and Inspiration

The 2023-2025 Capital Region Connections is dedicated to two individuals who have fought for freedom, peace, social justice, and reform of the criminal justice system for many years. They were also key members of the Center's New Jim Crow Study Group for ten years.

Dave Walker



Dave Walker was born in Harlem and grew up in Brooklyn. He worked in various areas of New York State, Chicago, and Wisconsin often in political campaigns, and spent most of his career working with youth. He was a member of the National Maritime Union and the Negro American Labor Council. Dave established Mothers Against Drugs and was able to secure a ward at St. Luke's Hospital in Manhattan for drug treatment. He was one of the organizers of Fight Back, a Black labor organization. Dave also ran a school on the upper west side of Manhattan, Academy for Black and Latin Education (ABLE). He worked for the Urban Coalition to help incarcerated people move closer to home and then home to jobs. Dave was on the board of the AJ Muste Memorial Institute for Non-violence and Social Justice. He met and strategized with Malcolm X on two occasions. When he moved to this area he worked as a substitute teacher at Troy High School until his late 80's, always with the goal of inspiring Black youth. He was a dedicated member of the Center for Law and Justice New Jim Crow Study Group for 10 years.

Bob Elmendorf



Bob Elmendorf has been a member of the Chatham Peace Vigil for 20 years and has been Treasurer of Upper Hudson Peace Action for 10 years. He has been clerk of Old Chatham Quaker Meeting's Outreach, Peace and Justice Committee for 15 years; advertiser for the past 18 years of its monthly film series open to the public; and past member of the board of advisors for Quaker Intentional Village Chatham. Bob is also a member of Chatham Interfaith Association and has been part of its Anti-racism Forum. He was a Co-Founder and past member of Chatham Peace Initiative for 7 years, where he helped stage Peace and Justice Events in Columbia County and advocated with the committee for the release of Ansar Mahmood from prison. Bob was also a member of Dr. Dhafir Defense Committee for 17 years and advocated for several other unjustly imprisoned Muslims as well. He was a dedicated member of the Center for Law and Justice New Jim Crow Study Group for 10 years. In addition to all of this, Bob was a pro bono teacher of Latin and Greek to students in Chatham for 15 years; a member of the board of Powell House Quaker Conference and Retreat Center for 21 years; and a member of several poetry workshops for 25 years. He self-published a book of poetry entitled The Return.

Support and Grants

This resource guide was made possible by a grant from The Albany County Legislature.



Center Mission

The Center no longer engages in client management services but makes referrals to other service centers in the community. The Center for Law and Justice envisions a peaceful, just and compassionate community and works to ensure, through advocacy and programs that each resident is provided access to the goods, services and opportunities of that community. It also works to establish the fair and just treatment of all people throughout the civil and criminal justice systems and works to reduce reliance upon incarceration.

Introduction

Although in principle, all citizens are entitled to the same rights regardless of income, it is clear that those with monetary means tend to have greater access to important legal information and resources. Simply getting an answer to a specific legal question is a frustrating experience for many and for others an impossible task. It is difficult enough to retain the “right” lawyer or find a suitable resource, but to obtain the services for free or at reduced cost is often impossible.

This annotated directory and legal information guide offers community residents, specifically those convicted of a crime and those returning from jail or prison, a variety of legal information and a listing of public and private resources and legal services that are available in the Capital District of New York and are free of charge or offered at a reduced cost.

Preface

This directory is aimed at those who do not have the luxury of retaining a “family lawyer” to call upon when in need of legal assistance, criminal justice information, or available human services. Please be advised that this directory is not intended to replace the professional services of a good lawyer or other professional community providers.

The current version Capital Region Connections can be found online at www.cflj.org

Table of Contents

From The Executive Director.....	1
Dedication & Inspiration.....	3
Supports & Grants.....	5
Center Mission, Introduction & Preface.....	6
Additional Resource Guides.....	11
First Steps.....	15
Birth Certificate	16
Obtaining a Social Security Card	17
Obtaining a New York State Driver’s License	17
Obtaining a Non-Driver Photo ID Card	18
Community Supervision (formerly Parole).....	19
Parole Overview	20
General Conditions of Parole	21
Special Conditions of Supervision	23
Duration of Supervision	24
Your Responsibilities Under Supervision	24
Complaints Against Parole Officers	25
Parole Revocation	25
Convicted of a Crime while under Parole Supervision	26
Right to Counsel.....	28
Technical Violators	29
Non-Technical Violations.....	30
Mitigating & Aggravating Factors.....	31
Restoration of Rights	32
Certificate of Relief	33
Certificate of Good Conduct	33
Parole Release and Supervision	35
How to Prepare for a Parole Board Interview.....	36
Interstate Parole/Paroling to Another State.....	37
Appeals and Access to Parole Files	38
Time limit for the Filing of a Notice of Appeal	38
Financial Assistance	40
Social Security Benefits	41
Temporary Assistance	42
Family Assistance (FA)	42
Safety Net Assistance (SNA)	43
Emergency Assistance	44
Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)	45

Furnace Repair or Replacement	46
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	47
Medicaid	48
Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus	50
The Essential Plan.....	50
Child Support Payments	51
Modifying Child Support Payments	51
How to File a Modification	52
Making Agreements for Payment of Arrears	52
Resources for Child Support Issues	52
Housing	53
Public Housing/Housing Assistance	54
Housing Choice Voucher Program, (Section 8)	55
Housing Resources	56
Food Resources	66
Albany Area Food Resources.....	69
Troy Area Food Resources	75
Schenectady Area Food Resources	79
Health Resources	83
Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services	85
County Health Departments	87
New York State-wide Spanish AIDS Hotline (SIDA).....	91
Care Management	93
Substance Abuse Treatment Resources:	95
Inpatient Services.....	96
Outpatient Services	97
Supportive Housing	100
Harm Reduction Services.....	103
Peer Support.....	103
Counseling For Substance Abuse Treatment.....	104
Educational Programs	111
Mental Health Resources	116
National Suicide & Crisis Hotline.....	117
Crisis Services in The Community.....	117
Case Management & Residential Programs.....	118
Peer Support & LGBTQ+ Services.....	120
Mental Health Resources.....	120
Counseling.....	124
Mediation and Conflict Resolution Resources	130
Finding A Job.....	132

Employment Discrimination	133
Illegal Pre-Employment Inquiries	136
Incentives for Employers	137
Federal Bonding Program	138
Get a Copy of Your Rap Sheet	139
Get Help with Problems of Discrimination Based on Arrest or Conviction	141
Sealing Your Conviction Records	142
Accessing Sealed Records.....	144
Employment Resources	144
Employment Transportation Resources	150
Job Banks and Resume Assistance Resources	151
Education Resources	152
TASC.....	153
Financial Aid for Higher Education	154
Educational Resources.....	155
Colleges	159
Other Training and Educational Institutes	160
Voting	163
Who Can Register to Vote.....	164
How to Register to Vote	164
Local Board of Elections.....	165
Voting By Absentee Ballot If Not In Jail.....	166
Veteran Benefits	168
Minority Veterans Program	169
Disability Compensation	169
Pension	170
Education	170
Health Care	171
Home Loans	171
Insurance	172
VA Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment	172
VA Career Counseling and Rehabilitation Planning for Employment	173
VA Burial	173
Veterans Services Resources	173
Senior Citizen Resources	176
Refugee and Immigration Services	188
Legal Resources	195
In Need of a Lawyer?.....	196 & 220

General Legal Resources	196
Disability Advocates.....	202
Legal Immigration Services	203
Lawyer Referral and Information Services:	205
Human Rights Resources	206
Community Resources.....	207
Burial Assistance Programs.....	211
Re-Entry Resources/Services.....	211
Immigration Resources	214
Library Resources	215
Law Libraries	216
Albany City Public Library Locations	216
Albany County Library Locations	217
Schenectady County Public Library Locations	218
Rensselaer County Library Locations	219
Troy City Library Locations	219
Complaints Against a Judge.....	219
Quick Phone Reference Guide.....	219
New York State Prison System	221
New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision	222
New York State Inspector General	223
Sex Offender Registration	225
Sex Offender Registration Act.....	226
Specific Requirements for Sex Offenders	227
Probation and Conditional Discharge.....	228
Probation Revocation.....	229
Complaints Against Probation Officers	231
Transferring Probation	231
Eligibility for Probation Transfer	231
Courts.....	233
Local Trial Courts	234
Small Claims Courts	236
Points to Keep In Mind When Writing Agencies.....	237

Additional Resource Guides

“Connections” has been designed to assist people returning to the Capital District. Similar publications have been produced for other areas of the state. Information on how to obtain these resources is listed below:

For New York City:

“Connections/ The Job Search”

The New York Public Library Institutional Library Service
455 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10016

English: [Connections 2022 \(legacynypl.org-live.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://legacynypl.org-live.s3.amazonaws.com)

Spanish: [MergedFile \(nypl.org\)](https://nyp.org)

NYC 311: Directory of resources in NYC: <https://portal.311.nyc.gov/>

“Coming Home” The Harlem Community Justice Center

170 East 121st Street, New York, NY 10035

<http://tinyurl.com/cominghomenyc>

“Reentry Resource Directory”

S.O.S. Crown Heights

229 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213

<http://tinyurl.com/reentryguidenyc>

New York City and Long Island:

Strive Fresh Start

info@strive.org (212) 360-1100

Exodus Transitional Community Reentry Program

2271 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10035

(917) 492-0990

Fortune Society

29-76 Northern Blvd., Long Island City, NY 11101

info@fortunesociety.org (212)691-7554

Ready Willing and Able

info@doe.org (212)628-5207

Bronx Community Re-Entry Center

2534 Creston Ave, Bronx, NY 10468

[\(718\) 561-4155](tel:7185614155) geogroup.com

Westchester County

www.connections.westchesterlibraries.org

Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam or Ulster Counties
Mid-Hudson Library System, 103 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY
12601 www.midhudson.org/hvconnections

Columbia County

Reentry Columbia, 52 Green Street (First Reformed Church), Hudson,
NY 12534/(518) 828-1604
reentrycolumbia.org

Rochester and Monroe County

Monroe County Library System, 115 South Avenue, Rochester
NY14604
<https://roccitylibrary.org/services/outreach/making-moves/>

Ontario/Wayne Counties and Livingston/Wyoming Counties

Pioneer Library System, 2557 State Route 21, Canandaigua, NY 14424
<http://tinyurl.com/ontariowayne>
<http://tinyurl.com/livingstonwyoming>

Erie County

Service Link Stop - SLS - Reentry Services
120 West Eagle Street, Buffalo, NY 14202/(716)858-1757

**Spectrum Re-Entry Program - Spectrum Health &
Human Services**

1280 Main Street, Third Floor, Buffalo, NY 14209
www.shswny.com (716)539-5409

Path Stone Young Adult Re-Entry Program

114 Hickory Street, Buffalo, NY 14204
www.pathstone.org 716-553-9840

For Ulster County:

“Coming Back”

Restorative Justice Group of the Social Action Committee 320
Sawkill Road, Kingston, NY 12401 <http://tinyurl.com/ulstercounty>

For the Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam or Ulster Counties:

“Connections”

Mid-Hudson Library System Outreach Services Department
103 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
www.midhudson.org/hvconnections/booklet.pdf

**For Ontario/Wayne Counties and Livingston/Wyoming
Counties**

“Community Connections”

Outreach Department Pioneer Library System
2557 State Route 21, Canandaigua, NY 14424 (Specify County)
<http://tinyurl.com/ontariowayne>
<http://tinyurl.com/livingstonwyoming>

For Westchester County

“Westchester Connections”

Available on-line

www.connections.westchesterlibraries.org

For Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca, Tioga and Tompkins Counties

“Finding Your Way”

Outreach Department, Finger Lakes Library System 119 E.

Green St., Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 273-4074, x228

www.flls.org/outreach/#reentry

<http://www.flls.org/wpcontent/uploads/2013/10/FLLS-ReentryGuide-2017.pdf>

For the Rochester and Monroe County area:

“Making Moves”

Extension Outreach Dept.

Monroe County Library System 115 South

Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604

[http://www3.libraryweb.org/uploadedfiles/mcls/Central/](http://www3.libraryweb.org/uploadedfiles/mcls/Central/Departments/Extension_and_Outreach/making%20moves.pdf)

[Departments/Extension_and_Outreach/making%20moves.pdf](http://www3.libraryweb.org/uploadedfiles/mcls/Central/Departments/Extension_and_Outreach/making%20moves.pdf)

For Erie County

“Connections”

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Extension Services

1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203

<http://www.buffalolib.org/sites/default/files/pdf/2016Connections.pdf>

<http://tinyurl.com/eriecountyspanish> (Spanish)

Women’s Advocacy Resources:

Hour Children

36-11 12th Street, Long Island City, NY 11106

Telephone: 718-433-4724

Website: www.hourchildren.org

Prison-Based Family Services Programming:

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility & Taconic Correctional Facility

Women’s Prison Association

347 East 10th Street, New York, NY 10009

Telephone: 646-632-7158

Website: [Women's Prison Association - Women's Prison Association \(wpaonline.org\)](http://www.wpaonline.org)

Getting Help to pay for Childcare:

Workforce Development Institute
96 South Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210
Text CHILDCARE to 235246
Website: WDINY.org/Childcare

Additional Online Resources:

www.midhudson.org/outreach/main.htm#cf
<http://www.hirenetwork.org/content/publications>
<http://labor.ny.gov/formsdocs/pubs/pdfs/es302.pdf> www.reentry.net

Please note: Most of the links to the listed resource guides either open or automatically download the PDF version of each guide. Some URL's in this directory have been shortened to increase ease of use.

First Steps

1



"Don't quit. Every difficulty is an opportunity in disguise."

-Unknown

Securing Identification

Obtaining a Birth Certificate

Most employers require at least one form of identification for employment. In order to obtain a license or Social Security card, you need a certified copy of your birth certificate. It can take several months to obtain a new birth certificate by mail, so you should request one immediately following your release from jail or prison. You may also apply for a birth certificate shortly before your release by asking a prerelease coordinator to submit an official request, on letterhead, in conjunction with your application.

For someone born in New York City

Request a Birth Certificate application form from:

NYC Office of Vital Records
125 Worth St. CN-4, Room 119
New York, NY 10013
Phone: (866)556-8617

A faster way is to request a birth certificate online at:

<https://www.vitalchek.com/v/birth-certificates/new-york/new-york-city-dept-of-health-and-mental-hygiene>

Identification Requirements: A copy of a signed, valid photo ID of the person named on the certificate. If photo ID is unavailable, submit two proofs of name and address, such as a utility bill or an entitlement award letter from a government agency. These identification requirements may change, so check a current application form.

For someone born in New York State outside of New York City

Request a Birth Certificate application form from:

NYS Department of Health
Vital Records Certification Unit
PO Box 2602
Albany, NY 12220-2602

Or apply online at:

You will be informed of identification requirements and any fees.

Obtaining a Social Security Card

You can apply online at

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

Or you can visit a local Social Security office:

Albany County

Social Security Administration

11A Clinton Ave. Ste. 430

Albany, NY 12207

(866) 253-9183

Schenectady County

Social Security Administration

One Broadway Center

Schenectady, NY 12305

(800)772-1213

Rensselaer County

Social Security Administration

500 Federal Street, Suite 101

Troy, NY 12180

(866)770-2662

Obtaining a New York State Driver's License

To obtain a driver's license, you must complete an MV-44 form; download online at www.dmv.ny.gov/forms/mv44.pdf or at any DMV office.

To obtain a license, you must appear at a Motor Vehicle Department (DMV) office with proofs of name and date of birth. For proof of name and date of birth, four "points of proof" and a social security card are needed. "Points of proof" include birth certificate, naturalization papers, foreign passport, resident card, etc. Without a social security card, six "points of proof" are necessary. All points of proof must be original documents, one of which must contain a signature and seal for birth certificate.

An eye test is required, which can be done at the Motor Vehicle office.

Obtaining a Non-Driver Photo ID Card

A person of any age who does not have or want a driver's license may apply to the DMV for a non-driver photo ID. It is required that you provide four "points of proof" and a social security card. If you cannot provide a social security card, 6 "points of proof" are required. "Points of proof" include birth certificate, naturalization papers, foreign passport, resident card, etc. All points of proof must be original documents, one of which must contain a signature and seal for birth certificate. You can apply for a non-driver photo ID if your NYS driver's license has been revoked or suspended. The photo ID contains the same personal information that a driver's license contains.

There is still a fee for the non-driver photo.

Community Supervision

(Formerly: Parole)

2



"There are more African Americans under correctional control, in prison or jail, on probation or parole, than were enslaved in 1850 a decade before the civil war began."

-Michelle Alexander

Parole (now called Community Supervision) Overview:

The information contained in this part is provided by the New York State Community Supervision Handbook: Questions and Answers Concerning Parole Release and Supervision (2019).

History of Parole

The former Division of Parole was established in the Executive Department on July 1, 1930. At that time, a full-time Board of Parole, comprised of three members, was created and paroling functions for all the State prisons were transferred from the Department of Corrections to the Division of Parole. The training schools, correctional institutions for mentally disabled prisoners, and the women's reformatory maintained separate parole systems until 1945 when parole was consolidated throughout the state.

In 1967, the New York State legislature passed legislation, which established authority for the Board of Parole to grant conditional release on parole to persons under definite sentences and to persons incarcerated in local reformatories. This Legislation also provided for the transfer of duties and functions of the New York City Parole Commission to the New York State Division of Parole.

On January 1, 1971, the Division of Parole was consolidated with the Department of Corrections to form the Department of Correctional Services (DOCS). This merger was based on the premise that a coordinated effort of institutional and community supervision of convicted offenders would be more effective in reducing recidivism. Parole remained part of DOCS until January 1, 1978, when the Division was once again placed in the Executive Department as a separate agency through the Parole Reform Act of 1977. In addition to reestablishing the Division as a separate agency, the 1977 legislation mandated the formal adoption of Parole Guidelines designed to structure the Parole Board's decisions concerning the minimum period of imprisonment and the granting or denying of parole release. In 1978, as a result of the Juvenile Offender Law, the Division of Parole also became responsible for the release decision for juveniles convicted of certain serious felonies and for their post-release community supervision. On April 1, 2011, the Department of Correctional Services and the New York State Division of

Parole were again merged to form the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS).

Community Supervision (formerly Parole)- Overview

The term “community supervision” is an umbrella term that encompasses both parole and post release supervision.

In effect, parole supervision is the same as post release supervision. Like parole, post release supervision occurs after release from a state prison sentence. The difference in name is that parole supervision follows an indeterminate state prison sentence while post release supervision follows a determinate state prison sentence. Whether you are released under parole supervision or under post release supervision, you will report to a Parole Officer.

Please note that the terms “community supervision”, “parole” and “post release supervision” may be used interchangeably throughout this guide.

Upon release, unless otherwise instructed, you should report in person with your Certificate of Release within twenty-four (24) hours to the area office listed on your release papers. Your compliance with the arrival report is extremely important. If time or distance makes it impossible to report within twenty-four (24) hours, you must telephone the area office to inform them of your special circumstances.

During the arrival report, your PO will go over your conditions of parole and your responsibilities under supervision. You should ask your PO any questions you might have about these rules and conditions. It is very important that you completely understand your reporting requirements and overall responsibilities. You will be required to sign the conditions to acknowledge that you received a copy, that you understand the conditions of release and understand that you are required to comply with each condition imposed.

Conditions of Supervision

General Conditions

“General Conditions of Supervision” apply to everyone who is on parole or post release supervision. In addition to these general conditions, there may be special conditions that apply to you. You are responsible for

complying with all conditions of community supervision, both general and special.

The general conditions of release as per Title 9 NYCRR Section 8003.2 are:

1. I will proceed directly to the area to which I have been released and, within twenty-four (24) hours of my release, make my arrival report to the Community Supervision Office indicated on my release agreement, unless other instructions are designated on the agreement.
2. I will make office and/or written reports as directed.
3. I will not leave the State of New York or any other state to which I am released or transferred, or any area defined in writing by my Parole Officer without permission.
4. I will permit my Parole Officer to visit me at my residence and/or place of employment and I will permit the search and inspection of my person, residence, property. I will discuss any proposed changes in my residence, employment, or program status with my Parole Officer. I understand that I have an immediate and continuing duty to notify my Parole Officer of any changes in my residence, employment, or program status when circumstances beyond my control make prior discussion impossible.
5. I will reply promptly, fully, and truthfully to any inquiry of or communication by my Parole Officer or other representative of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.
6. I will notify my Parole Officer immediately any time I am in contact with or arrested by any law enforcement agency. I understand that I have a continuing duty to notify my Parole Officer of such contact or arrest.
7. I will not be in the company of or fraternize with any person I know to have a criminal record or whom I know to have been adjudicated a Youthful Offender except for accidental encounters in public places, work, school, or in any other instance without the permission of my Parole Officer.
8. I will not behave in such a manner as to violate the provisions of any law to which I am subject which provide for a penalty of imprisonment, nor will my behavior threaten the safety or well-being of myself or others.

9. I will not own, possess, or purchase any shotgun, rifle, or firearm of any type without the written permission of my Parole Officer. I will not own, possess, or purchase any deadly weapon as defined in the Penal Law or any dangerous knife, dirk, razor, stiletto, or imitation pistol. In addition, I will not own, possess, or purchase any instrument readily capable of causing physical injury without a satisfactory explanation for ownership, possession or purchase.
10. If I leave the jurisdiction of the State of New York, I hereby waive my right to resist extradition to the State of New York from any state in the Union and from any territory or country outside the United States. This waiver shall be in full force and effect until I am discharged from Parole or Conditional Release. I fully understand that I have the right under the Constitution of the United States and under law to contest any effort to extradite me from another state and return me to New York, and I freely and knowingly waive this right as a condition of my Parole or Conditional Release.
11. I will not use or possess any drug paraphernalia or use or possess any controlled substance without proper medical authorization.
12. Special Conditions: (as specified by the Board of Parole, Parole Officer or another authorized representative of DOCCS).
13. I will fully comply with the instructions of my Parole Officer and obey such special additional written conditions as he or she, a member of the Board of Parole, or an authorized representative of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, may impose.

Special Conditions

Although the general conditions of supervision apply to all those under community supervision, the Board of Parole or your PO may impose additional conditions that apply specifically to you and your situation. The ORC will make recommendations regarding case-specific special conditions of release for consideration by the Board of Parole and the PO prior to release. Special conditions of release may include a curfew, a prohibition against drinking or associating with specific individuals, or

a prohibition against being in a specific area. A special condition may also be imposed regarding residence requirements.

If the Board of Parole imposes a special condition, only the Board can remove it. If your PO imposes a special condition, then he or she can remove it with the approval of the Senior PO

Special conditions, whether imposed by the Board of Parole or your PO, must be obeyed in the same way as the general conditions of supervision.

Duration of Supervision

As a general rule, you will remain under supervision until you are discharged from your sentence. If you meet certain criteria, you may be considered for merit termination or mandatory termination of sentence after one, two or three years of unrevoked supervision. If you are eligible, your PO can seek a review of your case for three-year or five-year discharge consideration by the Board of Parole (pursuant to Executive Law 259(j)). Otherwise, you will be discharged when you reach the maximum expiration date of your sentence or complete your period of post-release supervision.

Your Responsibilities Under Supervision

You are required to adhere to all requirements of your sentence (including any restitution order, order of protection, payment of supervision fees, fines, etc.). You must comply with the standard conditions of release, Parole Board imposed conditions, and conditions imposed by your PO. In a more general sense, you are responsible for obeying the law, remaining sober, and for communicating with your Parole Officer in a truthful, cooperative and open manner. This will enable you to resolve problems you may be having in transitioning to life after incarceration and successfully complete your sentence or period of post-release supervision.

Monthly Supervision Fee

New York State law (Correction Law, Section 201 [9]) requires parolees to pay a monthly supervision fee. Generally, parolees are expected to pay \$30 per month.

Your PO will discuss this supervision fee with you, how the fee is to be paid, and in certain circumstances, may be able to temporarily or permanently waive the fee if you are disabled, unemployed, or experiencing other qualifying financial hardship.

Complaints Against Parole Officers

To make a complaint against a Parole Officer, you may file a grievance, **in writing**, with the Senior Parole Officer (“SPO”). The grievance must be filed using the required form and you must specify the reason(s) for the grievance. The grievance form must be submitted to the attention of the SPO via U.S. Mail to the appropriate Community Supervision Bureau. Grievance forms are available on in every Community Supervision Bureau or online at www.doccs.ny.gov/grievances. .

You must file your grievance **within thirty (30) days** of the alleged occurrence or issue. Upon receipt of the grievance form, the complaint will be reviewed and logged in as received. The SPO is responsible for reviewing the matter and rendering a written decision, which will then be provided to you. If you believe that the decision of the SPO does not address your complaint or grievance, you may appeal to the Bureau Chief or Regional Director, following the appeal guidelines outlined in the written decision.

Assuming you live in the Capital Region, you can find the name and contact information for your local area Bureau Chief and Regional Director at www.doccs.ny.gov/location/hudson-valley-region

Parole Revocation

Note: On September 17, 2021, the Governor of New York signed into law the Less is More: *Community Supervision Revocation Reform Act* (hereinafter “Less is More”), which changed the way New York State handles violations of parole. Some of the information in the following section on Parole Revocation is taken from New York’s Less is More Act: A Status Report on Implementation, published on March 1, 2022 and can be found at www.lessismoreny.org.

The Revocation Process

The Supreme Court has ruled that certain due process requirements must be observed at revocation proceedings. In most cases, a parolee is entitled to a preliminary and final revocation hearing. Although these

hearings do not constitute a criminal prosecution, certain minimal due process safeguards are mandated.

Below is a brief description of the process you will go through if you are threatened with a parole revocation.

Investigation

If a Parole Officer receives information suggesting that a person has violated one or more of the conditions of release, he or she will investigate and discuss the situation with a supervisor. If the evidence from the investigation leads the officer to believe conditions of parole were violated, a written notice is issued to the parolee.

Notice of Violation

Prior to the implementation of Less is More, once a warrant was issued for an alleged violation – whether (noncriminal rule violations like curfew, for example) or a new crime – the person on parole was taken directly to the local jail without seeing a judge or parole hearing officer and held without bail for *months* waiting for their administrative hearing to determine whether they in fact violated their parole and whether they would be penalized with additional jail time or prison time.

Now, after the passing of Less is More:

If you are on parole and *accused of a technical violation* (noncriminal rule violations), you will be served with a written notice of violation, which will include the date and time you must appear at an administrative hearing about the alleged violation. If you intentionally skip the hearing and are facing a more serious technical violation, you can be arrested. At that point you will be taken to a local criminal court for a recognizance hearing before a judge – similar to a bail hearing in a criminal case – to determine whether you will be held in jail while they wait for an administrative hearing.

If you are on parole and *accused of a nontechnical violation* (that is, for alleged new crimes) or *accused of absconding*, you will be served with a notice of violation and receive a recognizance hearing before a criminal court judge within 24 hours (or as soon as court is open for any

business) to determine whether you will be detained while your new charges and parole violation are processed.

Preliminary Hearing

Anyone accused of a parole violation – whether technical or nontechnical – is automatically entitled to a preliminary hearing.

For detained individuals, preliminary hearings must take place within five (5) days of when they are arrested on the parole warrant.

For non-detained individuals, preliminary hearings must take place within ten (10) days of the individual's release on recognizance or when the notice of violation was issued.

The purpose of the Preliminary Hearing is to determine if there is a preponderance of evidence that you violated a condition of parole.

A “preponderance of the evidence” means that it is more likely than not that you did what they are accusing you of doing.

The Preliminary Hearing Officer cannot recommend a disposition in your case. He or she has the limited duty and power of determining whether a preponderance of evidence exists to trigger a final revocation hearing

Final Hearing

If you are detained, your final revocation hearing must take place within 30 days of when sufficient proof was found at your preliminary hearing.

If you are not detained, your final revocation hearing must take place within 45 days.

If, at your final revocation hearing, the hearing officer finds there is clear and convincing evidence in support of any of the violation charges, you will be sentenced in accordance with the current parole guidelines (see below). If the hearing officer finds there is NOT clear and convincing evidence in support of any of the violation charges, the hearing officer must dismiss the charges, cancel the delinquency, and restore you to supervision.

“Clear and convincing evidence” means that the evidence presented at your hearing shows that it is highly probable or probably certain that you did what they are accusing you of doing.

Right to Counsel

You have the right to counsel at every stage of the parole revocation process. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be assigned to represent you.

Parole Revocation Guidelines

The following information is taken from 9 NYCRR 8005.20, entitled “Final revocation hearing determination”.

If your release is revoked at your final hearing, after considering any relevant mitigating and aggravating factors (outlined later in this section), the hearing officer may do any of the following:

- 1) Restore you to community supervision, and in their discretion impose conditions directly related to such restoration, including but not limited to direction that you cooperate with re-entry services provided in the community by a qualified non-profit agency; or
- 2) Where reincarceration is permitted, impose one or more time assessments.

Whatever sanction the presiding officer imposes, it must be the least restrictive reasonable sanction. *See* 9 NYCRR 8005.20(c).

Time Assessments

A time assessment may be imposed for violation for which you are found guilty, where incarceration is permitted by such violation. When there is more than one time assessment imposed, the time assessments will run concurrently (at the same time).

Absconding

If, at your revocation hearing, you are found guilty of absconding from supervision, the following time assessments of incarceration may be imposed:

- Up to seven (7) days for a first violation.
- Up to 15 days for a second violation; and
- Up to 30 days for a third or subsequent violation.

Technical Violations – 9 NYCRR 8004.6 and 8004.7

If, at your final revocation hearing, you are found guilty of a technical violation, the following time assessments of incarceration may be imposed

- No incarceration for the first two violations (except for in limited circumstances, such as where the underlying conviction is for a sex offense)
- Up to seven (7) days for a third violation
- Up to 15 days for a fourth violation
- Up to 30 days for a fifth violation or additional violation(s) beyond that.

If you were detained pending your preliminary and/or final revocation hearing, any time spent in detention will apply to the period of incarceration for a substantiated technical violation.

Note: As of June 30, 2022 (under the Less is More Act), you can no longer be sentenced to incarceration for:

- violating curfew;
- alcohol use, except when you were originally subject to community supervision due to a conviction for driving under the influence of alcohol;
- drug use, except when you were originally subject to community supervision due to a conviction for driving under the influence of drugs;
- failing to notify your parole officer of a change in employment or program status;
- failing to pay surcharges and fees;
- obtaining a driver's license or driving a car with a valid driver's license, unless doing so is expressly prohibited by your conviction; or
- failing to notify your parole officer of contact with any law enforcement, except if you are intending to hide illegal behavior or if said law enforcement contact led to your arrest.

Technical violations for which no period of reincarceration may be imposed in the parole revocation process also include violations of a special condition, other than that listed above, where the failure could be safely addressed in the community or that there exists other reasonable community-based means to address the failure which have not been exhausted. *See* 9 NYCRR 8004.6(b).

Non-technical Violations – 9 NYCRR 8004.8

A case shall be considered a non-technical violation case where either:

- at least one violation charge alleges the commission of a felony or misdemeanor offense in and pursuant to the laws of *any* jurisdiction; or
- if you are alleged to have violated one or more conditions of your release and are currently servicing a sentence for an offense in article 130 of the penal law (sex offenses) or penal law section 255.26 or 255.27 (incest in the second and first degrees).

If, at your final revocation hearing, you are found guilty of a non-technical violation, the following time assessments of incarceration may be imposed:

- If you are found guilty of one or more non-technical violation charges alleging the commission of a new felony or misdemeanor offense, a time assessment for each such violation may be imposed, which shall be:
 - No less than 6 months for a misdemeanor except one under penal law Article 130 (sex offenses);
 - No less than 12 months for any felony, or for any misdemeanor under Article 130 (sex offenses). If you are currently serving a sentence for an offense in article 130 of the penal law (sex offenses) or penal law section 255.26 or 255.27 (incest in the second and first degrees), and are found guilty of a non-technical violation that is not the commission of a felony or misdemeanor, a time assessment for each such violation may be imposed, which shall be no less than 6 months.

Mitigating and Aggravating Factors – 9 NYCRR 8005.20(g)

If, at your final revocation hearing, you are found guilty of one or more violation charges and your release is revoked, the resulting disposition shall be in the interests of public safety and justice. In all cases, the presiding officer will consider mitigating and aggravating factors in determining the appropriate sanction. These factors include, but are not limited to:

1. Mitigating factors:
 - i. Length of time you have spent in custody due to the parole warrant;
 - ii. If you have been deemed to have the lowest supervision risk level as determined by the assessment tool utilized by DOCCS;
 - iii. If you were the primary caregiver for a dependent person immediately prior to having been incarcerated on the parole violation warrant, and if restored to supervision, have a residence and means of support so that you would continue to care for the dependent person;
 - iv. If you voluntarily surrendered, in the case of absconding;
 - v. If you have medical or psychiatric needs that would be most appropriately and safely addressed through continued community supervision;
 - vi. If you had no prior sustained violations on the instant offense term;
 - vii. If you are employed/attending school
 - viii. If you had diligent program participation prior to current warrant issuance;
 - ix. If you have a stable residence;
 - x. If you have a lack of criminal history, other than the instant offense;
 - xi. Length of time on supervision between last date of release and earliest date of current alleged violation;
 - xii. Your general adjustment to supervision
 - xiii. If you acknowledged responsibility for your conduct;
 - xiv. Cooperation with law enforcement or a prosecutorial agency which DOCCS requests the presiding officer consider as a mitigating factor.

2. Aggravating factors:
 - i. If you have been deemed to have the highest supervision risk level as determined by the assessment tool utilized by DOCCS;
 - ii. If you have prior sustained violations;
 - iii. If you absconded and did not voluntarily surrender;
 - iv. If you have demonstrated physical evasion of or physical resistance to a parole, police or peace officer;
 - v. Length of time on supervision between last date of release and earliest date of current alleged violation;
 - vi. If you tampered with or removed a GPS/electronic monitoring device;
 - vii. Your criminal history
 - viii. Prior history of absconding, if applicable
 - ix. History of domestic violence
 - x. General adjustment to supervision

Restoration of Rights

The Parole Board, in its discretion, may issue a Certificate of Relief from Disabilities or Certificate of Good Conduct. These two certificates have different eligibility criteria, and neither is issued prior to release from incarceration. A certificate may remove mandatory disabilities in general or only those specifically indicated by the Board of Parole. If either certificate is issued for specific disabilities only, the Board may issue a supplementary certificate granting relief from additional disabilities.

Certificate of Relief

Eligibility for a Certificate of Relief

By law, you are eligible for a Certificate of Relief if you have not been convicted of more than one felony. For this purpose, two or more felony convictions stemming from two or more separate indictments filed in the same court, prior to conviction any of them, also count as one felony. The Board of Parole may also issue you a Certificate of Relief if you are an eligible offender who has been convicted in another jurisdiction and who now lives in New York State. A Certificate of Relief may be issued upon an eligible individual's release from a correctional facility or at any time thereafter.

Certificate of Relief Effect on Status

A Certificate of Relief may remove a mandatory legal bar or disability imposed as a result of conviction of the crime or crimes specified in the certificate. The Certificate of Relief does not, however, enable you to retain or become eligible for public office. Note that removing mandatory legal bars restores your right to apply and be considered for employment or license but does not guarantee it will be granted.

A Certificate of Relief issued you upon release, or once you are on parole supervision, is a temporary certificate. This certificate becomes permanent when you are discharged from supervision. During the time it is temporary, the certificate may be revoked for a violation of the conditions of release.

Certificate of Good Conduct

Eligibility to Apply for Certificate of Good Conduct

You are eligible for the Certificate of Good Conduct even if you have been convicted of more than one felony. You do not become eligible for a Certificate of Good Conduct until a minimum period of time has elapsed from the date of your unrevoked release from custody onto supervision or from the date your sentence ended.

If the most serious conviction in your criminal history was a C, D or E felony, you must wait at least three years from the date of your last conviction, payment of fine or release from prison onto community supervision, whichever is later. You will have to wait at least five years from your last conviction, payment of fine, or release from prison onto community supervision if your most serious conviction was for an A or B felony.

Certificate of Good Conduct's effect on status

A Certificate of Good Conduct has the same effect as the Certificate of Relief. In addition, the Certificate of Good Conduct may restore your right to seek public office. The certificate may remove mandatory disabilities in general and/or those specifically indicated by the Department.

The Certificate of Good Conduct issued to you while under parole supervision is a temporary certificate. The certificate will become

permanent upon discharge from supervision. However, during this time it is temporary, it may be revoked for a violation of the conditions of release.

How to submit Certificate Applications

If you have not completed your sentence, you cannot apply directly for a Certificate of Relief of Disabilities or a Certificate of Good Conduct. The application is submitted to DOCCS Certificate Review Unit by your Parole Officer.

If you are anticipating release consideration or are under community supervision, you should discuss your desire to apply for a Certificate with your Parole Officer.

If you have completed your sentence, you may apply directly to the DOCCS Certificate Review Unit by contacting:

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION
ATTN: CERTIFICATE REVIEW UNIT
The Harriman State Campus – Building 2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12226-2050
(518) 485-8953

If you were convicted in another state or by a federal court, you may apply directly upon release from custody to the Certificate Review Unit.

Certificates in re: Licensing and Employment

Article 23 of New York Correction Law deals with Certificates of Relief from Disabilities and Certificates of Good Conduct. Article 23A of the Correction Law deals with licenses and employment of persons convicted of criminal offenses. Consult your Parole Officer about specific questions you may have.

Parole Release and Supervision

Problems concerning time calculation

If you have problems with your time calculation, you should first check with the Inmate Records Coordinator (IRC) at the correctional facility where you are presently housed to obtain your official time calculation.

If, after contacting the Inmate Records Coordinator, you believe there is still a problem with your time calculation; a letter should be sent to the Clerk of the Court where the sentence was imposed. The letter should indicate the specific problem and/or what information is being sought. You should request that certified copies of your sentencing minutes and/or sentence jail time be forwarded to the Inmate Records Coordinator to allow for re-computation of your sentence.

How to become “ready” for parole

Parole “readiness” includes several factors. It is important that you demonstrate good prison behavior throughout your period of incarceration. Becoming involved in facility programming offers you an opportunity to improve your education, participate in appropriate treatment programs and acquire skills that will assist you as you transition back to the community.

Character Letters in support of your release for review by the Parole Board

All letters of support should be sent to the ORC at the correctional facility in which you are confined. Additionally, any written statement you wish to make should be submitted to the ORC in advance of your Parole Board interview. Letters and documents received by ORC will be placed in the case folder and provided to the Parole Board at the time of your appearance. Additionally, letters in support can be submitted online at: <https://doccs.ny.gov/form/letters-in-support-or-opposition>

Note: letters should not be sent directly to the Board of Parole. The folders are maintained at the facility, and it is important that any documents submitted on an inmate’s behalf be directed to the attention of the SORC. Sending materials to the SORC is the best way to ensure

that all letters, documents, and statements will be placed in the case folder for the Board's review.

Letters should be addressed as:

Correctional Facility Name

Supervising Offender Rehabilitation Coordinator (SORC) Correctional

Facility Mailing Address

How to prepare for a Parole Board Interview

In order to prepare for your Parole Board Interview, you should:

- Determine where you want to live and work upon your release;
- Prepare a parole release packet for the Parole Board members to review at the time of the interview. The packet of documents should be given to the ORC/SORC well in advance of the interview to ensure that the information is available for review by the panel. These packets typically contain information concerning your program participation and accomplishments while incarcerated and letters of reasonable assurance of housing and employment upon release;
- Know and understand the purposes and procedures of Parole Board Interviews (*detailed below*).

Approximately four (4) months prior to your scheduled Parole Board appearance/review, an ORC/SORC will interview you in order to prepare a "*parole board report*" for the Board of Parole panel. This report will include a description of your involvement in the instant offense, legal history, and a description of your overall institutional adjustment and program participation. In anticipation of this interview, you should be prepared to discuss the following information:

- All aspects of your present conviction and sentence and your criminal history;
- Your personal characteristics (identification information);
- Your comments and attitude regarding the offense which resulted in the conviction or adjudication
- Your institutional adjustment information (i.e. - your custodial record, disciplinary history, treatment participation, program involvement and achievements, and your overall adjustment);

- Your release plans – both immediate and future – including place of residence, employment, educational and treatment plans upon release; and
- Any questions you may have regarding the release process.

Purpose of the Initial Parole Board Appearance

If applicable, you will be scheduled for an initial parole board appearance approximately four (4) months prior to the expiration of your court imposed minimum, also known as your “parole eligibility date” (PED). For mixed cases (indeterminate and determinate sentences), the PED is also the conditional release (CR) date, however, in such cases the Board of Parole has discretionary authority to grant release. If the Board grants release, this is known as an “open date.” This date is contingent upon you receiving an approved residence in accordance with established residency restrictions and local laws. The open date may not be established in advance of the PED, unless you have received a merit certificate and have been approved for merit release by the Parole Board.

Risk and Needs Assessment

Whether your sentence was determinate or indeterminate, you will undergo a risk and needs assessment prior to your interview before the Board of Parole panel. Typically, the risk and needs assessment is completely around the same time that you have your pre-Parole Board interview with the ORC/SORC. The risk and needs assessment instrument utilized by DOCCS is used to support your re-entry process and decision making regarding your supervision level, treatment and program participation, and case-specific interventions.

Interstate Parole/Paroling to Another State – Executive Law 259-mm

If you plan to be paroled to another state (“the Receiving State”) upon your release from prison, your PO will work with the Interstate Bureau to initiate an investigation with the appropriate officials in the Receiving State to ascertain the appropriateness of the transfer of supervision from New York.

The criteria for determining the appropriateness of a transfer of supervision under the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision (“ICAOS”) includes having an established residence and/or immediate family and employment or visible means of support in the Receiving State.

It is **not** guaranteed that you will be allowed to transfer your supervision to another state, as DOCCS considers this a “privilege”. If the transfer is approved by both states, you must execute a waiver of extradition and agree to abide by the terms and conditions governing your supervision set by both the Sending and Receiving State.

If you are currently on parole (already have been released), but find yourself needing to move to another state, you may still ask your PO to request a transfer of your supervision to another jurisdiction under the Compact. In this instance, your PO will work with staff of the Interstate Bureau to ascertain the appropriateness of the transfer. Approval from the Receiving State **MUST** be obtained before you can transfer to that state for supervision services. If you move to another state without prior notification and permission, you may face legal consequences in the new state as well as revocation of your release status in New York State.

Appeals and Access to Parole Files

Who is eligible to file an administrative appeal?

You are eligible to file an administrative appeal if you:

- Have been denied discretionary release (parole) by the Board of Parole; or
- Have had a prior grant of parole rescinded; or
- Had your parole, conditional release, presumption release, or period of post-release supervision revoked.

The process for taking an administrative appeal is outlined in 9 NYCRR Part 8006.

Time Limit for the Filing of a Notice of Appeal

If you wish to file an administrative appeal you must first file a Notice of Appeal with the Board of Parole’s Appeals Unit within thirty (30) days of the date that you or your attorney receive written notice of the Board’s decision from which the appeal is taken. The Notice of Appeal must be mailed to:

New York State Board of Parole
Attn: Appeals Unit
The Harriman State Campus
Albany, New York 12226

Obtaining Legal Representation for your Parole Appeal

You may obtain private counsel to assist you in completing your appeal. If you can't afford private counsel, you should contact the closest legal services organization that provides free legal services for indigent persons, or the County Court in the county where you are incarcerated. You may obtain the name and address of these legal services organizations, or the appropriate court, by contacting your Parole Officer or, if you are in state custody, the Law Clerk of the law library at your correctional facility.

Perfecting your Parole Appeal

After you have filed your notice of appeal within the mandatory 30 days, the appeal is perfected by filing an original and two copies of your letter of brief with the NYS Board of Parole Appeals Unit (address listed above). That document should state the specific questions raised on appeal, and why you believe the decision was incorrect. If you are relying on any documents to support your arguments, those documents should be attached to your letter or brief.

Time limit for the perfecting of an appeal

Yes, there is a time limit. An administrative appeal must be perfected within four months of the date on which the Notice of Appeal has been received by the Appeals Unit.

Financial Assistance

3



"Getting your money in order is a marathon, not a sprint. Sometimes all it takes to win is to keep going."

-Dave Ramsey

Financial Assistance is available to needy families in many forms as provided by the state and federal government. Eligibility varies by type of assistance.

Social Security Benefits

Federal Social Security Laws and Regulations state that persons serving time for a felony offense cannot receive Social Security or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) benefits. Also, according to New York regulations (18 NYCRR 351.2(k)) the following individuals are ineligible for public assistance:

- Any individual fleeing to avoid prosecution or custody or conviction for a crime or an attempt to commit a crime which is a felony under the laws of the location from which the individual flees;
- Any individual who is violating a condition of probation or parole imposed under federal or state law.

However, once you are released you may be eligible to receive benefits, especially if you were receiving them before your incarceration.

To determine your eligibility for SSI or Social Security, you can either go to your local Social Security office or call 1-800-772-1213 (7AM-7PM business days) for an appointment with a Social Security representative who will help you apply.

How to Apply for Social Security Benefits

When applying, you may need to have the following original documents:

- Social Security card or record of your Social Security number;
- Birth certificate or other proof of age;
- Your spouse's birth certificate, marriage certificate, and social security number if he/she is applying for benefits based on your income;
- Military discharge papers;

- Your most recent W-2 form, or your tax return, if you are self-employed;
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen status

The Social Security office will let you know if other documents are needed when you apply. If you do not have these documents, do not delay your application, the Social Security office will help you acquire the documents.

Temporary Assistance

(Information in this section was obtained from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, (OTDA) www.otda.state.ny.us)

OTDA's functions include: Providing temporary cash assistance; providing assistance in paying for food; providing heating assistance; overseeing New York State's child support enforcement program; determining certain aspects of eligibility for Social Security Disability benefits; supervising homeless housing and services programs; and providing assistance to certain immigrant populations.

Family Assistance (FA)

Family Assistance (FA) provides cash assistance to eligible needy families that include a minor child living with a parent (including families where both parents are in the household) or a caretaker relative. FA operates under federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) guidelines.

Under FA, eligible adults are limited to receiving benefits for a total of 60 months in their lifetime, including months of TANF-funded assistance granted in other states. Once this limit is reached, that adult and all members of his or her FA household are ineligible to receive any more FA benefits. The months need not be consecutive, but rather each individual month in which TANF-funded benefits are received is included in the lifetime count. Parents and other adult relatives receiving FA, and who are determined to be able to work must comply with federal work requirements to receive FA benefits.

As a further condition of FA eligibility, each person who applies for or is receiving FA, is required to cooperate with state and local department of social services in efforts to locate any absent parent and obtain support payments and other payments or property. Non-cooperation without good cause could result in lower FA benefits.

Safety Net Assistance (SNA)

If you are not eligible for other assistance programs, you may be eligible for SNA. SNA is for:

- Single adults
- Childless couples
- Children living apart from any adult relative
- Families of persons found to be abusing drugs or alcohol
- Families of persons refusing drug/alcohol screening, assessment or treatment
- Persons who have exceeded the 60-month limit on assistance
- Aliens who are eligible for temporary assistance, but who are not eligible for federal reimbursement

Recipients of SNA, who are determined to be able to work must also comply with work requirements to receive SNA benefits.

Generally, you can receive cash SNA for a maximum of two years in a lifetime. After that, if you are eligible for SNA, it is provided in non-cash form, such as a two-party check or a voucher. In addition, non-cash SNA is provided for:

- Families of persons found to be abusing drugs or alcohol
- Families of persons refusing drug/alcohol screening, assessment or treatment
- Families with an adult who has exceeded the 60-month lifetime time limit

Emergency Assistance

Emergency Assistance helps an individual or a family member deal with a crisis or emergency situation that is beyond their control. Such needs could include cash assistance with evictions, homelessness, fuel for heating, utility disconnections, or a domestic violence situation.

Examples of Emergency Assistance include, but are not limited to:

- Payment of shelter arrears
- Payment of utility arrears
- Payment of fuel and/or cost of fuel delivery
- Payment of Domestic Violence Shelter costs
- Payment of Temporary Housing (hotel/motel) costs

Payments may be authorized once you are determined to be eligible for one of the following emergency programs:

- EAA- Emergency Assistance to Adults provides assistance for individuals and couples who have been determined eligible or are receiving SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
- EAF- Emergency Assistance to Needy Families provides assistance to families with at least one child under age 18, or under 19 and regularly attending secondary school.
- ESNA- Emergency Safety Net Assistance provides assistance to single adults and childless couples.

You DO NOT have to be eligible for ongoing Temporary Assistance to receive Emergency Assistance

Applying for Temporary Assistance

To find out if you are eligible to receive Temporary Assistance, including help with an emergency, you need to file an application with your county Department of Social Services. NYS Temporary Assistance Hotline: (800) 342-3009.

For Temporary Assistance, your interview should be within seven working days of your filing an application. Within 30 days of the date you filed your application for Family Assistance, you should be told if it has been approved or denied. Within 45 days of the date you filed your application for Safety Net Assistance, you should be notified if your application has been approved or denied.

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

(Information in this section was obtained from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, www.otda.state.ny.us)

HEAP is a federally funded program that issues heating benefits to supplement a household's annual energy cost. HEAP offers the following benefits:

Regular Benefit

The HEAP regular benefit component assists low-income New Yorkers with the cost of heating their homes. You may be eligible for a Regular Benefit if:

- You are a United States Citizen or qualified alien

-AND-

- Your income is at or below the current income guides for your household size

-OR-

- You receive Snap Benefits

-OR-

- You receive Temporary Assistance

-OR-

- You receive Code A Supplemental Security Income (SSI living Alone)

Emergency Benefit

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)/OTDA (ny.gov)

The HEAP emergency benefit component assists qualifying low-income New Yorkers who are facing a heat

or heat-related energy emergency and do not have the resources available to resolve the emergency.

You may be eligible for the Emergency Benefit if:

- Your electricity is necessary for your heating system to work and is either shut- off or scheduled to be shut off
-OR-
- Your natural gas heat is off or scheduled to be shutoff
-OR-
- You are out of fuel or in danger of running out of fuel (oil, propane, wood, or coal)
-OR-
- Your heating equipment is inoperable
-AND-
- Your income is at or below the current income guides for your household size
-OR-
- You receive Family Assistance, Safety Net Assistance, Snap Benefits or Code A Supplemental Security Income -
AND-
- The heating and/or electric bill is in your name and your available resources are:
 - Less than \$2,000 if no member of your household is age 60 or older;
-OR-
 - Less than \$3,000 if any member of your household is age 60 or older.

Note: The Regular and Emergency Benefit are only available during the winter. Refer to the Department of Social Services for the exact dates of availability.

Furnace Repair or Replacement:

The Furnace Repair and Replacement Component of the Home Energy Assistance Program is available to help eligible low-income homeowners repair or replace furnaces, boilers, and other

direct heating components necessary to keep the home's primary heating source functional.

To receive a benefit, an application must be made in person at the local Department of Social Services and the applicant must receive a determination from the local Department of Social Services that the applicant has met all established eligibility criteria, including established income and resource requirements. Benefits are paid directly to vendors after completion of all work for previously approved applications only.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

(Information in this section was obtained from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, www.otda.state.ny.us)

Eligibility for SNAP (formerly referred to as food stamps) is determined by household size, income, housing costs, and in some instances, outside resources.

Your household may be eligible for SNAP if:

- You have a social security number
- You are between the ages of 18-60 and are registered for work Your household's total gross income from all sources is less than 130% of the federal poverty level
- The only people subject to a resource cap are households that have income in excess of 200% of the Federal Poverty level, and who have at least one member of the household who is aged (age 60+) or disabled.
- All other households that pass the gross income test are considered to be categorically eligible, and no longer need to disclose any other resources (except for dividends or interest received, as these are considered income.)

Be advised that part of the SNAP application process entails a fingerprinting of all adult members of a particular family.

For more information on SNAP, and to and to calculate your possible monthly allowance, go to:

<http://otda.ny.gov/programs/snap/>

SNAP Prescreening

The Nutrition Consortium of NYS has administered the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) under contract with the New York State Department of Health. The goal of NOEP is to increase the availability and utilization of federal nutrition assistance programs to ensure better nutrition and reduce the incidence of hunger among low-income populations. In order to achieve this goal, the Nutrition Consortium subcontracts with community-based agencies for more information or for a confidential prescreening, contact one of the NOEP programs near you: [NOEP-county-map-with-NOEP-contact-info-7_10_18.pdf \(hungersolutionsny.org\)](#)

Albany County

Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY

95 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: 518-462-6765 or 800-462-2922 x327

Website: www.lasny.org

Rensselaer County Unity

House of Troy, Inc.

2431 Sixth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: 518-274-2607

Website: www.unityhousesny.org

Schenectady County

Catholic Charities of Schenectady

1462 Erie Boulevard, 2nd Floor Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: 518-372-5667

Website: www.ccseniorservices.org

Medicaid:

Medicaid is the largest program providing medical and health services to low-income families. Medical assistance can be provided to those individuals and families who meet state mandated income and household guidelines.

You may be eligible for Medicaid if:

- You have high medical bills
- You receive Supplementary Security Income (SSI)

- You meet certain income, resource, age or disability requirements.

Applying for Medicaid:

If you wish to apply for Medicaid, contact your local Medicaid office listed at the end of this section or call New York State of Health at 1-855-355-5777 or visit their website at <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/>

When preparing to attend an application interview, you should bring the following items:

- Proof of age (birth certificate or valid government ID)
- Proof of valid social security number (Social Security Card)
- Proof of citizenship or alien status
- Recent paycheck stubs (if you are working) □ Proof of your income from sources like Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's Benefits (VA), and retirement
- Any bank books and insurance policies that you may have
- Proof of where you live, (rent receipt or landlord statement)
- Insurance benefit card or the policy (if you have any other health insurance)
- Medicare Benefit Card (if you have one)

Your local district will determine if you are eligible for coverage and send a letter notifying you as to the acceptance or denial of your application within 30 days of the date of your application.

If you are dissatisfied with a decision made by your local social services district, you may request a conference with your local agency, or file an appeal with the New York State Department of Health.

For more information about Medicaid, visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/MedicaidNYS> or contact the appropriate Medicaid office:

Albany County Medicaid Office:
162 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 447-7492

- Schenectady County Medicaid Office:
797 Broadway, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 388-4470
- Rensselaer County Medicaid Office:
Flanigan Sq, 547 Rivers Street, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 266-7970

Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus:

There are many organizations in your neighborhood that can help you apply for Child Health Plus or Family Health Plus. Their staff members, called facilitated enrollers, are friendly, experienced, and available when you need them to answer your questions – even on nights and weekends!

For more information, call 1-800-698-4543 or visit the New York State of Health Marketplace website at:
www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov/

The Essential Plan:

The Essential Plan is a new program for eligible New Yorkers enrolling in coverage through the NY State of Health.

The Essential Plan covers all the essential health benefits covered under the Qualified Health Plans offered on the Marketplace, including inpatient and outpatient care, physician services, diagnostic services and prescription drugs among others, with no annual deductible and low out-of-pocket costs. Preventive care such as routine office visits and recommended screenings are free. Eligible consumers will pay either \$20 monthly premium or nothing, depending on income. Some

plans include additional benefits such as adult dental and vision coverage for additional premium. Enrollment for the Essential Plan is open all year long. To enroll in the Essential Plan, visit: nystateofhealth.ny.gov or call 1-855-355-5777 or TTY: 1-800-662-1220 to enroll or to get free help from a certified in-person assister near your home or work.

Child Care Payment Support:

Workforce Development Institute
96 South Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210
Text CHILDCARE to 235246
Website: WDINY.ORG/CHILDCARE

Child Support Payments:

New York statutes previously prohibited modification of a child support order if the petitioner's request related to incarceration, since incarceration was determined to be the result of a voluntary act. In 2010, the state enacted changes to the New York Family Court Act and Domestic Relations Law. This new law specifically states that "incarceration shall not be a bar to finding a substantial change in circumstances" as long as the incarceration is not for nonpayment of support, or an offense against the custodial parent or child. The amendment now allows the courts to modify support orders for incarcerated parents whenever appropriate, preventing accumulation of uncollectible arrears.

Modifying Child Support Payments:

You may be eligible for a modification of your New York State child support order if:

- Either party's gross income has increased or decreased by 15% or more.
- Three or more years have passed since the order was entered or last modified.
- Custody of your child has changed.
- Your child has been legally emancipated. For example, he or she works full-time, joins the military, or gets married; or
- You become incarcerated, as long as the incarceration is not due to nonpayment of child support or an offense against the custodial parent or the child.

How to File a Modification:

There are a few ways to file:

- Visit the family court where your court order was issued and complete a Support Petition for Modification form (also known as Form 4-11).
- Call or write the family court where your child support order was issued and ask them to mail you the Support Petition for Modification form.

After you complete the petition you should complete the Financial Disclosure Affidavit, sign both before a notary, and mail them back to the court. At the support modification hearing, you may present any evidence you feel will convince the judge to modify your order. If the modification is granted, the court can make it retroactive to the date your petition was filed.

Making Agreements for Payment of Arrears:

Besides asking a Judge to modify your child support, you can also contact your local Child Support Enforcement Unit and ask to make a re-payment agreement to address any amount of child support that is in arrears. Once a successful agreement is reached the Child Support Enforcement Unit can lift sanctions.

Resources for Child Support Issues:

The Child Support Enforcement Unit has offices in every county in New York and in each borough of New York City:

[NYS DCSS | Local Child Support Offices](#)

In Albany: Albany County's Child Support Enforcement Unit

162 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (888) 208-4485/Walk-Ins: Monday-Friday,
8:30AM-4:30PM

Email: CSEWEBAlbany@dfa.state.ny.us

To find information on all other Child Support Offices, call

1 (800) 846-0773/childsupport.ny.gov.

*Local Family Courts are listed in the Local Trial Court section of this guide.

Housing

4



"Fair housing is not an option-it's the law."

-Carl Harris

Public Housing/Housing Assistance

An individual in financial transition may want to consider public housing that is usually lower cost than the average rent of private housing in the community. To apply for public housing contact the local Housing Authority. According to Housing and Urban Development (HUD) laws and regulations, the Housing Authority may consider an applicant's past criminal history in the tenant selection process for public housing.

Standards for Public Housing Tenant Selection Criteria

According to §24 CFR 960.205, the Housing Authority may consider "criminal activity involving crimes of physical violence to persons or property and other criminal acts which would adversely affect the health, safety or welfare of other tenants."

If the Housing Authority does identify an individual with this type of criminal history, they are not legally allowed to automatically reject his or her application. Prior to rejection of an application for public housing, the Housing Authority must also consider evidence of rehabilitation by an applicant with a past criminal history. In addition, the law requires the Housing Authority to give applicants an opportunity (10 days) to dispute both the accuracy and the relevance of the criminal record.

It is important to note that Public Housing Authorities may have access to FBI criminal histories that can include previously sealed records of your criminal history. You should be prepared to explain and discuss such sealed records in the event your application is denied on this basis.

You can be denied public housing while on parole or probation if the crime was committed while you lived in public housing or near public housing.

Housing Choice Voucher Program, (Section 8)

According to the HUD website (www.hud.gov), the Section 8 Rental Voucher Program increases affordable housing choices for very low-income households by allowing families to choose privately owned rental housing. The Public Housing Authority (PHA) generally pays the landlord the difference between 30% of household income and the PHA- determined payment standard (about 80 to 100 % of the fair market rent - FMR). The rent must be reasonable. The household may choose a unit with a higher rent than the FMR and pay the landlord the difference or choose a lower costing unit and have no out of pocket rental expense.

Section 8 housing is available to income-eligible US citizens, immigrants with legal immigration status, and “mixed families” (families with at least one member who is a legal US citizen).

Income Eligibility

Section 8 vouchers are provided to assist very low income households, such as households already assisted under the Housing Act of 1937 and households with incomes up to 80% of the area’s median income level that qualify to receive a voucher in connection with other HUD programs.

The Housing Authority must provide 75% of its vouchers to those families with a gross income of less than 30% of the median income. The median income level is readjusted annually.

For more housing information, contact your local Public Housing Authority.

For Section 8 Rental Assistance in Albany County, call (518) 641-7500 or see the housing section of the resource guide, for Schenectady or Rensselaer County Housing Authority numbers.

Housing Resources

Dial 2-1-1: Contact 211 Northeast to talk to a trained Community Resource Specialist about Housing, Food, Clothing, Health Care, Employment, etc.. Just dial 2-1-1 or 1-866-355-3211, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

[211 NENY – 211 NENY | Search Resources in Northeast New York](#)
Or WNY 2-1-1

Albany Housing Coalition

278 Clinton Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 465-5251 Fax: (518) 599-5523

Website: www.ahcvets.org

Primarily serves a low-income veteran population in need of housing services. Provides a transitional housing program and permanent affordable housing for low-income veterans. Also provides pro bono legal services.

Bethesda House

834 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12307

Telephone: (518) 374-7873 Fax: (518) 374-5133

Website: www.bethesdah.org

A drop-in center for individuals in need of assistance due to homelessness, hunger, addiction, loneliness, mental illness, domestic violence, poverty and single parenthood. Guest services include telephone, community voicemail, mailboxes, shower, laundry, food service, clothing room, and secure storage lockers. Programs include life skills classes, employment assistance program, men's and women's support groups, as well as health clinics and wellness classes. Free medical services offered on Thursdays from 3p.m.-7p.m. at the Schenectady Public Health Clinic.

Better Community Neighborhoods, Inc

670 Franklin Street, Rm 201, Schenectady, NY 12304

Telephone: (518) 372-7616 Fax: (518) 348-6073

Website: www.bcnihousing.org

Community housing development organization providing affordable housing opportunities for families in the City of Schenectady.

Capital Area Peer Services (CAPS)

354 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 427-5056 Fax: (518) 427-5059

Website: www.nycaps.org

Provides residential assistance, drop-in center & peer support for individuals who are mentally ill. Also provides a confidential peer-run support group and referrals.

Capital City Rescue Mission

259 South Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 462-0459 Fax: (518) 462-0489

Website: www.capitalcityrescuemission.com

The mission provides emergency shelter for men and women. Food, clothing, referrals, counseling, education, medical needs, nightly gospel, and rehabilitation program provided.

Capital District Latinos

160 Central Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: 518- 801-9440

Website: <https://www.capitaldistrictlatinos.org/>

Provides comprehensive services to the Latinx community to include an onsite food pantry. Call to see how they can serve you.

CARES of NY, Inc.

200 Henry Johnson Blvd. – Suite 4

Albany, NY 12210

518-489-5130

Website: [CARES of NY, Inc. \(caresny.org\)](http://caresny.org)

As a partner with the Albany Housing Authority, CARES provides case management services to over 70 households in the City of Albany. These tenants are formerly homeless persons with a qualifying disabling condition including serious

mental illness, chronic health conditions, HIV/AIDS, and substance abuse which negatively impacts daily living. Staff work with offsite providers such as visiting nurses to coordinate efforts for medication management and with medical and mental health case managers to help remind tenants of upcoming appointments and arrange transportation to attend appointments. CARES coordinates monthly care coordination meetings with offsite providers to discuss tenant progress and outstanding needs to ensure tenants thrive in our housing programs.

Catholic Charities Housing Office
43 N. Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203
Telephone: (518) 459-0183
Email: diocesan.housing@RCDA.ORG
Website: www.cchoalbany.org

Provides affordable housing and support services designed to help those in need to help themselves. In our communities, residents draw support from not only professional case managers but also from their neighbors who share the same life experiences.

Centro Civico-Ibero
143 E Main Street,
Amsterdam, NY 12010
Telephone: 518-842-3762
Website: [Centro Civico - Ibero](#)

Servicing Latinx (and other) communities of the Capital District regions, Amsterdam, Rochester and beyond. Comprehensive Case management services provided to its clientele. Call for housing, education, social services, health and other needs.

City Mission - Schenectady
425 Hamilton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 346-2275
Website: www.citymission.com
Emergency residential shelter for men and women.
Family life apartments available for women with children.

Department of Social Services

A county agency that provides case management and applications for public assistance, food stamps, Medicaid, Medicare, housing services, energy assistance and employment services.

- Albany County Department of Social Services
162 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 447-7300
- Rensselaer County Department of Social Services
547 River Street, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 266-7800

Schenectady County Department of Social Services
797 Broadway St., Ste. 301, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 388-4470

DePaul Housing Management

41 N. Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 459-0183

Email: diohouse@rcda.org

Website: www.depaulhousing.com

Sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, develops and operates primarily senior housing communities for people of all faiths with services and activities that support active, healthy and independent lifestyles. Our commitment is to excellence, and we carry out this mission with compassion, respect and dignity for all we serve and employ.

Eleanor Young Clinic

134 Franklin Street, Albany NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 465-8034 Fax: (518) 465-6632 Website:
www.pyhit.com

Programs are designed to assist criminal justice clients affected by substance abuse. Multiple programs located throughout upstate New York provide treatment, housing, employment training and alternatives to incarceration.

Equinox

500 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 435-9931 Fax: (518) 434-4502

Website: www.equinoxinc.org

Offers affordable, confidential counseling services that specialize in a variety of issues related to drug abuse, such as relapse prevention, anger management, sexual abuse, relationships, sexuality, cultural and ethnic issues, job retention, stress management, domestic violence, and Adult Children of Alcoholics. Also offers housing resources.

Evangeline Booth Miracle Home

168 Lafayette St, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 370-0276

The Evangeline Booth Miracle Home is an 18-bed shelter for women and their children in crisis. Rooms & meals provided on a temporary basis.

Homeless and Travelers Aid

138 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 463-2124 Fax: (518) 463-0263 Website:

www.hatas.org Email: info@hatas.org

Provides emergency and case management services, employment services, and housing assistance to individuals and families in crisis due to homelessness. HTA also operates several transitional apartments with supportive case management services for mental health clients and families moving from shelter to housing. Offices are located in downtown Albany and Schenectady.

Housing Authority

- Albany Housing Authority
200 S Pearl St, Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: (518) 641-7500
Website: www.albanyhousing.org

•

- Troy Housing Authority
1 Eddys Ln, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 273-3600
Website: www.troyhousing.org
- Schenectady Municipal Housing Authority
Telephone: (518) 386-7000
375 Broadway, Schenectady, NY 12305
Website: www.smha1.org

Provides subsidized housing to eligible individuals and families of low and moderate income.

Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless

176 Sheridan Ave, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 434-8021 (Administrative office and Emergency shelter)

Telephone: (518) 694-8899 (Drop-In Center)

/518-434-8021

Fax: (518) 432-7148

Website: www.interfaithpartnership.com

Provides emergency overnight shelter and food. Also provides case management services including individual counseling, supportive workshops, crisis intervention, advocacy services, and community referrals. The employment readiness program assists individuals in strengthening communication and job seeking skills and making connections with employers. The Health and Wellness program makes available the services of medical professionals from the community.

Joseph's House & Shelter: Kendal House

393 N. Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 426-0554 Fax: (518) 272-9370

Website: www.josephshousetroy.org

Serves individuals living on the street for at least one year. An outreach van provides meals, personal items, and housing/shelter referrals.

Joseph's House and Shelter
74 Ferry Street, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-2544 Fax: (518) 272-9370
Website: www.josephshousetroy.org
Email: info@josephhousetry.org

Homeless shelter for single adults and families. Provides meals and personal items, case management, and medical services. Shelter also serves those "at risk" of being homeless by providing transportation and referrals.

Marillac Homeless Family Shelter
% St. Catherine's Center for Children,
195 Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, NY, 12205
Telephone: (518) 869-1960
Website: www.st-cath.org

Provides housing and services to families in the loss of permanent housing. Services include temporary housing, employment assistance, advocacy, case management, childcare, recreation, and transportation. All families living at Marillac are referred by Homeless and Traveler's Aid Society of the Capital District (HATAS) listed above.

Mohawk Opportunities, Inc.
201 Nott Terrace, Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 374-8424 Fax: (518) 374-8440
Website: www.mohawkopportunities.org

Mental Health Program: (518) 374-8424, Ext. 3106 or 3100
HIV/AIDS Program: (518) 344-5123
Offers residential and support services to individuals, and their families, who have a diagnosis of mental illness or HIV/AIDS.

Peter Young Housing, Industries and Treatment
Administrative Offices are located at:

428 Duane Avenue
Schenectady, New York 12304
518-377-2448

Safe House
1344 Albany St, Schenectady, NY 12304
Telephone: (518) 374-0166
Hotline (24/7): (518) 374-5178
Website: www.safeincoschenectady.org
Email: info@safeincoschenectady.org

Temporary 30-day shelter for 16–20-year-olds. Provides outreach services for 12-35-year-olds in the form of housing assistance, life skills, family reunification, and education.

St. Anne Institute Runaway and Homeless Shelter
160 North Main Avenue
Albany, New York 12206
Telephone: (518) 437-6500 Fax: (518) 437-6555
Shelter Intake and Information: 518-437-6547
Web: <https://stanneinstitute.org/community-partnershipsfor-youth-empowerment/>

Emergency shelter open 24/7/365 to any youth, male or female, ages 13-17 who is a runaway, homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, or in an otherwise unsafe situation.

The program provides resources and referrals to:
Medical Care/Services, Education and Employment Placement, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Counseling. Shelter staff provides the following services:
Case Management/Aftercare Services, Daily Living Skills/Independent Living Skills, Advocacy, Self-Care and Sexual Health, Medication Monitoring, and Recreation

Support Ministries Inc. Capital Region
28 Delaware Terrace, Albany, NY 12209
Telephone: 518-427-2463/Fax: 518-463-5397
Website: www.SMICR.org

Provides safe, affordable and secure housing to homeless individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. In addition to housing services, SMICR also assists with independent living, medication management and case management. There is female only, male only, co-ed, and service the individual diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Trinity Alliance
15 Trinity Place, Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: 518-449-5515
Website: [Home - Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region \(trinityalliancealbany.org\)](http://trinityalliancealbany.org)

United Tenants of Albany
295 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 436-8997 Fax: (518) 436-0320
Website: www.utalbany.org

Program provides listing of open apartments, court mediation for landlord- tenant issues, and information regarding real-property laws in New York.

YMCA of the Capital District
845 Broadway, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 374-9136 Website: www.cdymca.org

The Capital District YMCA believes that every person should have access to safe and affordable housing.

- 845 Commons, a residence for men in Schenectady
- Mont Pleasant Commons, a federally subsidized residence for seniors aged 62 and older.

Other:

Tenant's Rights: NY Attorney General: [Tenants' Rights | New York State Attorney General \(ny.gov\)](http://ny.gov)

Find An Attorney & Victim's Rights: [Find an Attorney | New York State Attorney General \(ny.gov\)](http://ny.gov)

NYC: [Emergency Housing Services - HPD \(nyc.gov\)](http://nyc.gov)

Westchester, NY: [Homeless Services \(westchestergov.com\)](http://westchestergov.com)

Westchester, NY: [Emergency Assistance \(westchestergov.com\)](http://westchestergov.com)

Saratoga Springs, NY: [Home - Homelessness, Low-Income, and Crisis Assistance Resources - LibGuides at Saratoga Springs Public Library \(sspl.org\)](http://sspl.org)

Western NY: Dial 211 for help with Emergency Housing
[Get Help \(211wny.org\)](http://211wny.org)

Other Important Numbers/Hotlines:

NYS Attorney General: 1-800-771-7755

Domestic Violence Hotline (Unity House): 518-273-8255

Domestic Violence Hotline (Equinox): 518-432-7865

Rape Crisis Hotline: 518-447-2336

Suicide Prevention Hotline – 988

Mobile Crisis: 518-549-5600

Disability Rights NY: 518-432-7861

Elder Abuse Hotline: 518-432-7865

Veterans Crisis Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

Non-Emergency Police: 518-438-4000

Albany County Sheriff: 518-487-5400

Code Enforcement: 518-434-5995

Utility Assistance:

Public Service Commission: 1-800-342-3355/Complaint Line:
1-800-342-3377

National Grid Consumer Advocate: 1-877-444-6337

Furniture Resources:

St. John's/St. Ann's Outreach Center: 518-472-9091

Capital Region Furniture Bank: 518-612-BANK

Food Resources

5



*"There is more fruit in a rich man's
shampoo than on a poor man's plate."*

-Unknown

Food Resources

*Note: To find map of food pantries in your area/Capital District Region, visit:
<https://map.thefoodpantries.org>*

A Village, Inc. South End Night Market
Inside location: 200 S. Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12202
Free produce, fruits and veggies
For information, contact: SENM@avillage.org
Will partner with The South End Grocery located at 106 S. Pearl Street, Albany, NY (former McDonald's) starting December 2022. This is the first Black-controlled and charitable grocery store in Albany, New York.
[\(20+\) The South End Grocery | Facebook](#)

Capital Roots: Veggie Mobile
594 River Street, Troy, NY, 12180
Telephone: (518) 274-8685 Fax: (518) 272-2744 Website:
www.capitalroots.org –or–
www.capitalroots.org/programs/veggie
The Veggie Mobile is a “produce aisle on wheels.” This refrigerated truck filled with fresh produce from local community gardens runs on a set schedule to public housing and other densely populated locations in Albany, Schenectady, and Troy. The Veggie Mobile accepts EBT cards. Call or go to the website for a schedule.

Food Pantries of the Capital District
32 Essex Street, Albany, N.Y. 12206
Telephone: (518) 458-1167 Fax: (518) 458-1246
Website: www.thefoodpantries.org/
Provides food and referral services to families and individuals who are unable to meet their nutritional needs. Coordinates food distribution within Albany/Rensselaer counties regarding emergency food. Pantries generally provide households with a 3 to 4-day supply of food consisting mostly of non-perishable items. In addition to food, member pantries provide information and technical assistance concerning nutrition, food co-ops, and government assistance programs, as well as referrals to other community-based programs.

Roarke Center

107 4th Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518)273-8351 Fax: (518) 270-0579

Info: <https://www.facebook.com/RoarkeCenter>

Provides community navigators to assist with housing eviction, National Grid shut offs, Food Pantry by appt M 9am-12pm; 1pm-3pm; Friday 9am-12pm; 1pm-3pm; T, W, Th – 1pm-3pm, case management for people who need help in accessing benefits and services. Available services include: emergency assistance, food pantry.

Provides programs on creative arts (M-F 9am-12pm), creative writing, photography, sewing, weaving.

Salvation Army, Albany

20 South Ferry Street, Albany, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 463-6678

Website:

<https://empire.salvationarmy.org/EmpireNY/Albany>

Available to those living within service area and by referral. Services include: Disaster Services; Emergency Financial Assistance; Emergency Shelter; Food & Nutrition Programs; Seasonal Services; Worship Services - Children's / Teen; Worship Services – Church; Christian; Education; Music & Arts Programs; Character Building Programs; Community Recreation Programs; and Day Camp Activities

Salvation Army, Troy

410 River Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 272-4901

Website: <https://empire.salvationarmy.org/EmpireNY/troy>

Services include: Food & Nutrition; Disaster Services; Emergency Financial Assistance; Food & Nutrition Programs; Seasonal Services; Casework Services; Camping Activities; Visitation Services; Worship Services - Children's /Teen; Worship Services – Church; Christian Education;

Men's Ministries; Music & Arts Programs; Worship Services - Sunday School; Women's Ministries; Worship Services - Youth Ministries; Character Building Programs; Community Recreation Programs; and Residential Camping Activities

Salvation Army, Schenectady
222 Lafayette Street, Schenectady, NY 1230
Telephone: 518-346-0222
Website: empire.salvationarmy.org

Services include: Community Recreation & Education Programs; Food & Nutrition; Missing Persons; Disaster Services; Domestic Violence Services; Emergency Financial Assistance; Emergency Shelter; Food & Nutrition Programs; Seasonal Services; Camping Activities; Nutrition Programs; Senior Citizen Clubs; Visitation Services; Worship Services - Children's / Teen; Worship Services – Church; Christian Education; Men's Ministries; Music & Arts Programs; Worship Services - Sunday School; Women's Ministries; Worship Services - Young Adult; Worship

Albany Area Food Resources

Albany Damien Center
728 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12208
Telephone: (518) 449-7119
Open Monday-Friday 8:00am-6:30pm

Alliance for Positive Health – Albany
927 Broadway Albany, NY 12208
Telephone: (518) 434-4686
Website: allianceforpositivehealth.org
Open Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Arbor Hill Center Food Pantry
47 N. Lark St., Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 463-1516
Website: <http://www.trinityalliancealbany.org>
Open Monday-Friday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM/1:00PM - 3:00PM

Beth Emeth Soup Kitchen
369 Livingston Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: 518-462-9885
Open Sunday 12:45pm-2:00pmBethlehem Food Pantry
445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054
Telephone: (518) 439-4955x1169 or 1176
Call for an appointment

Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry
607 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 482-3375
Website: www.blessedsacramentalbany.org
Open Monday & Thursday 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Capital District Latinos Bi-Weekly Food Pantry
160 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: 518-801-9440
Open: Wednesday, 4:00pm-5:30pm/Saturday 9:00am-10:30am
Website: capitaldistrictlatinos.org

Culturally responsive food pantry is a volunteer, bi-weekly service program that provides fresh and nutritious groceries to the City of Albany. Families will be serviced once a month.

Cathedral Social Service
93 Park Ave., Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: (518) 463-2279
Open Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

Christ Our Light Catholic Church Food Pantry
1 Maria Drive, Loudonville, NY 12211
Telephone: (518) 459-6635
Call M, T, or W prior to 3rd Saturday of the month 8:15 AM – 11:30 AM. For area residents.

Faith & Love Fellowship Food Pantry
85 Washington St., Rensselaer, NY 12144
Telephone: (518) 436-0114
Open 2nd & 4th Friday of the month 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

The First Church Food Pantry
110 N., Pearl St., Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 463-4449
Open Monday & Wednesday 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM.

First Lutheran Church Community Dinner
646 State St., Albany, NY 12203
Telephone: (518) 463-1326
Open last Monday of the month 5:30pm-6:30pm (if this is a holiday, it moves to Monday before)

FOCUS Breakfast Program
Westminster Presbyterian Church,
85 Chestnut St., Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 443-0460
Open Thursday 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM.
Tuesday & Wednesday 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM all year round.
Website:
<https://regionalfoodbank.net/agencies/focusbreakfast-program/>

FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry Emmanuel
Baptist Church,
275 State St., Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 443-0460
Open every Monday-Friday 10:00 AM – 12:45 PM & only
last Saturday of the month 10:00 AM – 12:45 PM.

Friendship Table
Sacred Heart Church, 33 Walter St., Albany, NY 12204
Telephone: (518) 434-0680
Open Wednesday 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Website: <https://regionalfoodbank.net/agencies/friendship-table-2/>

Israel AME Church Lunch Program
381 Hamilton St., Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 465-9339 (Church Office)
Open Wednesday 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM. Closed July & August
and the weeks of Thanksgiving & Christmas

Israel AME Food Pantry

381 Hamilton St., Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 465-9339 (Church Fellowship Hall) Open
3rd Thursday of the month by appointment. Open 1st & 3rd
Thursday in May & June 12:00 PM –3:00 PM.

Email: israelmechurch18@gmail.com

Life of the Nations Church

477 Krumkill Rd., Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 438-3841

Open Tuesday-Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Also open by
appointment.

Mater Christi Food Pantry

3 West Erie St., Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 596-6691

Open 1st Monday of the month 9:00 AM-11:00AM; 2nd, 3rd,
and 4th Monday, 5pm-7pm. If Monday falls on a federal
holiday, pantry open Tuesday. No longer open 5th Monday of
month as of 5/2022.

Mt. Moriah Soup Kitchen

262 Route 9W, Glenmont, NY 12077

Telephone: (518) 426-4510

Soup Kitchen: Open last Friday of the month 5:00 PM – 7:00
PM

Food Pantry: Open Thursday 5:00 PM -7:00 PM & Sunday
1:00 PM -2:00 PM. Also open by appointment.

New Horizons Christian Church Food Pantry

146 Catherine St., Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 462-2638

Open the 4th Sunday of the month 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM.

Website: [https://regionalfoodbank.net/
agencies/newhorizons-Christian-church-food-pantry/](https://regionalfoodbank.net/agencies/newhorizons-Christian-church-food-pantry/)

New Scotland Community Food Pantry

St., Matthew's Church,

25 Mountain View St., Voorheesville, NY 12186

Telephone: (518) 765-3806

Open by appointment only

Oakwood Community Center
313 Tenth St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: 518-272-2434
Open Saturday 9:00AM-11:00AM

Regional Food Bank
965 Albany-Shaker Road, Latham, NY 12110
Telephone: (518) 786-3691
Website: www.regionalfoodbank.net

Sacred Heart Food Pantry
33 Walter St., Albany, NY 12204
Telephone: (518) 210-0986
Open Tuesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM & Thursday 10:00 AM -
11:45 AM

Shalom Food Pantry
393 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054
Telephone: (518) 439-3310
Open 2nd Monday of the month 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Also
delivers to Albany, Rensselaer, & Saratoga counties. Please
call for an appointment.

Sheridan Hollow Drop-In Center
315 Sheridan Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 694-8899
Open T, W, & F, 9am-1pm; 3:00PM – 4:00 PM.
M-F Breakfast – 9AM-10:30AM; Lunch – 1PM-3:30PM

Sister Maureen Joyce Center Food Pantry
315 Sheridan Ave., Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 347-9546
Open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen
498 Clinton Ave., Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 459-4894
Open Saturday 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

St. James Food Pantry
391 Delaware Avenue, Albany, NY 12209
Telephone: (518) 414-1929
Open Tuesday 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM & Thursday 1:00 PM -
4:00 PM

St. John's/St. Ann's Center
88 Fourth Ave., Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: (518) 472-9091
Web: <http://sjsacenter.org/pantrymenu.shtml>
Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 AM -
12:00 PM & 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM; Friday 10AM-12PM
Community Meal: Tuesday & Saturday: 11:30AM-1:00PM

St. Mary's Outreach
10 Lodge St., Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 462-4357
Open Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

St. Vincent DePaul Church Food Pantry
984 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12208
Telephone: (518) 694-3153
Open; Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM.
Closed on holidays.

Sweet Pilgrim Baptist Soup Kitchen
24 Ten Broeck St., Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 463-7811 Open
Saturday 11 AM – 1 PM.

The Redeemed Christian Church of God Food Pantry
86 Lexington Ave., Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 463-5231
Open 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 5PM – 6:30 PM.

The South End Grocery
106 S. Pearl Street, Albany, NY
(former McDonald's) starting December 2022.
This is the first Black-controlled and charitable grocery store
in Albany, New York.

[\(20+\) The South End Grocery | Facebook](#)

Trinity Alliance

15-17 Trinity Place Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 449-5155, ext 132

Website: <https://www.trinityalliancealbany.org/food-pantries/>

Open Monday & Tuesday: 9:30AM-4:30PM (Delivery Only.

Onsite Food Pantry closed M&T), Thursday & Friday

9:30AM-4:30PM and Wednesday 10:30AM-5:30PM (Onsite

Food Pantry open to public. No delivery available).

Victory Christian Church JC Club: Children's Feeding Center

63 Quail St., Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 434-6100

Open Monday-Friday 3PM – 5PM

Troy Area Food Resources

Bethany at Unity House

2431 6th Ave., Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 272-2352

Open Monday-Friday 11:30 PM - 1PM

Cohoes CAP Pantry

145 Remsen St., Cohoes, NY 12047

Telephone: (518) 237-9202

Open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30AM - 12PM, 1PM -

4:30 PM. Closed Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Grace Church Food Pantry

34 3rd St., Waterford, NY 12188

Telephone: (518) 237-7370

Open every Friday 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, and the 4th

Thursday of the month 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Hope 7 Community Center

Pawling Ave. United Methodist Church,

520 Pawling Ave., Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 272-1547

Website: <https://www.hopeseven.com/foodpantry>

Open Monday-Friday 9:30 AM - 11:45 AM & the last

Saturday of the month 9:30 AM - 11:45 AM Thursdays 5:00

PM – 7PM

Holy Trinity Parish Food Pantry
1 St., Marie's Lane, Cohoes, NY 12047
Telephone: (518) 237-2373 (Please call for an appointment)
Website: <https://www.holytrinitycohoes.org/f> Open
Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Food Pantry
2416 7th Ave., Watervliet, NY 12189
Telephone: (518) 273-6020
Open Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Italian Community Center Soup Kitchen
1450 5th Ave., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 274-0508
Open Thursday 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Living Hope United Methodist Food Pantry
126 Middletown Rd., Waterford, NY 12188
Telephone: (518) 235-6498
Open Thursday 5:30pm – 7PM Friday 10AM – 12PM

Mary's Soup Kitchen
Immaculate Heart of Mary,
2416 7th Ave., Watervliet, NY 12189
Telephone: (518) 273-6020
Open Monday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Mt. Ida Food Pantry
Mt. Ida Baptist Church,
548 Congress St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-1115
Open Saturday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Provisions Food Pantry
461 Fulton St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-4237
Open Saturday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.
Closed the 1st weekend of the month

REACT, Inc., Food Pantry
501D Grand St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-8974
Open Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Rensselaer County CEO Food Pantry
2328 5th Ave., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-6012
Website: <https://www.ceoempowers.org/?s=food+pantry+>
Open Monday-Friday, 8:30pm-4:30pm.

Roarke Center Food Pantry
107 Fourth St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 273-8351
Open Monday & Friday 9 AM – 12 PM, 1 PM – 3 PM.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 1 PM – 3PM

Salvation Army – Troy Soup Kitchen
410 River St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-4901
Open Monday & Friday 4:00 PM - 5:00PM

Salvation Army – Cohoes Food Pantry
Good Ground Community Church
49 Johnston Ave., Cohoes, NY 12047
Telephone: (518) 463-6678
Open Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.
Open from 10:00am-11:30am last week of the month

Salvation Army – Troy Food Pantry
410 River St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-4901
Open Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM -1:30 PM
Rensselaer and Watervliet residents only

St. Ambrose Food Pantry/St. Ambrose Church
347 Old Loudon Rd., Latham,
NY12110/Telephone: (518) 785-1351
Open by appointment only.

St., Augustine's Food Pantry
25 115th St., Troy, NY 12182
Telephone: (518) 235-3861
Open Saturday 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM. First time users need to bring ID to be placed into data base.

St. Joseph's Church Troy Food Pantry
416 3rd St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 244-3347
Open Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9:00AM-12:00PM

St. Mary's/St., Vincent Food Pantry
119 Broad St., Waterford, NY 12188
Telephone: (518) 237-3131
Open by appointment only

Troy Damien Center
392 2nd St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 274-5920
Open Monday 6PM - 7PM & Thursday-Friday 12PM - 1PM

United Church of Cohoes Community Meal
123 Mohawk St., Cohoes, NY 12047
Telephone: (518) 237-0278
Open Saturday 4:00PM-5:30PM

United Church of Cohoes Food Pantry
123 Mohawk St., Cohoes, NY 12047
Telephone: (518) 237-0278
Open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Unity House Street Ministry Food Pantry
2431 6th Ave., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 272-2352
Open By Appointment Only: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM. Thursday 1 PM – 7 PM.

YWCA – Troy Community Meal
21 First St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 274-7100
Open Tuesday 5PM-6PM

YWCA – Troy Food Pantry
21 First St., Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 274-7100
Open Monday-Thursday 1PM-4PM

Schenectady Area Food Resources

Alliance for Positive Health – Schenectady
155 Erie Boulevard, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 346-9272
Open Monday-Friday 9 AM – 5 PM

Altamont Community Food Pantry
122 Grand St., Altamont, NY 12009
Telephone: (518) 861-6542
Open 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 4 PM - 5 PM.
Call for appointment

Bethesda House of Schenectady
834 State St., Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 374-7873
Open Monday-Friday 2:30 PM – 4 PM

Bethesda House Food Pantry
834 State St., Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 374-7873
Open 2nd & 3rd Tues. of the month 9–11:00AM

Bethesda House – Cara House- Projected Opening 2023
917 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12307
518-374-7873 for further information on services.

Bethesda House – Yates Village Food Pantry
Yates Village Community Center,
C38 Wood Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12308
Telephone: (518) 374-7873
Open 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursday 9 AM – 11AM

Captain Food Pantry
5 Municipal Plaza, Suite #3, Clifton Park, NY 12065
Telephone: (518) 371-1185
Open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10 AM - 3 PM

Christ Church Food Pantry, Christ Episcopal Church
15 W High St., Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Telephone: (518) 885-1031
Open Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10 AM - 12
PM, Tuesday, 12PM-2PM and Wednesday 5:00 PM-6:00PM

City Mission Dining Center/Community Meal Program
512 Smith St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 346-2275
Open Monday-Friday 4:40PM-5:30PM PM
Bagged lunches available 24/7 at Welcome Center located at
427 Hamilton Street, Schenectady, NY

Downtown Community Breakfast Program
First United Methodist Church,
603 State St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 374-4403
Open 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday of each month 8:30 AM – 9:30
AM

Faith Baptist Church Pantry
11 Glenridge Rd., Rexford, NY 12148
Telephone: (518) 399-2220
Open Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Bring ID confirming
address for anyone food is being picked up for.

Gathered Remnant Ministries Food Pantry
327 Georgetta Dix Plaza, Schenectady, NY 12303
Telephone: (518) 374-3487
Open 4th Thursday of the month 1 PM - 3:30 PM

Harmony Food Pantry
888 Albany St., Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 280-5028
Open 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month 3 PM – 5 PM

Harvest Church Food Pantry
303 Grooms Rd., Clifton Park, NY 12065
Telephone: (518) 371-2997
Open only to residents of Southern Saratoga County. Please
call to make an appointment. Tuesday-Thursday 10am – 2pm

Lighthouse Food Pantry
4780 Duanesburg Rd., Princetown, NY 12056
Telephone: (518) 355-2277
Open Wednesday-Friday 4 PM - 6 PM.
Please call ahead. Also open by appointment.

Our Lady of Fatima Food Pantry
1735 Alexander Rd., Delanson, NY
12053 Telephone: (518) 895-2788
Open by appointment only.

Salvation Army – Schenectady Breakfast Program
222 Lafayette St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 346-0222
Open Monday-Friday 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Salvation Army – Schenectady Soup Kitchen
222 Lafayette St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 346-0222
Open Monday-Friday 12 PM – 1 PM

Salvation Army – Schenectady Food Pantry
222 Lafayette St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 346-0222
Open Tuesday-Thursday 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Scotia Glenville Food Pantry
132 Mohawk Ave., Scotia, NY 12302
Telephone: (518) 588-8214
Open Tuesday 5:30 PM – 7 PM and Friday 9 AM – 11 AM

Shenendehowa Helping H&S Food Pantry
Jonesville Methodist Church
963 Main St., Clifton Park, NY 12065
Telephone: (518) 877-7380
Open Friday 9:00AM-12PM

SICM (Schenectady Inner City Ministry) Food Pantry
839 Albany St., Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 346-4445
Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9 AM - 11:30 AM

State Street Food Pantry
State Street Presbyterian Church,
5 Catherine St., Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 374-2684

Open Monday-Wednesday 12:30pm-3:00pm or until they run out of food. Bring ID for those food is being picked up for.

St. Luke's Daily Bread Food Pantry
1243 State St., Schenectady, NY 12304
Telephone: (518) 347-1385

Open by appointment only Tuesday-Thursday, and 2nd Saturday of the month. You must call before 10am of day you need for. Be near your phone for a call back. Can only call in for food every 28 days.

The Bridge Food Pantry
735 Crane St., Schenectady, NY 12303
Telephone: (518) 374-4693
Open 3rd Tuesday 4 PM - 6 PM

Trinity Baptist Church Food Pantry
Trinity Baptist Church,
2635 Balltown Rd., Schenectady, NY 12309
Telephone: (518) 393-2506
Open 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Health

6



"The groundwork of all happiness is health."

-Leigh Hunt

American Cancer Society
1 Penny Lane, Latham, NY 12110
Telephone: (518) 220-6901
Website: www.cancer.org

The American Cancer Society has free programs and services to help people with cancer and their loved ones understand cancer, manage their lives through treatment and recovery, and find the emotional support they need.

Asthma Coalition of the Capital Region
920 Lark Drive, Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 465-4771 Website: www.wmyhealth.org The Coalition provides asthma resources, education and self-management tools. It is managed by lead agency Whitney Young Health Center and coordinated by Healthy Capital District Initiative.

Birthright
12 Jay Street, #1, Schenectady, 12305
Telephone: (518) 370-1532 HOTLINE: 1-800-550-4900 A free and confidential pregnancy crisis center. Offers pregnancy tests, support for pregnant females, and provides maternity and baby clothes. Also assists in finding homes and apartments and provides temporary shelter for pregnant women. Offers legal, financial, and educational aid.

Bridges to Health (B2H)
Call Heather Krug, Program Director, at 518-426-2806, or Rich Neaton, Health Care Integrator Coordinator, at 518-431-1690
<http://www.parsonscenter.org/program/bridgesto-health-b2h/>

Medicaid Waiver Program designed to supplement NYS Medicaid state plan services to populations of foster care youth, their families, and caregivers. Foster care children and youth may have medical/physical, emotional and/or developmental challenges.

Available services include: Case Management/Health Care Integration; Skill Building; Family Caregiver Supports; Day Habilitation; Pre-vocational Services, Supported Employment;

Planned Respite; Community Advocacy and Support; Crisis Avoidance, Management and Training; Immediate Crisis Response, In-home Support, and Crisis Respite; Accessibility Modification; and, Adaptive and Assistive Equipment

Capital City Rescue Mission

259 South Pearl St., Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 462-0459

Website: www.capitalcityrescuemission.com

Provides meals, emergency shelter, and medical clinic Tuesday and Friday 8:45am to 3pm and Thursday 5-6:00pm. Also provides clothing and addiction recovery services.

Capital District African American Coalition on AIDS

388 Clinton Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 427-2957 Fax: (518) 427-0642

Offers referrals and information to persons living with AIDS and their caregivers.

Capital District Center for Independence

1716 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518) 459-6422 Fax: (518) 459-7847

Website: www.cdciweb.com (also on Facebook)

Promotes independent living for people with disabilities through advocacy and self-help instruction, education outreach and training.

Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services

100 Slingerland Street, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 449-3581 Fax: (518) 426-3662

Website: www.cccarecoordination.org

Provides support and services to meet the needs of those living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS and other chronic medical conditions regardless of orientation, lifestyle, or belief.

Developmental Disabilities Program Family Support Services (FSS) and Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) seek to support families who have an adult or child with developmental disabilities. The program offers comprehensive outreach, case management, hourly Respite

Services and family activities for individuals who meet the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) criteria for eligibility.

Clinical Trials Matching Service

Telephone: 1-800-303-5691 or go to cancer.org and search "Clinical Trials Matching Service" Helps patients, their families, and health care workers find cancer clinical trials most appropriate to a patient's medical and personal situation. Through a partnership with the Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups, the service can help patients find research studies that are testing new drugs or methods to prevent, detect, or treat cancer.

College Parkside Pharmacy

Capital South Campus Center

20 Warren Street

Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 694-8522

Supporting the Albany community with: Pharmacy, Medication Therapy Management, Disease Prevention, Wellness Counseling, Screenings

Concepts of Independence

845 Central Ave. (South 3), Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 459-6422 Website: www.coicny.org

Administers Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services program, enabling severely disabled and chronically ill individuals to hire, train and supervise the Personal Assistant home care worker of their choice.

Community Health Worker Program

Albany County Department of Health 175 Green Street,

Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 447-4600/ (518) 447-4580

An outreach and home visiting program of the Albany County Department of Health. Case management services are offered to pregnant women, infants and children who need prenatal care and/or primary and preventative health care. Application required. Call for information.

County Health Departments:

- Albany County
Albany County Department of Health 175 Green Street,
Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: (518) 447-4640
TB testing and care (small charge or Medicaid coverage)
& STD/HIV testing (free)
- Rensselaer County
1600 7th Avenue, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 270-2655
TB testing (small charge) & STD testing (free)
- Schenectady County
107 Nott Terrace, Schaffer Heights, Schenectady, NY
12308 Telephone: (518) 386-2810
TB testing (small charge or Medicaid coverage) &
STD/HIV testing (free)

Damien Center

728 Madison Ave Suite 100, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 449-7119

Website: www.albanydamiencenter.org

The Albany Damien Center is a unique resource in our Northeastern New York Community for people living with and at risk for HIV/STI/hepatitis. The Center provides programs in a comfortable and supportive HIV+ peer-led environment using a health and wellness education model. A client-centered approach addresses the physical, psychological, and environmental impacts on an individual's overall health. The Damien Center offers a drop-in center providing help to caregivers and persons with HIV/AIDS.

Schenectady Inner City Ministry

1055 Wendell Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12308

Telephone: (518) 374-2683 Fax: (518) 382-1871

Website: www.sicm.us

The Schenectady Damien Center is a resource center designed to improve health, reduce stress, and increase the quality of life

in a supportive atmosphere for individuals and families living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Provides programs and services, free-of-charge, in a welcoming and culturally diverse environment. Drop-in living room hours are Tuesdays & Fridays from 11 AM to 4 PM.

New York State Dept. of Labor Disability Resource
Coordinator Website:

www.labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/dpn_dei.shtm

Provides assistance for persons with disabilities in the form of referrals to medical and mental health agencies. Offers job placement and assistance.

- Albany County
175 Central Ave, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 242-8248
Albanydrc@capreg.org

- Schenectady County
797 Broadway, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 344-2722

- Rensselaer County
1600 7th Ave, 4th Floor, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 270-2611

Eddy Visiting Nurse Association

433 River St. #3000 Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 274-6200 or (518) 270-1317

Website: www.nehealth.com/home_care

Offers a range of in-home health care professionals including nurses, physical, occupational and speech therapists, home health aides and personal care aides.

Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance (E.P.I.C.) Telephone:

(800) 332-3742

Website: www.health.ny.gov/health_care/epic/

Helps income-eligible seniors aged 65 and older to supplement their out-of-pocket Medicare Part D drug plan costs. Must be enrolled or eligible to be enrolled in a Medical Part D drug plan.

Equinox

500 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 435-9931 Fax: (518) 434-4502

Website: www.equinoxinc.org

Offers affordable, confidential counseling services related to drug abuse, such as relapse prevention, anger management, sexual abuse, relationships, sexuality, cultural and ethnic issues, job retention, stress management, domestic violence, and Adult Children of Alcoholics. Also offers housing resources.

Family and Child Service of Schenectady

246 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 393-1369 Fax: (518) 393-3601

Website: www.familyandchildservice.com

A confidential setting where individuals and family can meet to resolve difficult problems. Provides counseling, issues including marital or couple relationships, parent/child relationships, anger management, stress and anxiety, depression, and domestic violence. Fees are determined by gross income, family size and insurance coverage.

Guild Care Adult Day Center

2 Clara Barton Dr. Suite 118, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 396-3626 Website: www.lighthouseguild.org

Adult day health care programs including nursing, therapy, and vision services. Lighthouse Guild provides a full spectrum of integrated vision and healthcare services helping people who are blind or visually impaired, including those with multiple disabilities or chronic medical conditions lead productive, dignified and fulfilling lives.

Healthy Capital District Initiative

175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

(518) 462-7040

Website: www.hcdiny.org

Health insurance assistance, physician directories, tools for staying healthy, help to identify support services.

Hometown Health Center

1044 State St., Schenectady, NY 12307-1508

Telephone: (518) 370-1441 Fax: (518) 346-3526

Website: www.hometownhealthcenters.org

A family practice providing comprehensive medical, dental and social work services to the medically indigent population of the city and county of Schenectady.

Jim Perry Residence

28 Delaware Terrace, Albany, NY 12209

Telephone: (518) 427-2463 Fax: (518) 463-5397

Residential programs in Albany and Waterford for persons with HIV.

Living Resources

300 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 218-0000 (Main) Fax: (518) 862-2175 Website:

www.livingresources.org Services include:

Brain Injury Services: (518) 218-0000, x 5389

- Certified Home Health Agency: (518) 867-8800, ext. 4379
- Clinical Services: (518)-218-0000, ext. 5384
- Community Habilitation: (518) 218-0000, ext. 5354

Day Services: Albany County: (518) 218-0000 ext. 2333

Rensselaer County & Albany North: (518) 218-0000 ext.

6301, Schenectady County: (518) 218-0000 ext. 3324

- Deaf & Interpretation Services:(518) 218-0000, ext. 5395
- Licensed Home Care Agency: (518) 867-8777, ext. 4390
- Residential Services: (518) 218-0000, ext. 4312
- Service Coordination: (518)-218-0000, ext. 4303

Medicaid Albany County

162 Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12210

Call for appointment: (518) 447-4989

Medicaid Rensselaer County
547 River Street, Troy, New York 12180
Telephone: (518) 2667970

Medicaid Schenectady County
Social Services Main Office
797 Broadway, Schenectady, New York 12305.
Phone: (518) 388-4470
File in person or by mail
Applications online:
<http://www.health.ny.gov/forms/doh4220all.pdf>

NYS Office of Health Insurance Programs
Website: www.health.ny.gov/health_care/

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
Telephone: 1(800) 273-8255
Website: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
A national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

New York State-wide Spanish AIDS Hotline (SIDA)
SIDA Hotline: 1-800-233-7432

The AIDS Hotline is an initiative serving the Latino community in the state of New York funded by the DOH/AIDS Institute. The NYS AIDS Hotline is currently the only New York statewide HIV/AIDS Spanish language hotline providing support and primary care related services throughout the state. The Hotline specialist operators are trained to connect the callers to services, testing screenings, provide risk reduction education, and help guide those testing positive into care and prevention services.

Planned Parenthood
Website: www.plannedparenthood.org
Provides sexual health services for men and women on a sliding scale based on income. Medical services include STD testing, gynecological services, and AIDS/HIV testing and counseling.

- Albany:
855 Central Ave, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 434-5678
- Schenectady:
1040 State St., Schenectady NY 12307-1508
Telephone: (518) 374-5353
- Troy:
200 Broadway, Suite 201, 2nd Floor, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 434-5678

Poverello Center

315 Sheridan Ave., Albany, NY

Website: www.tinyurl.com/Poverello-Center

Health clinic for adults with no insurance. Open Wednesday evening beginning at 5:00 p.m. The limited number of patients that can be seen are served in the order that they arrive.

Pride Center of the Capital District

332 Hudson Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 462-6138 Fax: (518) 462-2101

Website: www.capitalpridecenter.org

Promoting the well-being of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer identified people and those affected by discrimination based on gender identity and expression. Services include:

- Center Youth (for teens): Albany LGBTQ Youth Peer Support Group, Schenectady LGBTQ Youth Peer Support Group, and Advocacy Opportunities for Youth, Healthy Social Opportunities, and Center Youth Action Team.
- Center Support: The Access Pride Project: Resources and Referrals, Rainbow Drop-in Café (Open: 6-9p.m. Sat-Wed & 910p.m. Thu & Fri), Peer Support Groups, Center Counseling Services, Capital Region LGBT Mental Health and Substance Abuse Network and Recovery Groups hosted at the Center: Overeaters Anonymous and Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous

Schenectady Public Health Services – STD Clinic

107 Nott Terrace, Schenectady, NY 12308

Telephone: (518) 386-2810

Website: www.schenectadycounty.com/node/59

Offers free HIV testing (donations appreciated). The well child program offers immunization and vaccinations based on a sliding fee scale with proof of income. STD/HIV Program: STD clinical services are provided every Tuesday from 5-7pm at Hometown Health Center located at 1044 State Street, Schenectady, New York 12307. No appointments are necessary.

Roarke Center

107 4th Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518)273-8351 Fax: (518) 270-0579

Website: www.roarkecenter.wordpress.com

Available medical services for the uninsured in conjunction with Seton Health. Every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30pm.

St. Peter's Hospital

315 South Manning Blvd., Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 525-1550

Website: www.sphcs.org

Medical and surgical services, emergency care

Whitney M. Young, Jr. Health Center

920 Lark Dr., Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 465-4771 Website: www.wmyhealth.org

Provides access to consistent quality healthcare without regard to income, Monday-Friday 7:30 A.M- 6 P.M.

Care Management

Alliance for Positive Health

Telephone: (518) 434-4686

Care Management- Chronic Diseases

Services: Assistance with finding medical care including a primary care doctor and specialty care; Scheduling and keeping medical appointments; Accompany you to medical appointments and help talk to the doctor; Coordinate referrals for services such as mental health, substance abuse, legal assistance, and domestic

violence; Help manage medications; Support and advocate for needs with other providers Coordinate benefits and entitlements (SSI, DSS, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Medicare)

Community Health Worker Program (Albany County)

175 Green Street, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 447-4684

Provides in-home health education and assists families in getting basic needs for healthy living-medical care, food, clothing, and shelter. Please call for additional information.

Special Programs for Women, Infants and Children: (518) 4474615

Access Transit Services, Inc.

110 Watervliet Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 437-5161 Fax: (518) 453-8833

Website: www.cdta.org/access-transit-services-faqs

ACCESS Transit Services, Inc. (ACCESS) is a subsidiary and service of the Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) Access currently arranges senior transportation for Albany County residents to their non-emergency medical appointments, pharmacy, grocery shopping, congregate meal sites, and adult day programs, as well as for JARC clients. Hours are Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM.

Substance Abuse Treatment

7



"Keeping a resolution is harder than simply saying you will do it."

-Unknown

Substance Use

NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)

1450 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

518-473-3460 Website: www.oasas.ny.gov

HOPEline – 100 Great Oaks Blvd. Suite 104, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: 518-867-4084/ 24 Hour Hotline: (877)-846-7369

www.nyproblemgambling.org

Offering help and hope 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for alcoholism, substance use and problem gambling. Crisis and motivational interviewing for callers in need; referrals to more than 1,500 local prevention and treatment providers; 48 hours call back to those who wish to be contacted; multi-lingual. All calls are confidential.

Crisis Services

If you need immediate help with an overdose, please call 911 and a first responder will be dispatched to provide assistance. If you have Naloxone on hand, administer it immediately to the person experiencing the overdose.

If you feel you need to enter detox, please visit your local emergency room, or contact an inpatient center listed below. It is ***not safe to detox from opioid or alcohol dependency without medical assistance***. Hospital staff will connect you to inpatient treatment or community-based services once you are discharged.

24 Hour Narcotics Assistance Hotline: 1-844-287-0813

Inpatient Treatment

Addictions Care Center of Albany

518-465-5470

<https://www.theacca.net/>

Provides comprehensive services to individuals experiencing substance use at all stages of dependency. Inpatient stabilization and rehabilitation (rehab) services are available at multiple locations throughout the Capital Region. Outpatient resources are also available and will be listed below in the appropriate sections.

Conifer Park Inpatient Services

79 Glenridge Road Glenville, NY 12302

1-800-989-6446

www.coniferpark.com

Medical detox and crisis intervention services. Inpatient rehab programs (separate women's program as well).

SPARC Men's Community Residence

518-472-0450

Focus on relapse prevention, life skills, housing and vocational/education plan development

Trinity Alliance: Homer Perkins Center

518-436-1104

Serves men only

Outpatient Services and Treatment

Addictions Care Center of Albany

518-465-5470

<https://www.theacca.net/>

Provides comprehensive services to individuals experiencing substance use at all stages of dependency. Outpatient services include **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**, counseling, peer support, community outreach, and home and community-based services.

Capital District Recovery Center ("CDRC")

45 Colvin Ave (2nd Floor)

Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 487-4617

Website: <https://www.capitaldistrictrecoverycenter.org/>

CDRC is a first-of-its-kind recovery meeting center serving the Capital Region to assist people in maintaining addiction free lifestyles. CDRC offers a community of recovery meetings, workshops, and programs for individuals and families seeking freedom from addiction.

New Choices Recovery Center

728 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12307

(518) 346-4436

info@newchoicesrecovery.org

New Choices Recovery Center offers a comprehensive array of outpatient services. Both the 728 and 840 State Street locations provide Outpatient Substance Use Disorder treatment. For those requiring more extensive care, the 728 State Street clinic provides Full Day Rehabilitation Services. In addition, they provide **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**, family treatment, gambling treatment and recovery peer support services.

New Choices also offers an Impaired Driver Program (IDP) to help restore driving privileges for people dealing with a DUI/DWI.

Se Habla Espanol at 728 State Street.

Hope House

Albany Outpatient Clinic: 747 Madison Avenue, Albany NY 12208,
(518) 427-8207

Troy Outpatient Clinic: 1724 5th Avenue, Troy, NY 12180,
(518) 272-3918

Hope House outpatient clinics are in the Capital Region of New York State and are licensed by Office of Addiction Services and Supports to provide substance use disorder treatment. Licensed and credentialed staff provide treatment through **medication assisted treatment (MAT)**, mental health support for individuals with co-occurring issues, individual and group therapy, peer support services and continuing care.

Pearl Street Counseling Center

109 State St., Albany NY 12207
(518) 462-4320

Pearl Street Counseling Center provides drug and alcohol counseling for individuals and families, as well as referrals to attorneys and court professionals and **DWI/DUI evaluations and assistance**. Services are provided on a sliding payment scale and Medicaid is accepted.

Senior Hope Counseling Inc.

650 Warren St. Albany, NY 12208
Telephone: (518) 489-7777

Seniorhope.org

Specifically designed for older adults experiencing substance use disorders, Senior Hope provides a range of services including assessment and evaluation, case management and referrals to resources, individual and family counseling, support groups, and **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**.

TASC of the Capital District, Inc

1801 6th Avenue, Suite 205 Troy, NY 12180

518-465-1455

Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) of the Capital District provides alternatives to incarceration (ATI) services to reduce detention and recidivism as well as promote safer communities. This program primarily serves people with felony offenses and/or parole violations who need substance use treatment. Services provided include referrals and linkages to care, advocacy within court and social services systems, case management, and case support in collaboration with other providers.

Eleanor Young Outpatient Clinic (EYOC)

34 Franklin Street, Albany, NY 12202

(518) 465-8034

<https://www.pyhit.org/programs>

The Eleanor Young Outpatient Clinic is part of Peter G. Young Housing, Industry and Treatment, Inc., which operates multiple programs for individuals with a wide range of needs in the Capital Region. At the EYOC, individuals with substance use disorders can find support with individual and group counseling, **DWI/DUI assessments and treatment, medication assisted treatment (MAT)**, dual mental health/substance use services, and medication management.

Whitney Young Health, Inc

Multiple locations throughout the Capital Region

(518) 465-4771

<https://www.wmyhealth.org/services/substance-use-disorder-treatment/>

Whitney Young Health operates several medical clinics and community health programs throughout the Capital Region, including provision of **medication assisted treatment (MAT)** and outpatient counseling for substance use disorders.

Trinity Alliance Community Oriented Recovery and Empowerment (CORE) Services

15 Trinity Place, Albany NY 12202

518-449-5155 ext. 126

Trinityalliancealbany.org/core

CORE Services provide opportunities for eligible adult Medicaid beneficiaries with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders to receive services in their own home or community to support them build skills and self-efficacy that promote and facilitate community

participation and independence. Referrals can come from Adult Health Homes, Unity House, Alliance for Positive Health, Catholic Charities, Whitney Young, etc. For self-referral, participants should contact their Medicaid Health and Recovery Plan or Behavioral Health service provider.

Conifer Park Outpatient Clinic

2435 6th Avenue Troy, NY 12180

(518) 274-5143

www.coniferpark.com

Conifer Park offers outpatient treatment at six clinics which operate under licenses granted by New York State OASAS. Outpatient centers offer a full array of services which include both gender-specific, teen programming, and Medication assisted treatment. Each outpatient site offers psychiatric services to facilitate a well-integrated recovery program for clients. These clinics provide a continuum of treatment for clients making the transition home from inpatient treatment or who are seeking support on an as-needed basis.

Supportive Housing

New Choices Recovery Center

728 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12307

(518) 346-4436

info@newchoicesrecovery.org

New Choices provides a variety of residential services including permanent supportive housing and community reintegration residences.

Bette Center (a division of Hope House)

261 North Pearl Street Albany, NY 12207

(518) 465-2441

Admissions line: (518) 486-8972

Hope House Inc.'s Bette Center is an Office of Addiction Services and Supports licensed reintegration residential program. This is a program designed to assist young adult and adult males to reintegrate back into their community. Case management and group services are provided to assist with developing independent living skills. This program helps men to connect with community services, which include substance use outpatient, mental health, medical, sober supports, education and/or vocational services. The Bette Center has an on-site recreation room and large backyard with a basketball court. The program is person centered and staff recognize that each person is at a different place in their

recovery journey. Staff help residents to achieve the next step from residential support to some form of independent living.

Hope House Women and Children's Program

890 Madison Avenue Albany, NY 12208

(518) 453-8351

Admissions line: (518) 486-8972

The Women and Children's Program is a Community Residence providing a confidential, safe, supportive, and substance-free "halfway house" setting where women ages 18 and up can maintain sobriety while achieving their individual goals of self-sufficiency and family reunification. At the Women and Children's Program, services are provided to individual women as well as mothers with children or women who are pregnant. Priority is given to pregnant women who were intravenous drug users. Mothers can bring up to two children under the age of 9, census permitting. In addition to the specialized services that are provided in the program, the women are also enrolled in outpatient treatment where they receive individual and group counseling and can receive medication assisted treatment, educational/vocational counseling, and psychiatric care from a psychiatric nurse practitioner.

The Next Step Supportive Living (a division of Hope House)

2 Holland Ave. Albany, NY 12209

(518) 465-5249

Admissions line: (518) 486-8972

Hope House's The Next Step (TNS) has been in operation since 1975 and is a safe and nurturing place for women to recover from addiction. Our program strives to empower women with substance use disorders to begin a process of recovery through an individualized continuum of intensive residential treatment and supportive living services.

TNS addresses substance use disorders as a primary, chronic, and progressive disease affecting the body, mind, and spirit of an individual. Treatment is tailored to meet the unique needs of women suffering from substance use disorders by helping them gain the knowledge and skills to move forward with their lives. Women referred to our program receive a comprehensive evaluation to determine individual treatment needs that may include **medication assisted treatment (MAT)**. TNS offers two levels of care--the intensive residential treatment program in a comfortable environment in which women can feel supported in warm and homey surroundings. TNS also offers a supportive living program in which women ready for more independent living reside in one of three apartments in the local community.

Hope House Elizabeth House (a division of Hope House)

106-109 Ninth Street Troy, NY 12180

(518) 272-0206

Admissions line: (518) 486-8972

Hope House Elizabeth House is a community residence for women. The program individualizes treatment and discharge planning. Elizabeth House creates a safe, supportive and structured environment for the women to be able to focus on their recovery and emotional wellbeing. In addition to building recovery, staff work with residents to develop mental health stability and prioritize their medical health. They also encourage and support our residents to build overall wellness which includes sober leisure skills and activities, sober supports, improved family relationships, volunteering, and to explore educational options and vocational readiness.

Hope House Troy Men's Supportive Living

559-565 Sixth Ave. Troy, NY 12182

(518) 237-9891

Admissions line: (518) 486-8972

The Hope House Troy Men's Supportive Living program is a program designed for individuals who exhibit the skills and strengths necessary to maintain abstinence and readapt to independent living in the community while receiving the minimal clinical and peer support provided by this residential environment. Individuals participating in this level of care do not require twenty-four hour a day on-site supervision by clinical staff. Outpatient clinical services will be scheduled for at least one time per week and are designed to support residents in their efforts to maintain abstinence and reduce the probability of relapse.

Trinity Alliance Homer Perkins Center

15 Trinity Pl, Albany, NY 12202

(518) 436-1104

The 20 beds, OASAS Reintegration Residential Program for men 18+ of age, is available to NYS residents who are homeless and meet the admission criteria for this element of residential service. All persons admitted to Homer Perkins must be engaged in a OASAS Outpatient Substance Abuse Program. The program requires total abstinence from substances.

Harm Reduction Services

Project Safe Point

1-866-930-4999

(518) 449-3581

Operates syringe exchange programs throughout the Capital Region, as well as overdose prevention trainings and Naloxone distribution, and Hepatitis C and HIV screening. **Project Safe Point staff are also available to work with people who use drugs who are not ready and/or able to explore treatment options.**

Peer Support

Alcoholics Anonymous of the Greater Capital District

11 Computer Drive West, Suite 100 Albany NY, 12205

(518) 463-0906

Aaalbanyny.org

Provides assistance for people recovering from alcoholism through groups and peer support. Groups are held all over the Capital Region both in person and virtually. Information about specific meeting times and locations can be found on the website listed above.

Gamblers Anonymous

650 Warren St, Albany NY 12208

Albany Hotline Number: (518) 292-0414

www.gamblersanonymous.org

Similar to AA, Gamblers Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem. Information about meeting times and locations can be found on the website listed above.

Narcotics Anonymous

www.na.org

Similar to AA and GA, Narcotics Anonymous provides a 12-step framework for addiction recovery along with peer support through mentorship and group meetings. Information about local chapters and meeting times/locations can be found at the website listed above.

Rensselaer County Department of Mental Health Peer Engagement Specialist

(518)270-2857, (518) 925-8067

Jchapman@renesco.com

Provide support, encouragement and guidance in finding appropriate services to persons misusing substances and/or who are in recovery. The Peer Engagement Specialist develops brief service plans and provides referrals and linkages to needed services/supports. Peer Engagement Specialists are in Recovery, they have personal experience and expertise in addiction services. They tend to be especially effective with outreach and engagement of people who are struggling with recovery and/or have been reluctant to participate in services.

Second Chance Opportunities, Inc.

55 Colvin Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: 518-489-1929

Website: [HOME | SCOAlbany](#)

Second Chance Opportunities is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to providing supportive services to people in recovery from substance use disorder. Our mission is to bridge the gap between treatment and a life centered in Recovery.

Counseling (Mental Health and/or Substance Use)

Counseling services can be provided in a wide range of settings, from medical and mental health clinics to private practices. A good way to start finding services is to use your insurance provider's "Find a Provider" tool, which is usually easy to find on their website. **It is important to verify that you will be able to pay for your mental health treatment, either through insurance or out of pocket, by confirming with the mental health professional and your insurance company at the start of your treatment.** Many providers accept Medicaid with low or no copays, or provide sliding scale models to make their services available to all patients.

You can also search for therapists by zip code or city using the Psychology Today online database. If you choose this option, make sure the provider accepts your insurance. Find link below:

Psychology Today

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us>

Another good place to start is your county's resource guide for mental health services, which will information about crisis services as well as

contact information and referral processes for the region's largest providers of counseling services. Please find links below:

Albany County Community Resource Directory for Mental Health Services

<https://www.albanycounty.com/home/showpublisheddocument/1200/636986398798770000>.

Rensselaer County Guide to Mental Health and Addiction Services

<https://www.rensco.com/DocumentCenter/View/751/Your-Guide-to-Mental-Health-and-Addiction-Services-PDF>

Schenectady County Department of Community Services

<https://www.schenectadycounty.com/community-services>

Below, please find information for a number of counseling providers in the area. This list is by no means exhaustive, and more providers will be listed in the Psychology Today and insurance databases, but these are all reputable providers to contact for counseling.

Capital Counseling

650 Warren St #1, Albany, NY 12208

(518) 462-6531

Capitalcounseling.org

Capital Counseling also operates the Center for Problem Gambling, which provides multiple services related to recovery from gambling addiction.

Albany County Department of Mental Health

260 South Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12202

(518) 447-4668

SUNY Psychological Services Center

299 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

(518) 442-4900

Karner Psychological Associates

2280 Western Avenue, Guilderland, NY 12084

(518) 442-4900

Pinnacle Place Behavioral Health

1 Pinnacle Place, Albany, NY 12203

(518) 689-0244

Capital District Behavioral Health

20 Century Hill Drive, Suite 202 Latham, NY 12110
(518) 785-7283

Whitney Young Health Services

Multiple locations throughout the Capital Region
(518) 465-4771

Ellis Medicine Outpatient Mental Health Clinic

1101 Nott Street Schenectady NY 12308
(518) 243-3300

Addiction Care Center of Albany

90 McCarty Avenue, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 465-5470 Fax: (518) 427-0854

E-Mail: judibee@nycap.rr.com Website: www.theacca.net

Provides crisis center with detox services, community residences program with supervised housing for individuals in early stages of recovery, and an outpatient clinic for individual or group treatment services. Sliding scale fee is available based on income for individuals seeking services.

list of meetings in area for recovering alcoholics.

Alcoholics Anonymous of the Greater Capital District

11 Computer Drive West, Suite 100 Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518) 463-0906 Website: www.aaalbany.org

Provide support system for those individuals recovering in the community; list of meetings in area for recovering alcoholics.

Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Council of Schenectady County, Inc.

302 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 346-4436 Fax: (518) 346-3522

Website: www.newchoicesrecovery.org

Alcoholism and Substance Abuse services including: outpatient clinic, intensive module, community residences, information and referral.

Bette Center (A division of Hope House Inc.)

261 N. Pearl Street, Albany NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 465-2441

Website: www.hopehouseinc.org/our-programs

Long-term intensive treatment program for both men and women.

Bridge Center of Schenectady Inc.

600 Franklin Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 346-1277 Fax: (518) 346-1152

Website: www.bridgerehabcenters.com

Residential treatment program for those suffering from drug related problems. Designed to help each resident establish appropriate living skills as an alternative to abuse and dependence on drugs.

Carver Community Counseling Services

846 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12307

Telephone: (518) 382-7838 Fax: (518) 382-1641

Website: www.carvercommunitycenter.org

Provides outpatient treatment services for substance abusers and their families through orientation, addiction education and recovery maintenance. Program also sponsors “El Puente,” a bilingual speaking facility that provides necessary drug and alcohol services to the Hispanic population in the area. Fee for services may be paid by Medicaid or on a sliding scale.

The Addictions Care Center Outpatient Clinic

90 McCarty Avenue, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 434-2367 Fax: (518) 434-2372

Website: www.theacca.net

Mailing address: 90 McCarty Avenue Albany, NY 12202

CDCC provides around-the-clock medically monitored withdrawal services and extended care beds for those completing detoxification services in a non- hospital setting with trained medical staff 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Serves all, regardless of ability to pay.

The Alliance for Positive Health

927 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 434-4686

Website: [Addiction - Alliance for Positive Health](#)

Gamblers Anonymous

650 Warren Street, Albany, NY 12208

Albany Hotline Number: (518) 292-0414

Website: www.gamblersanonymous.org

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem.

Hope House, Inc.

573 Livingston Ave, Albany NY 12206

To get Help: (518) 427-5998 Fax: (518) 482-0873

To get Help: (518) 482-4673

Website: www.hopehouseinc.org

Provides a wide array of inpatient and outpatient substance abuse and mental health services for adults and youth. Fees are based on a sliding scale dependent on income.

- Intensive Case Management- Links a client with an individual case manager who is assigned to help the client negotiate everyday living, so they are better able to focus on treatment.
- Shelter Plus Care- Provides assistance to eligible clients with living arrangements including finding suitable and safe housing. The State provides necessary security deposits and provides some financial support until clients are able to get on their feet.

The Hubbard Center (A division of Hope House Inc.)

573 Livingston Avenue, Albany NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 452-0001 (boys)

Telephone: (518) 486-8965 (coed)

Website: www.hopehouseinc.org/our-programs

A highly structured, residential environment providing long-term intensive individual, group and family therapy to chemically dependent adolescents between the ages of 12 and 21.

Hudson-Mohawk Recovery Center

Troy Location: 1724 Fifth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 272-3918 Fax: (518) 272-6391

East Greenbush Location: 743 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush, NY 12061 Telephone: (518) 477-7535 Fax: (518) 477-7555 Website: www.hmrecovery.net

Provides outpatient rehabilitative services for alcohol abusers, chemically dependent persons, and family members of substance abusers. Service fees are based on sliding scale or Medicaid coverage. No one is denied services based upon inability to pay. Grant money available for reimbursement of childcare fees while attending treatment services, including full time day care if client is participating in the day treatment program

Outpatient Services

Comprehensive evaluations for individuals & family members seeking services for a substance abuse problem. Evaluations also provided for individuals referred by a Court, Drinking Driving Program or DMV or other service providers.

Individual Counseling: Offered on a weekly or biweekly basis as an adjunct to group counseling or as a primary mode of treatment.

Group Counseling: A variety of groups are offered on a weekly basis focusing on the various stages of abuse/dependency and recovery.

Family Counseling: Services for couples and family members provided by Master Level clinicians.

Crisis Walk in Services: Counselors are available to handle emergency walk in or crisis calls.

Day Treatment: The Day Treatment program is a 5x/week; 5 hours/day program with a referral for after-care services is available at the Troy clinic. The program has a vocational counselor on site to assist clients with resume writing, job hunting and referrals for continuing education and/or vocational training.

Adolescent Services: Individual and group services available 12 times/week dependent upon clinical need. Motivational Enhancement and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy evidence-based models of treatment. Adolescent Services Include: Comprehensive evaluation; Individual and group services using an evidence based 12 session curricula; Motivational Enhancement; Psychiatric assessment for those experiencing cooccurring mental health problems.

- Family Services Include: Parent/guardian involvement with the adolescent's evaluation and treatment; Assessment of the substance use and mental health status of parents/guardians and other family members as appropriate; Assessment of family functioning based on seven universal clinical parameters, Parenting Group

Residential Services:

Hudson-Mohawk Recovery Services - Supportive Living for

Men

559-565 Sixth Avenue Troy, NY 12182

Phone: (518) 237-9891

Chemical Dependence Supportive Housing, designed to promote independent living, for individuals who require a long-term supportive environment or need a transitional living environment. Sobriety and completion of prior treatment required.

- Services Include: Guidance in financial management; Weekly in-house support groups; Weekly case management; and Vocational / employment assistance

Elizabeth's House for Women

105-108 Ninth Street in Troy, NY

Phone: (518) 272-0206/FAX: (518) 272-0208

Elizabeth's House is a community residence for women age 18 and older who are seeking recovery from alcohol and other drugs.

HMRC offers services that are tailored specifically for individuals and families. Taking care of the "whole person" is the foundation of our philosophy. This holistic approach addresses the medical, familial, social, housing, vocational/educational and legal needs of everyone.

Specialized Services

- PAT Program: Probation Alcohol Treatment program for multiple DWI offenders who are on Probation in Rensselaer County. This program is done jointly with the Rensselaer County Probation Department. Available in the Troy and East Greenbush clinics.

- Evening Intensive Program: 3x/week, 3 hours/night program followed by an aftercare group. For individuals who are employed or in school but need intensive treatment to maintain abstinence. Available at the Troy clinic.
- Adolescent Program: The Center offers education/identification groups and discussion groups (1-2 x/week) for adolescents. Weekly individual/family sessions and a parenting group are also offered. Available the Troy, East Greenbush and Hoosick Falls sites.
- Women's Group: Gender specific services for women seeking sobriety, group and individual sessions offer an opportunity to address issues which trigger substance use. Available at the Troy and East Greenbush clinics.
- Vocational Services: Staff on site from Northeast Career Planning to assist with the assessment and development of vocational skills, referrals to educational programs, vocational training and job placement.

Gambling Treatment and Recovery Services

Hudson Mohawk Recovery Center offers Problem Gambling Treatment and Recovery Services to assist individuals who are affected by problem gambling including family members and/or significant others. Contact the East Greenbush office at 518-477-7535 for more information.

Services include: Screening; Evaluation; Individual and Group Counseling; Educational Services on Problem and Pathological Gambling; Relapse Prevention Services; Family Services; and Referrals for Financial Counseling. These services may be provided as alone or in conjunction with substance abuse services.

Educational Programs

Project Save Drinking Driving Program: The Drinking Driver Program (DDP) is held in conjunction with the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles. It is a 7-week educational program for individuals convicted of drinking and driving or driving under the influence of other drugs. Enrollment into the program is done at the Driver Improvement Bureau of the NYS Motor Vehicle

Department in Albany. There is a \$225 fee for the Drinking Driving Program established by NYS DMV. Participants are required to pay the fee, attend all classes and follow through with any referrals made in order to successfully complete the Drinking Driving Program.

Batterers' Intervention Program: This is a 52-week, educational program for male perpetrators of domestic violence. The program curriculum is based on an individual accepting responsibility for his behavior and to be accountable in learning alternatives to coercive and controlling tactics and other abusive behaviors. This is not an anger management program. All individuals are required to pay a program fee which is based on income.

24 Hour Narcotics Assistance Hotline
1-844-287-0813

Narcotics Anonymous
Website: www.na.org

New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services

1450 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203-3526

Telephone: 518-473-3460 Website: www.oasas.ny.gov

Find a Treatment Provider: www.oasas.ny.gov/accesshelp

The New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) oversees one of the nation's largest addiction services systems with nearly 1,600 prevention, treatment, and recovery programs. OASAS chemical dependence treatment programs assist about 100,000 people a day and approximately 240,000 individuals every year.

- OASAS: Provides accessible, cost-effective quality services; Strengthens communities, schools, and families through prevention; Improves lives through treatment; Meets individual needs through specialized services; and Provides hope for happier, productive lives

NYS HOPELINE/NYCPG
100 Great Oaks Blvd. Suite 104 Albany, NY 12203
Telephone: 518-867-4084
24 Hour Hotline 1-877-846-7369
Website: www.nyproblemgambling.org

The NYS HOPE line is a telephone support and referral line that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Trained masters level clinicians are available to answer your questions and help find you problem gambling treatment and/ or self-help in your area. All calls are confidential.

Outpatient Clinic (A division of Hope House Inc.)
747 Madison Avenue, Albany NY 12208
Telephone: (518) 427-8207
Website: www.hopehouseinc.org/our-programs

Comprehensive evaluation, referral and treatment services for persons with substance abuse issues.

Pearl Street Counseling
109 State Street, Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 462-4320
Website: www.pearlcounseling.org

Provides an outpatient substance abuse treatment center on a sliding scale based on income. Offers group, individual, and family treatment.

Pride Center of the Capital District
332 Hudson Avenue, Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 462-6138 Fax: (518) 462-2101
Website: www.capitalpridecenter.org

Promoting the well-being of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer identified people and those affected by discrimination based on gender identity and expression. Services include:

- Center Youth (for teens): Albany LGBTQ Youth Peer Support Group, Schenectady LGBTQ Youth Peer Support Group, Advocacy Opportunities for Youth, Healthy Social Opportunities, Center Youth Action Team.
- Center Support: The Access Pride Project: Resources and Referrals, Rainbow Drop-in Café (Open: 6-9 p.m. Sat-Wed & 9-10p.m. Thu & Fri), Peer Support Groups, Center Counseling Services, Capital Region LGBT Mental Health and Substance Abuse Network and Recovery Groups hosted at the Center: Overeaters Anonymous and Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous - All Genders, Overeaters Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous - Men Only, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous

Senior Hope Counseling Inc.

650 Warren St. Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 489-7777 Fax: (518) 489-7771

Website: www.seniorhope.org

Senior Hope is a non-profit organization, licensed by New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services for persons 50 and older. Senior Hope is a non-profit organization, licensed by New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services for persons 50 and older. Clinic Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Call for an appointment/leave a message: (518) 489-7777. Services: Evaluation & Assessment, Case management & referral, Individual & Family Counseling, Specialized group sessions, Weekly AA meetings.

Trinity Alliance-Homer Perkins Center

15 Trinity Pl, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 436-1104 Fax: (518) 436-1156

A 6 to 12-month residential drug and alcohol abuse treatment facility serving an adult population. Program follows a 12-step model. Fee is based on a sliding scale depending on income.

Whitney M. Young, Jr. Health Center

Albany: 920 Lark Drive, Albany, NY 12207 Telephone:

(518) 465-4771

Medical Records Dept. Fax: (518) 432-3632
Methadone Maintenance Telephone: (518) 463-3882
Fax: (518) 455-8806

Troy: 6 102nd Street, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 833-6900 Fax: (518) 833-6919
Website: www.wmyhealth.org

Provides substance abuse rehabilitation, outpatient treatment, buprenorphine (opiate addiction) and a methadone maintenance program. Fee is sliding scale based on income. Day and evening programs offered. Spanish speaking available.

Women and Children's Program (A division of Hope House Inc.)

890 Madison Avenue, Albany NY 12208
Telephone: (518) 453-8351
Website: www.hopehouseinc.org/our-programs

Provides a confidential, safe, supportive, substance-free halfway house setting for women ages 18 and up.

Mental Health

8



"Self-care is not selfish."

-Eleanor Brown

IMPORTANT: If you or a loved one are experiencing an urgent need for mental health services, please **call the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988** or visit your local Emergency Room. If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts or planning, please know that your life is precious and there are people who will want to listen and help if you reach out to the number above.

Mental Health

Inpatient Crisis Services

To be connected with inpatient treatment for a mental health crisis, please visit your local emergency room. From there, you will be connected with the appropriate supports according to your situation.

Crisis Services in the Community

988 Suicide and Crisis Hotline

Call or text 988

<https://988lifeline.org/>

The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States.

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention:

Capital Region – 518-791-1544

Community Hospice – 518-724-0200

Albany County Department of Mental Health Children’s Team – 518-447-4550

Capital District Psychiatric Center (CDPC)

75 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY 12208

(518) 447-9611

www.omh.ny.gov/omhweb/facilities/cdpc/

Provides inpatient psychiatric treatment and rehabilitation, and outpatient treatment services for children, adolescents, and adults. CDPC also operates three adult community residences.

Albany County Mobile Crisis Team

75 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

(518) 549-6500

<https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/mental-health>

Jointly sponsored by the Albany County Department of Mental Health and CDPC, serving persons in mental or emotional distress in Albany County. Trained social workers will arrive at your location in the community to provide services to individuals experiencing mental health crises. Mobile Crisis Social workers may call on police for support at their discretion. Sliding scale fees.

National Alliance on Mental Health in NYS (NAMI) – 1-800-950-3228

Offers support groups, mental health education, and the NAMI Helpline (1-800-950-6264)

24/7 crisis support via text with a trained crisis counselor (text NAMI to 741-741)

Case Management and Residential Programs

Equinox, Inc.

500 Central Ave., Albany NY 12206

(518) 435-9931, press option 1

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

Equinox Mental Health Services are designed to enable those living with mental illness to move forward on their paths to recovery, healing, and independence. Mental Health Services are available to adults (18 years and older) and their families affected by serious mental illness. Their multi-faceted, holistic, and client-centered approach to treatment and recovery includes a range of outpatient services and residential options.

Rehabilitation Support Services (R.S.S.)

314 Central Avenue, Albany NY 12206

(518) 464-1511

www.rehab.org

Provides mental health services to adults with significant mental illness. Services include case management, outpatient mental health treatment, employment services, residential programs, medication, and care coordination. Services are available in 14 upstate counties, and vary according to county.

Unity House of Troy, Inc.

2431 Sixth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

(518) 274-2607

www.unityhousesny.org

24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: (518) 272-2370 (accepts collect calls).

Provides housing, case management, and counseling services for adults diagnosed with a mental illness, as well as crisis intervention, advocacy, skills teaching and support.

Albany County Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Program

175 Green Street, Albany NY 12202

(518) 447-4668

The ACT Program has been developed to serve high need, high priority individuals of Albany County with a unique and comprehensive approach to treatment. A mobile team delivers flexible treatment, rehabilitation, case management and support services to individuals with severe mental illness who may have co-occurring disorders and whose needs have not been well met by more traditional service delivery approaches.

Trinity Alliance Community Oriented Recovery and Empowerment (CORE) Services

15 Trinity Place, Albany NY 12202

518-449-5155 ext. 126

Trinityalliancealbany.org/core

CORE Services provide opportunities for eligible adult Medicaid beneficiaries with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders to receive services in their own home or community to support them build skills and self-efficacy that promote and facilitate community participation and independence. Referrals can come from Adult Health Homes, Unity House, Alliance for Positive Health, Catholic Charities, Whitney Young, etc. For self-referral, participants should contact their Medicaid Health and Recovery Plan or Behavioral Health service provider.

Schenectady County Community Services

797 Broadway, Suite 304, Schenectady, NY 12305

(518) 386-2218

<https://www.schenectadycounty.com/community-services>

Provides a single point of access (SPOA) for mental health and case management services within Schenectady County, as well as information and referrals to harm reduction and other substance use services.

Peer Support and LGBTQ+ Services

Capital Area Peer Services

354 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

(518) 427-5056

www.nycaps.org

CAREline (non-emergency hotline for peer support): 518-427-5056 x 115, 5pm-1am

CAPS is a peer-run agency that serves adults in the capital region of New York who are recovering from mental illnesses and uses the unique power of peer services to enhance recovery and self-empowerment. They also operate a drop-in center which provides social support, enrichment activities, hot dinner, clothing and household supplies, benefits counseling, and more. The drop-in center is open Monday-Saturday from 2-8pm, and Sunday and holidays from 12-6pm.

Pride Center of the Capital Region

332 Hudson Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

(518) 462-6138

www.capitalpridecenter.org

Promoting the well-being of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer identified people and those affected by discrimination based on gender identity and expression. Services include case management, support groups for LGBTQ+ people and youth, community events and social support, and advocacy and training within healthcare, mental health, and community organization settings.

In Our Own Voices (IOOV)

245 Lark Street, Albany, NY 12210

(518) 432-4188, info@inourownvoices.org

<https://ioov.org/>

In Our Own Voices provides a wide range of services specifically designed for LGBTQ+ people of color. Services include counseling and emotional support, advocacy, emergency assistance (e.g., food or financial assistance), support groups, referrals to other services/resources, and community events.

Mental Health Resources:

Albany County Mobile Crisis Team

75 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 549-6500 Fax: (518) 447-1858

Website: www.tinyurl.com/AlbanyDOH

Jointly sponsored by the Albany County Department of Mental Health and CDPC, serving persons in mental or emotional distress in Albany County. Sliding scale fees.

Capital Area Peer Services

354 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 427-5056 Fax: (518) 427-5059

Website: www.nycaps.org

Provides residential assistance, drop-in center & peer support for individuals who are mentally ill. Also provides a confidential peer-run support group and referral.

Capital District Psychiatric Center (CDPC)

75 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 447-9611

Website: www.omh.ny.gov/omhweb/facilities/cdpc/

Provides inpatient psychiatric treatment and rehabilitation, and outpatient treatment services for children, adolescents, and adults. CDPC also operates three adult community residences.

Clearview Center/Equinox
500 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 435-9931 Fax: (518) 435-9937

Website: www.equinoxinc.org/page/mental-health-services25.html

Provides free or low-cost services to individuals with serious mental illness. Services include residential, clinical outpatient, rehabilitation, case management and family support.

Counseling Care and Services, Inc.

405 Vliet Blvd., Cohoes, NY 12047

Telephone: (518) 237-4263

Website: www.counselingcareandservices.org

Counseling for individuals, couples and families on issues related to emotional adjustment, anger management, stressed relationships. Services are provided on a sliding scale based on income.

New York State Dept. of Labor Disability Resource
Coordinator

Website: www.labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/dpn_dei.shtm

Provides assistance for persons with disabilities in the form of referrals to medical and mental health agencies. Offers job placement and assistance.

- Albany County
175 Central Ave, Albany, NY 12206 Telephone:
(518) 462-7600
- Schenectady County
797 Broadway, Schenectady, NY 12305 Telephone:
(518) 344-2771
- Rensselaer County
Ned Pattison Building, 1600 7th Ave, 4th Floor,
Troy, NY 12180 Telephone: (518) 270-2611

Family & Children Service of Schenectady

246 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 393-1369 Fax: (518) 393-3601

Website: www.familyandchildservice.com

A confidential setting where individuals and families can meet to resolve difficult problems. Provides counseling on a wide range of issues including marital or couple relationships, parent/child relationships, anger management, stress and anxiety, depression, and domestic violence. Fees are determined by gross income, family size and insurance coverage

Koinonia Health Care

553 Clinton Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 689- 0282 Fax: (518) 689-0283

Located at the Capital Region Prayer and Healing Center, their staff offers comprehensive primary and mental health care. The center incorporates conventional methods of healing and prayer.

Mental Health Empowerment Project, Inc.

3 Atrium Drive Suite 205, Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518) 434-1393 Website: www.mhepinc.org MHEP is a non-profit organization organized to develop and strengthen self- help and mutual support/recovery activities throughout New

York State and other States for recipients of mental health services.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Telephone: 1(800) 273-8255

Website: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

A national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Rehabilitation Support Services (R.S.S.)

5172 Western Turnpike, Altamont, NY, 12209

Telephone: (518) 464-1511 Fax: (518) 464-9198

Website: www.rehab.org

Provides mental health services to adults with major mental disorders. Services include residential programs, medication, and continuing treatment.

Unity House of Troy, Inc.

2431 Sixth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 274-2607 Fax: (518) 271-9687

Website: www.unityhouseny.org

24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: (518) 272-2370 (accepts collect calls). Provides housing, case management, and counseling services for adults diagnosed with a mental illness, as well as crisis intervention, advocacy, skills teaching and support.

University at Albany Psychological Services Center

299 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 442-4900 Website: www.albany.edu/psc/

Provides psychological services to children, adolescents and adults. Services include psychotherapy, personal and career counseling, and cognitive behavior therapy. Available to people throughout the Capital Region. Fees are based on a low-cost sliding scale from \$10-\$45 per visit

Counseling

9



"One of the most valuable things we can do to heal one another is listen to each other's stories."

-Rebecca Falls

Alcoholics Anonymous of the Greater Capital District
11 Computer Drive West, Suite 100, Albany, NY 12205
Telephone: (518) 463-0906
Email: chair@aaalbany.org Website: aaalbany.org/

Provides support system for those individuals recovering in the community. The monthly meeting, held at 6:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month at the Central Office, is open to anyone interested in becoming involved. The Office itself is open from 10:00AM to 6:00PM Monday through Friday and Saturday from noon to 4:00PM. The Office is closed on Sundays. Daytime volunteers answer the phone at the Office during two shifts (10:00AM to 2:00PM and 2:00PM to 6:00PM). At the end of the second shift and on Sundays, the phone is forwarded to a “Night Owl” who is responsible for answering calls until the next shift. This ensures that incoming phone calls are always answered by an AA member, 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week.

Capital Counseling

650 Warren St, Albany, NY 12208

Main Office: (518) 462-6531 Fax: (518) 462-0181

Crisis or Emergencies: 911 or 1-800-273-TALK (8255) Website:
www.capitalcounseling.org

Capital Counseling is one of the oldest continuously operating non-profit agencies in America. Founded in 1813, the organization has a long, varied, and rich history of community service and social activism.

Center for Problem Gambling provides counseling and support services to individuals who need help with their gambling problem. Treatment is confidential and provided regardless of a person’s ability to pay. Our gambling counselors have significant experience working with problem gambling and include therapists who are Nationally Certified Gambling Counselors.

- Individual counseling
- Gambling recovery groups
- Couples and family counseling
- Support groups for significant others
- Outreach and education
- Gamblers Anonymous (GA) meetings

Community Care Outreach program from Capital Counseling provides screening and counseling services to low-income individuals ages 19 and above who are unable to get coverage from state and federally funded programs such as Medicaid, and who are ineligible or cannot afford the cost of other health insurance.

- No referrals are required
- There is no cost and no co-pays
- Minimal enrollment requirements
- You must be a resident of the Greater Capital Region
- You must be over 19 years old
- You are not eligible for Medicaid or NY Family Health Plus
- You have no insurance through an employer or Healthy New York
- Your household income does not exceed the eligibility guidelines.

For qualifications, call (518) 462-6531 to schedule a consultation.

Circles of Mercy

11 Washington Street, Rensselaer, NY 12144

Telephone: (518) 462-0899 Fax: (518) 462-2892

Website: www.circlesofmercy.org

Programs provided: weekly support group, parenting classes, and computer training.

Equinox

102 Hackett Blvd, Albany, NY 12209

Telephone: (518) 434-6135

Website: www.equinoxinc.org

Offers affordable, confidential counseling services that specialize in a variety of issues related to drug abuse, such as relapse prevention, anger management, sexual abuse, relationships, sexuality, cultural and ethnic issues, job retention, stress management, domestic violence, and Adult Children of Alcoholics. Also offers housing resources.

Website: www.allianceforpositivehealth.org/programservices

Reentry support can help with job training, placement & education, staying alcohol and drug free, assistance for housing, family support, support with parole and ongoing support for up to 18 months following release. GTC will also provide transitional planning prior to release and follow-up during reintegration. Provides pre- and post-release mentorship individually and in small group settings. To qualify: your release date must be in less than 6 months, and you are returning to Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, and Columbia County.

Mental Health Empowerment Project, Inc.

3 Atrium Drive Suite 205, Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518) 434-1393 Website: www.mhepinc.org

MHEP is a non-profit organization organized to develop and strengthen self-help and mutual support/recovery activities throughout New York State and other states for recipients of mental health services.

Mediation Matters

10 Russell Road 2nd Floor, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 446-0356 Fax: (518) 446-0379

Website: www.mediationmatters.org/

Provides an alternative approach to court for solving disagreements. Both parties must agree to take part in mediation. Types of issues include family problems, landlord/tenant disputes, consumer/merchant disagreements, employer/employee conflicts, personal/real property issues, small claims, special education and school issues, and victim/offender mediation. Services include counseling and mediation, helps settle disputes.

New York Council on Problem Gambling

100 Great Oaks Blvd. Suite 126, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 867-4084 Fax: (518) 867-4087

NYS HOPELINE: 1-877-8-HOPENY (461369)

Website: www.nyproblemgambling.org

Email: council@ny.problemgambling.org

Dedicated to increasing public awareness about problem and compulsive gambling and advocating for support services and treatment those affected.

Pride Center of the Capital District
332 Hudson Avenue, Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 462-6138 Fax: (518) 462-2101
Website: www.capitalpridecenter.org
Email: info@capitalpridecenter.org

Promoting the well-being of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer identified people and those affected by discrimination based on gender identity and expression. Services include:

- Center Youth (for teens): Albany LGBTQ Youth Peer Support Group, Schenectady LGBTQ Youth Peer Support Group, and Advocacy Opportunities for Youth, Healthy Social Opportunities, and Center Youth Action Team.
- Center Support: The Access Pride Project: Resources and Referrals, Rainbow Drop-in Café (Open: 6-9pm Sat-Wed & 910pm Thu & Fri), Peer Support Groups, Center Counseling Services, Capital Region LGBT Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Network and Recovery

Prison Action Network
P.O. Box 6355 Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 253-7533
Web-blog: www.correctionalassociation.org
Educational and advocacy organization that educates people about conditions of incarceration and works to support legislation that will help.

Psychological Services Center
299 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 442-4900 Website: www.albany.edu/psc Offers low-cost sliding scale, mental health and career counseling and psychotherapy to all ages including individuals and couples' therapy; as well as learning disability, ADHD, intelligence, neuropsychological, and personality assessment. Fees are assessed on a sliding scale from \$10-\$45, based on income.

ROOTS/Trinity Alliance
15 Trinity Place, Albany, NY 12202
Text: (518) 268-8029/e-mail: a.morris@ta-cr.org
Email: info@rootsinc.net Website: www.rootsinc.net

Re-entry Opportunities and Orientation Towards Success. An informal organization of successful, previously incarcerated individuals who provide information and support to people returning to the Capital District from prison. Provides re-entry orientation meetings and employment workshops.

Prison Families of New York, Inc.

40 N. Main Avenue, Ste. 4, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone (518) 453-6659 Fax: (518) 453-6792

Website: www.prisonministry.net/PFNY

Provides a free and confidential weekly support group for families, friends, and persons formerly convicted to assist with troubleshooting prison family problems. Sets up support groups in other areas of the state & provides linkages between agencies, churches, ministries, and other prison family advocacy organizations.

Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center

452 Clinton Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 465-2416 Fax: (518) 465-4459

Website: www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/adult-rehabilitation

A residential substance abuse treatment program that incorporates a “work- therapy” program. If applicant has a parole or probation officer, the staff can forward progress reports. Program is free for the beneficiary, however if the applicant does have an income (i.e. SSI, unemployment, etc.) a percentage will be deducted on a sliding scale basis.

Treatment Alternatives for Street Crimes – TASC

251 River Street, Suite 302 Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 465-1455 Fax: (518) 465-1842

Website: www.tascofthecapitaldistrict.org

Serves primarily felony offenders and parole violators who are in need of alcohol and for drug rehabilitation. Operates the Drug Court in Rensselaer County and a small transitional residence at the same address. Screens for alcohol & substance abuse problems, prepares written treatment plans and ensures that clients with treatment conditions comply with court orders.

T.H.E. Program, Peter G. Young Housing, Industry and Treatment, Inc.

Eleanor Young Outpatient Clinic

134 Franklin Street, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 465-8034 Fax: (518) 465-6632

Website: www.pyhit.com

Programs are designed to assist criminal justice clients affected by substance abuse. Multiple programs located throughout upstate New York provide treatment, housing, employment training and alternatives to incarceration.

Mediation and Conflict Resolution Resources

Mediation is a voluntary, private, informal and confidential process that brings together disputing parties in order to define the issues and reach solutions. It is a free or low-cost alternative to litigation in which a trained, neutral third-party resolves disputes through a structured negotiation process. Mediation services are used for individual, group, family, neighborhood, landlord-tenant and business-related disputes.

Center for Community Justice

144 Barrett St., Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 346-1281 Fax: (518) 346-1311

Website: www.theccj.org

Provides programs that help people through a crisis in their lives, including a Job Training program and access to programs that serve as a better alternative to incarceration in addition to providing services that help meet the needs of children in our community.

Community Dispute Settlement

Troy Area United Ministries, 392 2nd St., Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 274-5920 Fax: (518) 271-1909

Website: www.taum.org

Offers free or low-cost mediation services as a way of settling disputes or conflicts. Trained, neutral mediators assist individuals and groups in discussing issues and agreeing to mutually acceptable solutions. Limited to residents of Rensselaer County. Part of a statewide network of mediation centers funded in part by

the New York State Unified Court System, and a program of Troy Area United Ministries (TAUM).

Mediation Matters

10 Russell Road 2nd Floor, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 446-0356 Fax: (518) 446-0379

Website: www.mediationmatters.org

Provides an alternative approach to court for solving disagreements. Both parties must agree to take part in mediation. Types of issues include family problems, landlord/tenant disputes, consumer/merchant disagreements, employer/employee conflicts, personal/real property issues, small claims, special education and school issues, and victim/offender mediation.

Finding a Job

10



*"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."
-Milton Berle*

Employment Discrimination and Job Information

Employment Discrimination Law in General

There is no federal statute designed to specifically protect people with criminal convictions from employment discrimination. However, policies that specifically deny people jobs on the basis of arrests, without conviction, or policies that automatically bar those with a criminal record from employment, are illegal under federal civil rights laws. Since ethnic minorities are arrested and convicted at a greater rate than whites, courts have found that these policies have a racially discriminatory effect. Therefore, in some cases a refusal to hire on the basis of a criminal record may be illegal race discrimination under federal law.

New York State has two laws that protect persons with criminal records from discrimination by employers and occupational licensing agencies: Article 23- A of the Correction Law (§§750-755) and the Human Rights Law (Exec. L. §296(15), (16.))

Discrimination Based on Immigration

The Immigrant and Employee Rights Section (IER), enforces the anti-discrimination provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. § 1324b.

This federal law prohibits: 1) citizenship status discrimination in hiring, firing, or recruitment or referral for a fee, 2) national origin discrimination in hiring, firing, or recruitment or referral for a fee, 3) unfair documentary practices during the employment eligibility verification, Form I-9 and E-Verify, and 4) retaliation or intimidation.

If you feel you have suffered one of these forms of discrimination, [click here to file a charge](#) or call our Worker Hotline: 1-800-255-7688.

Discrimination Based on Arrest:

The New York State Human Rights Law prohibits public and private employers and occupational licensing agencies from denying (or otherwise discriminating against) any individual a job or license because of any arrest that did not result in conviction (Exec. L. §296(16.)). This law also makes it illegal for most

employers and licensing agencies to ask applicants to disclose or discuss any arrest that did not lead to conviction. The law does not apply to police or “peace officer” jobs.

Additionally, the Human Rights Law makes it illegal for employers to inquire about an applicant’s disabilities, including his or her treatment for alcoholism or drug addiction.

Discrimination Based on Conviction

If you are applying for a job in a health care or childcare related field:

The Criminal History Background Check Law, as implemented by the Dept. Of Health (DOH), the Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) (and as used in conjunction with Article 23-A of the Corrections Law) took effect in April of ’05. Basically, this law allows DOH, OMH and OMRDD to screen applicants for certain enumerated felonies (mostly violent, but drug- related as well) committed within the past 10 years. These regulations only apply to applicants for jobs in the health care or childcare fields, for the purpose of “protecting” those in society who are “vulnerable” (patients in residential health care facilities, home care agencies, hospitals; kids in day care centers, etc.). The regulations for each of these three agencies differ slightly, but it is important to know that if you are rejected from a job based on a prior felony discovered through the criminal background check process, **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL** (i.e., to seek reconsideration either formally or informally). An excellent document to have in this situation is a Certificate of Relief from Disabilities or a Certificate of Good Conduct. Additional information can be found at www.health.state.ny.us.

There is no federal statute designed to specifically protect people with criminal convictions from employment discrimination. However, policies that specifically deny people jobs based on arrests, without conviction, or policies that automatically bar those with a criminal record from employment, are illegal under federal civil rights laws. Since ethnic minorities are arrested and convicted at a greater rate than whites, courts have found that these policies have a racially discriminatory effect. Therefore, in some cases a refusal to hire based on a criminal record may be illegal race discrimination

under federal law. New York State has two laws that protect persons with criminal records from discrimination by employers and occupational licensing agencies: Article 23- A of the Correction Law (§§750-755) and the Human Rights Law (Exec. L. §296(15), (16.))

Information for all job applicants:

Although it is legal for employers and licensing agencies to ask individuals about past convictions for criminal offenses, Article 23-A of the Correction Law (§§750-755) protects people from being unfairly denied jobs or occupational licenses solely because of criminal convictions. This law, which applies to all New York State occupational licensing authorities, public employers (except for positions involving members of law enforcement agencies), and private employers of more than 10 employees, makes it illegal to deny any person a job or license because of his or her past conviction(s) unless that person's conviction(s) are "directly related" to the job in question, or hiring or licensing that person would create an "unreasonable risk" to the safety of people or property.

The factors which must be considered in determining job relatedness and risk to the public and to property include:

1. New York's public policy to encourage the licensing and employment of persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses; the specific duties and responsibilities necessary to the license or employment being applied for, and the bearing, if any, that a person's criminal history will have on his or her fitness to perform these duties and responsibilities.
2. The time which has elapsed since the person's criminal conduct, and the person's age at the time of its occurrence;
3. The seriousness of the individual's offense or offenses;
4. The legitimate interest of the employer or licensing agency in protecting property, specific persons, or the general public; and
5. Any evidence of rehabilitation that a person with a criminal history presents, including a Certificate

Relief from Disabilities or Certificate of Good Conduct.

Whether a particular conviction is “job-related” must be determined on a case-by-case basis. The meaning of “job related” and standards for implementing the law are still being developed. However, New York law does offer persons with a criminal conviction(s) protection against arbitrary discrimination.

Illegal Pre-Employment Inquiries

The Federal Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the New York State Human Rights Law all limit the kinds of pre-employment inquiries an employer can make about an applicant’s current or former disability (this includes pregnancy and parenthood). Employers may not ask job applicants about whether they have or had a disability or about the nature or severity of a disability before a job offer is made. An employer may only ask questions about whether an applicant can perform the duties of the job prior to making an offer of employment.

The Rehabilitation Act’s and the ADA’s definition of a “disability” includes a history of alcohol or drug dependence and HIV/AIDS. Therefore, questions relating to these issues (ex.: “Are you infected with HIV?” or “Do you have a drug problem?”) are illegal pre-employment inquiries covered under these federal laws.

Pre-employment medical examinations are also prohibited by these federal laws. However, after making a job offer to an individual, an employer may make medical inquiries and/or require the individual to undergo a medical examination before beginning work; and the employer may condition the job offer on the satisfactory results of such medical examinations or inquiries. However, this information may not be used in a discriminatory manner by the employer.

The ADA explicitly provides that a drug test (such as a urinalysis) is not a medical examination. This means that employers may require job applicants to undergo pre-employment drug tests and may require employees to submit to drug tests without violating the ADA (although other laws may govern whether and when such testing by employers is permitted). However, if a drug test reveals information about an applicant’s or employee’s disability

(for instance, a test may reveal an individual's participation in methadone treatment and, thus, his history of heroin addiction), it is illegal for the employer to use this information in a discriminatory manner. On the other hand, a test to detect alcohol use is considered a medical examination under the ADA.

Once the applicant has been accepted for employment, the employer may ask about disabilities. This information, however, must not be used in a discriminatory manner when making promotions or other employment decisions.

Incentives for Employers:

Tax Credits Available for Hiring Those Previously Incarcerated

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal tax credit available to employers upon the hiring of individuals from target groups. One of these target groups is economically disadvantaged persons previously incarcerated who are hired within one year of their conviction date or release from prison.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Section 113 of Division EE P.L. 116-260) authorized the extension of the WOTC until December 31, 2025.

How it works. It's Easy!

- Employers make the hiring decision
- There is no limit to the number of new hires who can qualify an employer for tax savings
- There is minimal paperwork needed to claim the tax credit Amount of the Credit

The Work Opportunities Tax Credit for hiring target groups other than veterans is up to \$2,400 for each new hire. The credit is 25% of qualified first-year wages for those employed at least 120 hours but fewer than 400 hours and 40% for those employed 400 hours (180 days) or more. Qualified wages are capped at \$6,000. To qualify, the new hire has been convicted of a felony and has a hiring date no more than one year after conviction.

How to Apply for WOTC (For further info, go to: [Work Opportunity Tax Credit | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#))

Employers must apply for and receive certification that their new hire qualifies as an economically disadvantaged ex-felon. To apply for certification, employers must:

1. Complete page one of the IRS Form 8850, “Prescreening Notice and Certification Request for the Work Opportunity and Welfare-to-Work Tax Credits,” by the date of the job offer, and
2. Complete page two of the IRS Form 8850 after the individual is hired. The employer may also need to complete one of the following documents, as appropriate:
 - a. ETA Form 9061, “Individual Characteristics Form,” if the new hire has not been given a conditional certification, or
 - b. ETA Form 9062, “Conditional Certification Form,” if provided to the job seeker by a participating agency.
3. Employers mail these forms to:

Department of Labor
State Office Campus Building 12, Room 200 Albany, NY 12240
Telephone: (518)457-6823 or 1-800-HIRE992 Fax:
(518)485-1815

Federal Bonding Program

The U.S. Department of Labor Federal Bonding Program provides individual fidelity bonds for job applicants who cannot be bonded by an employer’s private bonding company because of a record of arrest, conviction or imprisonment.

A fidelity bond insures employers against any loss resulting from an employee’s dishonesty. Because many employers will not hire people who are not bondable, the Federal Bonding Program allows people with criminal records to be bonded at no cost to the employer.

For more information, contact:

- United States Department of Labor at 1-866-4-USA-DOL
- New York State Department of Labor at (888) 209-8124

What You Can Do to Prevent or Address Employment or Licensing Discrimination, If You Have a Conviction Record:

Get a Copy of Your Rap Sheet

Make sure you get a copy of your criminal record (rap sheet). Your rap sheet contains information about arrests, arrest charges, convictions, sentences, and more. There are two reasons it's important to get a copy for yourself.

- You need to be able to present your conviction record accurately to prospective employers. If you have forgotten about a conviction or don't know the disposition of certain charges, a prospective employer may, once they obtain a copy of your records, reject you for misleading them, even when that was not your intention.
- Arrest and conviction records often contain errors and inaccurate information. It is possible that your rap sheet may contain duplicate entries, or erroneous and incomplete sentencing information. If this is the case, these errors need to be corrected as soon as possible.

Anyone in New York State can obtain their rap sheet by filing a formal "Request for Record Review" with the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) in Albany, along with a complete set of fingerprints and a \$62.25 fee (the fee can be waived if you can prove financial hardship). You can get the "Request for Record Review" form by writing, calling, or emailing DCJS at:

New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
Records Review Unit
4 Tower Place
Albany, NY 12203
Telephone: (518) 485-7675
Email: RecordReview@dcjs.state.ny.us

When you receive your rap sheet, a "Statement of Challenge" form will be included. This form can be used to ask DCJS to correct any mistakes or problems on the rap sheet.

Remove Statutory Bars with a Certificate of Rehabilitation

Under New York law, you can remove bars to employment and to eligibility for certain occupational licenses by obtaining a

Certificate of Rehabilitation. There are two types of Certificates of Rehabilitation: The Certificate of Relief from Disabilities, and the Certificate of Good Conduct.

1. Certificate of Relief from Disabilities
2. If you have only one felony and/or any number of misdemeanors, you may apply for a Certificate of Relief from Disabilities. To apply, contact the original court of conviction or the New York State Department of
3. Certificate of Good Conduct

If you have more than one felony, you may apply for a Certificate of Good Conduct.

To apply, For Certificates of Relief from Disabilities, you should apply to the court that sentenced you unless:

1. You were sentenced to a New York State (DOCCS) correctional facility, or
2. You were convicted in a federal court or a court in another state and you are now a resident of New York State.

Certificates in these cases are issued by the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS).

For Certificates of Good Conduct, you must apply to the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. Once you have decided which certificate you are eligible for, you should apply to the appropriate agency/location. If you are applying to the DOCCS, fill out and mail an application to DOCCS at

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY
SUPERVISION
ATTN: CERTIFICATE REVIEW UNIT
The Harriman State Campus – Building 2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12226-2050
(518) 485-8953

You can request an application by contacting DOCCS or you can download it at http://www.doccs.ny.gov/pdf/DOCCS-CRD-Application_Instructions.pdf

If you are applying to the sentencing court, you can get contact information from a telephone directory or at www.nycourts.gov. Do not submit the DOCCS application form to the sentencing court. Courts use a different application form.

Making a Complaint Against or to an Employer

To file a complaint against an employer, contact the New York State Division of Human Rights or consult an attorney regarding the possibility of filing a lawsuit in state or federal court.

You can send a letter to the Employer requesting a Copy of your Background Check and the Reason for Denial of Employment. A sample letter is available at <http://tinyurl.com/employerletter>

Get Help with Problems of Discrimination Based on Arrest or Conviction:

New York State Division of Human Rights

Agency Building 1, 2nd Floor

Empire State Plaza

Albany, NY 12220

Telephone: (518) 474-2705 or (518) 474-245707

Download Complaint form at:

<https://dhr.ny.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/complaint-form-fillin.pdf>

Legal Action Center

225 Varick Street, New York, NY 10014

Telephone: (212)243-1313/Fax: (212) 675-0286

Website: www.lac.org

Email: lacinfo@lac.org

Worker Protection Program at the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY

Telephone: Legal Line, M-F, 9am-5pm – 833-628-0087

Website: www.lasny.org

The Worker Protection Program at the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY provides free legal assistance for employment discrimination claims, wage claims, and workplace safety complaints.

Sealing Your Conviction Records

New York's sealing law, CPL 160.59, allows people who have been convicted in no more than two cases (only one of which can be a felony case) to apply to seal certain conviction(s) from New York, if it has been at least 10 years since their sentencing or release from jail or prison. Only certain convictions are eligible for sealing, and there are other requirements as well.

You may be eligible if:

You have been crime-free for at least 10 years since your conviction and/or release, and

You have 2 convictions or less on your criminal record. This means no more than two misdemeanor convictions OR one felony and one misdemeanor conviction.

The ten-year period starts from the date of conviction or release from prison, whichever is later.

You cannot have had any new criminal convictions or have a current criminal case pending.

Courts have the discretion to seal up to two convictions, only one of which may be a felony.

If you have more than 2 convictions, you may still be eligible if your convictions are related to the same one or two incidents. For example, if you were charged and convicted of multiple crimes during one incident, the court may decide to treat the multiple convictions as one conviction.

Convictions for the following crimes are not eligible to be sealed:

Sex offense defined in Penal Law Article 130

- Offense requiring registration as a sex offender
- Sexual performance by a child defined in Penal Law Article 263
- Class A felony

- Violent felony defined in Penal Law § 70.02
- Felony conspiracy to commit an ineligible offense
- Felony attempts to commit an ineligible offense

Having a sealed case means that a particular conviction, violation JD or youthful offender conviction will not appear on your rap sheet and employers will have no knowledge of it. However, the records of a sealed violation or youthful offender conviction are never completely erased. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) always has complete access to your criminal record. Your record may be sealed in New York; however, a federal agency may still be able to access your record. Be advised that there are some local agencies, such as the Public Housing Authorities (PHA), that have access to FBI records and therefore may be able to uncover your sealed record.

Arrests Resolved in the Individual's Favor:

Cases that end in favor of the individual, such as an acquittal, dismissal, or decision to revoke charges, are automatically sealed under Criminal Procedure Law, Section 160.50. Arrests sealed under this law are fully sealed and are deleted from rap sheets sent to employers. Court records concerning the matter are not available to the public, and the court requires police fingerprints or photographs are destroyed or returned to the attorney who defended the case.

Arrests Ending in Conviction of a Violation:

Criminal Procedure Law, Section 160.55, permits records resulting in a conviction for most violations to be sealed. Effective September of 1980, convictions for violations are supposed to be sealed automatically; however, in some situations, this does not happen. This is another important reason to have a copy of your rap sheet, and to correct inaccuracies.

It is important to note that these records are only partially sealed, meaning that although fingerprints are destroyed and the violation will not appear on your rap sheet, the court records are not sealed. Therefore, an employer has the potential to stumble upon this information if sorting through court records.

Accessing Sealed Records

Sealed records can be accessed by court order, when applying for a job in law enforcement, and when applying for a gun or pistol permit. In addition to the resources listed below, persons seeking employment should consult with their local public library. Many area libraries offer job banks and resume assistance.

Employment Resources

Note: NYC based reentry resources but could redirect you to a contact near your home county, city, town, village: [New York Reentry Programs and Assistance - Exoffenders.net](http://NewYorkReentryProgramsandAssistance-Exoffenders.net)

Also: [Are There Resources to Help You After You Get Released From Prison? - HTJ \(howtojustice.org\)](http://AreThereResourcesToHelpYouAfterYouGetReleasedFromPrison?-HTJ(howtojustice.org))

Access-VR

80 Wolf Road, Suite 200, 2nd Floor, Albany, NY 12205-2644
(also located at) One Stop, 175 Central Ave, 1st Floor,
Albany, NY 12206 Telephone: (518) 473-8097
Website: www.acces.nysed.gov/vr

Provides vocational training to individuals with disabilities. Note: People who have been previously incarcerated or have substance abuse issues qualify for these services.

Adecco Employment Services

1182 Troy Schenectady Rd, Latham, NY 12110
Telephone: (518) 862-0500 Fax: (518) 785-3634 Website:
www.adeccousa.com

Services: Assessment. Temporary and temp-to-permanent job placement. Eligibility: Two forms of identification, job references and a resume. Some jobs are on bus lines. All fees are paid by the employer.

Access: Call for an assessment interview which takes about three hours

Albany Career Central

175 Central Avenue 3rd Fl. Front, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 462-7600 Ex.116 Fax: (518) 462-2772
Website: www.capreg.org

Representatives are available with an appointment. Full range of jobseeker and employer services. There are also re-entry and veteran's reps, employment reps, phones, free internet and resume writing access computers on site. Hours of operation Monday to Friday, 8:30-5pm.

Albany Community Action Partnership (ACAP)
333 Sheridan Ave, Albany, NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 463-3175 Fax: (518) 463-8185
Website: www.albanycap.org

Includes the following programs: Career Links (listed separately), Dress for Success Albany, Career Pathways Program, Family and Community Development, Cohoes Food Pantry, Family Court Children's Center, HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program), Weatherization Assistance Program, Early Learning Center– Day Care, Universal Pre-K Program, Head Start Program, and VITA– Volunteer Income Tax Assistance.

Albany Public Library
Branch Closest to Center For Law& Justice:
Howe Library, 105 Schuyler Street, Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: 518-427-4300
Website: Albany Public Library | Albany, NY

Free Wi-Fi and computer access, literacy programs, wellness workshops and career workshops (among its many free services).

Attentive Personnel
5 Computer Drive West, Albany, NY 12205 Telephone: (518) 438-6271 Fax: (518) 438-6297
Website: www.attentiveservices.com

Services: Assessment. Temporary and temp-to-permanent job placement. Eligibility: Two forms of identification, a resume, job references. Some jobs are on bus lines. Employers pay the fees.

Career Pathways (A Subdivision of Albany Community Action Partnership)
333 Sheridan Ave, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 463-3175/Fax: (518) 463-8185
Website: www.albanycap.org

ACAP's Career Pathways is a free, income-qualifying program of integrated education, training programs, and support services that will assist you in securing entry level employment in the career field of your choice. Each designated Career Pathways are growing Capital Region industries and offer real opportunities for advancement as well as a quality workforce for Capital Region employers.

Catholic Charities

40 N. Main Ave, Albany NY 12203
Telephone: (518) 453-6650 Fax: (518) 453-6792
Website: www.ccrda.org

Services include employment counseling and referrals, EOC, ESL, GED and other educational program assistance, aid in obtaining public assistance, Medicaid, clothing, shelter and other social services and entitlement benefits, food pantry.

Center for Employment Opportunity – CEO

41 State Street Suite 408, Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 426-0390 Fax: (518) 427-5137
Website: www.ceoworks.org

CEO provides immediate, comprehensive effective employment services for men and women returning from incarceration. Office hours are from Monday to Friday, 9-5pm.

Columbia-Greene Workforce NY Career Service

4400 Route 23
Hudson, NY 12534
Telephone: 518-697-6510
Website: [Workforce Home Page \(columbiagreneworks.org\)](http://Workforce Home Page (columbiagreneworks.org))

Fusco Personnel

4 Executive Park Dr. Suite B, Albany NY 12203
Telephone: (518) 869-6100 Fax: (518) 869-5357
Website: www.fuscopersonnel.net

Services: Assessments. Temporary and temp-to-permanent job placements in a variety of jobs tending more toward clerical. Benefits depending on length of employment.

Eligibility: Must have two forms of identification and a resume. Some jobs on bus lines. Employer will check job references. All fees paid by employers.

Hearts & Mind Training Center

255 Orange Street – Suite 206

Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: 518-448-8077/Fax: 518-362-7833

Website: [Hearts & Mind Training Center - Phlebotomy Certification, BLS, ACLS, EKG Certification, BLS, ACLS, AHA, Phlebotomy Certification \(heartsandmindtc.com\)](http://heartsandmindtc.com)

Providing compassionate training in the following careers: Phlebotomy, EKG, CMAA, PH-NCLEX-Review, AHA/CPR Training, and Medical Assistant. Start a new career. Training courses are short and affordable.

Living Resources

300 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 218-0000 Fax: (518) 862-2175

Website: www.livingresources.org

Serves individuals with disabilities.

Employment Services:

Phone: (518) 218-0000, ext. 5306

Email: terryb@LivingResources.org

Northeast Career Planning

28 Colvin Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 438-3445 Fax: (518) 453-9096 Website:

www.northeastcareer.org

Vocational evaluations, counseling, training, career planning and job placement services for individuals with disabilities or other barriers of employment.

PathStone's Young Adult Reentry Partnership

With Hudson Valley Community College's (HVCC) Office of Workforce Development

Offices located at: 84 Ferry Street, Troy, NY 12180

Text #: 518-545-9254

Website: www.pathstone.org

This no-cost job training program connects you to educational opportunities at HVCC.

Eligibility: Ages 18-24 with past or present criminal justice involvement. Must live in City of Troy, Albany or Rensselaer.

People Ready

1252 Central Avenue, Suite 102

Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: 518-455-0910

Website: [PeopleReady Branch 1763 Albany | PeopleReady](#)

PeopleReady makes your job search easier. Explore our work opportunities across a wide variety of industries. Same day jobs, temp jobs, jobs for immigrants, persons with criminal justice history, persons with disabilities and other opportunities. Will need to download JobStack app to sign-up and look for employment.

Rensselaer County One Stop Employment Center

Ned Pattison Building 4th Floor, 1600 7th Avenue, Troy,

New York 12180

Telephone: (518) 270-2860/Fax: (518) 270-2876

Website: www.capreg.org

Individual placement and job search assistance, individual resume preparation and letter writing assistance, access to job listings, computer, internet, telephone, fax and copier access.

Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP)

913 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY 12307

Telephone: (518) 374-9181 Website: www.scapny.org

Provides job-readiness training to displaced employees, including those receiving social services, through classes offered at Schenectady Community College and a job placement counselor. In addition, the program provides advocacy and assistance with public benefits, Social Security, Medicaid, unemployment benefits, Snap, and other entitlements

Schenectady Job Training Agency (SJTA)

797 Broadway, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 344-2735 Fax: (518) 344- 2815

Website: <https://labor.ny.gov/career-center-locator>

Provides employment and training services to low income residents and dislocated workers. Individual placement and job search assistance, individual resume preparation and letter writing assistance, access to job listings, computer, internet, telephone, fax, and copier access.

SUNY College and Career Counseling Center at
Schenectady

433 State St., Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 631-2257

Website: <http://sunysccc.edu/About-Us/SUNY-College-and-Career-Counseling-Center>

Prepares academically and economically disadvantaged residents in the Capital District ages 16 and over for further educational, training, and employment opportunities.

The Wage Center

Telephone: (518) 810-5600

Website: www.albanyhousing.org/t-h-e-center

An employment and training resource for Albany Housing Authority and neighborhood residents. Partners with area employers to provide clients with real life work experiences through a mentoring program, and a training program that mirrors real workplace environments, needs and skills. Trains residents to be prepared to enter customer service positions in insurance, banking, hotel, and health care.

University at Albany Career Services Unit

299 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 442-4900 Fax: (518)442-4844

Website: www.albany.edu/psc/career_services.php

Provides a variety of services related to all aspects of career and life planning. These services are based on the needs of the client and may include individual counseling, group counseling, workshops, consultation, organizational development, and training.

Women's Employment & Resource Center

Albany: 175 Central Ave, 3rd Floor Albany, NY 12206

Troy: 120 Defreest Drive, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 242-8249

Website: <http://www.cdwerc.org/>

Program assists women experiencing “economic separation” because of recent incarceration, divorce or separation. Services include employment referrals, job readiness training, job interview dress assistance, and skills preparation.

Workforce Investment Act

Albany County (Career Central) Telephone: (518) 4627600

Schenectady County Telephone: (518) 344-2735

Rensselaer County Telephone: (518) 270-2860

Under the auspices of the Workforce Investment Act, program provides “core services” at sites in different regional locations. The core services include job referrals, on-the-job training, education, and basic skills preparation.

Employment Resources on the Web:

- www.hirenetwork.org
- www.labor.ny.gov/home
- www.careerzone.ny.gov
- www.bls.gov/ooh
- www.indeed.com
- www.linkedin.com
- www.snagajob.com
- www.idealists.org

Employment Transportation Resources

Access Transit Services, Inc.

85 Watervliet Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 437-5161

Website: www.cdta.org/access-transit-services/faqs#sthash.7089oEVc.dpuf

ACCESS arranges taxi rides to work and work-related services so that TANF-eligible citizens of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties may attain employment, get a better job, or retain their current job. Interested customers should contact their County’s Department of Social Services about the Job Program.

Dress for Success Job Interview Clothing

333 Sheridan Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: 518-463-3175

Suitings by appointment only

[Albany | Dress for Success Albany](#)

Great Finds Women's Thrift Boutique

260 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12210 (*Corner Henry Johnson Blvd and Washington Avenue*)

Telephone: 518-449-7715

Great Finds provides women's business suits to participants unable to afford the major investment of a work wardrobe. They also work with other non-profits that help women in transition.

Job Banks and Resume Assistance Resources:

(Area libraries offer job banks and resume assistance)

Albany County Public Library – Washington Ave Branch

161 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 427-4300

Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org

Rensselaer County Public Library

676 East Street, Rensselaer, NY 12144

Telephone: (518) 462-1193 Fax: (518) 462-2819

Website: www.rensselearlibrary.org

Schenectady County Public Library – Central Branch 99

Clinton St., Schenectady, NY 12305-2047.

Telephone: (518) 388-4500 Fax: (518) 386-2241

Website: www.scpl.org

Troy Public Library

100 Second Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 274-7071

Website: www.thetroylibrary.org

Education

11



*"Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world."*

-Nelson Mandela

New York State has selected a new high school equivalency test called the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC™) to replace the General Educational Development (GED®) as the primary pathway to a New York State High School Equivalency Diploma effective January 2, 2014.

The TASC™ is a secure, reliable, and valid instrument that is used to verify that examinees have knowledge in core content areas equivalent to that of graduating high school seniors. For additional information visit the NYS Department of Education at www.access.nysed.gov/what-hsetasc-test.

The TASC includes five sections:

- Language Arts – Reading
- Language Arts – Writing
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

There are a variety of educational opportunities for continuing education in the Capital District.

- GED programs offer preparation for the High School Equivalency Exam.
- Vocational training programs prepare students for entry level occupations in a number of different fields.
- Job Readiness programs help individuals improve skills such as preparing a resume, computer training and interviewing skills to become more employable.
- Adult Education Centers offer courses in practical skills at relatively low cost. Counselors assist individuals in selecting appropriate educational programs that best fit their goals and direct people to available funding sources, i.e.: scholarships, grants, and special loans.
- Adult Basic Education courses encompass reading, writing, and math beginning at a middle school grade reading level.
- Literacy programs assist adults in enhancing their reading skills.
- English as a Second Language (ESL) programs provide the opportunity to learn the English language.

If you are not sure which program(s) best fit your needs, please contact the Center for Law and Justice at (518) 427-8361.

If childcare is a concern while you pursue educational or job training opportunities, contact the Capital District Child Care Council at (518) 426-7181.

Financial Assistance for Higher Education

For NYS residents:

Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)/Excelsior Scholarship/NYS Jose Peralta DREAM Act

NYS Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC)

99 Washington Avenue

Albany, New York 12255

Contact: [NYS Higher Education Services Corporation - Contact](#)

Website: [NYS Higher Education Services Corporation - Pay for College](#)

The US Department of Education has the following major financial assistance programs that can be accessed by contacting the financial aid office at any college or university:

- Federal Pell Grants
- Stafford Loans
- PLUS Loans
- Federal Supplemental Educational Grants
- Federal Work Study
- Federal Academic Achievement Grants
- Federal SMART Grant
- School-Specific scholarships

Financial Aid after Conviction for a Drug Offense

The law suspends financial aid eligibility for students convicted under federal or state law for the sale or possession of drugs if the offense occurred during a period of enrollment for which you were receiving federal student aid (grants, loans, and/or work study).

If you have been convicted of the sale or possession of drugs during a period of enrollment for which you have received financial aid, you should contact FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to find out if your financial aid eligibility has been affected, at 1-800-433-3243.

Regaining Eligibility

If you lose your eligibility, you can regain eligibility early by successfully completing an acceptable drug rehabilitation program. An acceptable drug rehabilitation program includes two unannounced drug tests and is either:

- Qualified to receive funds from the government, or a state-licensed insurance company.

-OR-

- Administered or recognized by a government agency or court, or a state-licensed hospital, health clinic, or medical doctor.

Even if you are ineligible for federal financial aid, you may still be eligible for non-federal aid from your state or college.

Education Resources

Albany Can Code Communities – Digital Literacy Training

75 Troy Road, East Greenbush, NY 12061/Classes at 20 Warren Street, Albany, NY or remotely

Telephone: 518-238-6808

Website: [Albany Can Code – Software career training programs for New York State Capital Region local people](#)

Students struggling to use the computer will gain basic computer skills in the Virtual Digital Literacy program. Students in this program will learn Microsoft Office, Google Suites how to manage calendars, e-mails and basic internet safety skills. This 10-week program is tuition free for income-eligible students. Classes are either remote or in person at the Capital South Campus Center located at 20 Warren Street in Albany.

Capital District Educational Opportunity Center (EOC)

431 River Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 273-1900 Fax: (518) 273-1919

Email: EOCinfo@hvcc.edu Website: www.hvcc.edu/eoc

Provides free courses for GED prep, college prep, and English as a second language. Offers tuition-free academic and work force development opportunities to economically disadvantaged and educationally under-prepared NY residents 16 years of age or older. Services include vocational programs, academic programs,

counseling, and employment services. Eligibility for free education at EOC: 1) Resident of NYS for one year 2) 16 years of age (if officially excused from school) or older and 3) Evidence of educational and economic need

Centro Civico/

Ibero

143-145 East Main Street.

Amsterdam, NY 12010

Phone: (518) 842-3762/Fax: (518) 842-9139

Web: www.centrocivico.org/home

Classes for non-English speakers, translation, and interpretation services, access to free safer sex tools, to LIFE Program, Immigration Consultations and more. Immigration preparation class that supports immigrants on their journey to becoming an American citizen.

College Experience Program

300 Washington Ave Extension, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 218-0000 ext. 4625

Website: www.thecollegeexperience.org

The College Experience offers young adults with intellectual disabilities the chance to take classes and make friends in a safe residential setting, and then transition to work and an independent life.

Columbia-Greene Workforce NY Career Service

4400 Route 23

Hudson, NY 12534

Telephone: 518-697-6510

Website: [Workforce Home Page \(columbiagreeneetworks.org\)](http://Workforce Home Page (columbiagreeneetworks.org))

Cornell Cooperative Extension

24 Martin Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186

Telephone: (518) 765-3500

107 Nott Terrace, Room 301, Schenectady, NY 12308

Telephone: (518) 372-1622

61 State Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 272-4210

Albany County Website: www.albany.cce.cornell.edu

Rensselaer County Website: www.ccerensselaer.org
Schenectady County Website: www.cceschenectady.org
Provides parenting education, nutrition education, employment skills and family literacy programs. Programs are free of charge if income eligible.

Employment and Training, Rensselaer County
County Office Building, 1600 7th Avenue, 4th Floor, Troy, NY
12180 Telephone: (518) 270-2860 Fax: (518) 270-2865
Website: www.rensco.com/employment.asp

Vocational and job skill training and related educational development for economically disadvantaged participants to secure and retain unsubsidized employment.

Literacy NY: Advancing Adult Literacy
(Various locations in Capital Area)
Website: www.literacynewyork.org

Staffed by experienced professionals and hundreds of trained and committed volunteer tutors, Literacy New York Greater Capital Region programs focus instruction to meet the goals of our adult learners. We work to keep abreast of new learning trends along with evolving literacy needs. Services include: Tutoring; English Classes; TASC Test Prep; Conversation Classes.

Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County
71 1st St, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 244-4650
Website: www.LVORC.org

- One-to-One and Small Group Tutoring help individuals learn to read, to write, and to speak English, and to improve their math skills. Tutoring is free and confidential.
- The Workplace Literacy program provides on-site instruction for English language learners working at local businesses.
- English Literacy Civics classes offer English Language learners' instruction in Albany and Troy.

Questar III BOCES
10 Empire State Blvd.
Castleton, NY 12033
Telephone: 518-477-8771
Website: <https://www.questar.org>

SUNY College and Career Counseling Center at
Schenectady
433 State St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 631-2257
Website: <http://sunysccc.edu/About-Us/SUNY-College-and-Career-Counseling-Center>
Prepares academically and economically disadvantaged residents in the Capital District ages 16 and over for further educational, training, and employment opportunities.

Washington Irving Educational Center
422 Mumford Street, Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 370-8220 Fax: (518) 370-8225
Website: www.tinyurl.com/WI-Center
Provides services to adults for G.E.D. instruction, English as a second language, the EDGE (Education for Gainful Employment) Program, transitional counselors for those recently released from jail or prison, and computer classes including Windows 2000 and Microsoft Office.

Colleges:

Excelsior College
7 Columbia Cir, Albany, NY 12203-5159
Telephone: (518) 464-8500 Fax: (518) 464-8777
Email: admissions@excelsior.edu
Website: <http://www.excelsior.edu>

Excelsior College provides educational opportunity to adult learners with an emphasis on those historically underrepresented in higher education. The College meets students where they are, academically and geographically, offering quality instruction and the assessment of learning.

Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC)
80 Vandenburg Ave, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 629-4822 Fax: (518) 629-7522

Email: admissions@hvcc.edu Website: <http://www.hvcc.edu>
Hudson Valley Community College offers more than 80 degree and certificate programs through its four schools: Business; Engineering & Industrial Technologies; Health Sciences; and Liberal Arts and Sciences. 21 degree and certificates are offered in an online format.

Mildred Elley - A Career College

855 Central Avenue Albany, NY 12206

Telephones: Admissions: (888) 290-3847/518-896-0433

The mission of Mildred Elley is to provide quality career education and technical training to allow students of diverse educational, cultural and personal backgrounds to become successful in an ever-changing global economy. Mildred Elley strives to afford students quality placement opportunities and instill in all graduates a desire for lifelong education and learning.

Schenectady County Community College

78 Washington Ave, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 381-1182 Fax: (518) 381-1477

Email: admissions@sunysccc.edu

Website: <http://sunysccc.edu> SUNY Schenectady County Schenectady County Community College offers high quality and unique academic programs (40 2-year degrees, 17 certificate programs, 4 micro-credentials, and partnerships with Belanger School of Nursing, and SUNY Delhi). Staff offers broad access for students and are responsiveness to the needs of the community.

University at Albany SUNY - Uptown Campus

1400 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12222

Telephone: (518) 442-3300

Email: ugadmissions@albany.edu Website: www.albany.edu

The University at Albany offers expansive opportunities of a major research university and an environment designed to foster success. Students choose from 58 undergraduate majors and minors and more than 125 graduate programs. Many of these programs are nationally ranked, among them criminal justice, information, and technology management (Informatics), public administration, social welfare, public health and sociology.

University at Albany's Educational Opportunity Center (EOC)
A Federal TRIO EOC Program
Website: albany.edu/eoc
Telephone: 518-442-5125

Other Training and Educational Institutes:

Glenmont Job Corp

PO Box 993, 822 River Road, Glenmont, NY 12077-0993

Telephone: (518) 767-9371 Fax: (518) 767-2106

Website: www.glenmont.jobcorps.gov

Job Corps is a no-cost education and career technical training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training. To enroll at Glenmont Job Corps, please contact an admissions representative at the following phone number (800) 733-5627.

Benefits:

- Pay and Allowances
- Job Corps pays each student a living allowance twice a month while in the program. But just like a real job, taxes are deducted from this allowance.
- Housing & Meals

Additional graduate benefits include:

- A transition allowance of up to \$1000 to assist you with transportation and housing
- Job placement assistance for up to nine months
- Career counseling
- Relocation counseling services

Academics:

Glenmont Job Corps provides academic training, including basic reading and math. Courses in independent living, employability skills, and social skills are offered in order to help students transition into the workplace. We also have several academic programs to help our students achieve their full potential.

Also provides career technical training in several vocational trades.

Career Training

ACAP Career Services

333 Sheridan Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: (518) 463-3175

Website: [Albany CAP | The Power of Change](#)

Albany Community Action Partnership's Career Pathways is a free, income-qualifying program of integrated education, training programs, and support services that will assist you in securing entry level employment in the career field of your choice. Participants become immersed in their industry through six to eight weeks of training using a combination of classroom and hands-on experience in real work situations. After a certificate is achieved, Career Pathways staff will assist you with job searching in your industry. Services integrated with our career services programs include assistance with resume writing, answering interview questions, and dressing for a successful interview through their Dress for Success service where clothing for the interview is made available.

Capital District Educational Opportunity Center (EOC)

30 North Russell Road

Albany, NY 12206 Telephone: (518) 273-1900 x2300 431

River Street Troy, NY 12180 Telephone: (518) 273 1900

x2111 Website: <http://www.hvcc.edu/eoc>

State University of New York ATTAIN (Advanced Technology Training and Information Networking) center is a community-based center offering an assortment of academic, occupational, and employability courses. These courses are geared to introduce as well as supplement students with educational & vocational skills through advanced technology training for a high-demanding technological world. All courses are free! Computer classes, (MOS) Office and (MTA) IT Certifications, Academic, Technical, Employability and Life Skills training, Open lab with Internet access, Help with resumes, cover letters, and job applications.

Capital South Campus Center Trough Capital District BOCES
20 Warren Street
Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: (518) 862-4760
Website: [Home - Capital Region BOCES](#)

Services include: High School Equivalency Classes, ATTAIN classes, free workshops, and more.

Voting

12



*"Our lives begin to end the day we
become silent about things that matter."*

-Martin Luther King Jr.

Who can register to vote?

- U.S citizens aged 18 and older. You may pre-register at age 16 or 17 but cannot vote until you are 18.
- You must not claim the right to vote elsewhere.
- Those not found to be incompetent by a court.

Can I register and vote in New York if I have a criminal record?

YES, IF...

- You have been charged with a felony or misdemeanor but have not yet been convicted (regardless of whether or not you are incarcerated pre-trial). Note: if you will still be incarcerated pre-trial as of June 28, 2022, you will need to vote by Absentee Ballot.
- You have been convicted of a misdemeanor (even if you are currently serving your sentence in the county jail). Note: if you will still be incarcerated as of June 28, 2022, you will need to vote by Absentee Ballot.
- You are on parole or probation for any crime*
- You were pardoned
- You were not sentenced to prison or had your prison sentence suspended
- You served your maximum sentence

NO, IF...

- You are currently in prison for a felony conviction.

* New Yorkers can vote after incarceration for a felony conviction, or while they are on parole or probation for a felony conviction. *In these cases, your voting rights are automatically restored, BUT you have to re-register in order to vote.*

How Do I Register to Vote?

IN PERSON - You can obtain, fill out, sign and submit a Voter Registration Form in person at your local county Board of Elections or Department of Motor Vehicles.

BY PHONE – You can call 1-800-FOR-VOTE (1-800-367-8683) to request a Voter Registration Form be mailed to your residence. Once you receive the form, you must fill it out, sign it, and mail it back to the Board of Elections in order to be registered.

BY MAIL – Voter registrations forms are available at libraries, government offices, or from many community-based organizations. Once you obtain a form, you must fill it out, sign it and mail it back to the Board of Elections in order to be registered.

ONLINE (if you have a NYS DMV-issued identification card) - through your MyDMV portal.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE – You must be registered to vote at least 25 days before Election Day.

Not sure if you're registered to vote already? Look yourself up by name at:

<https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

Can I vote if I'm currently in jail?

Yes! You can (and should) vote by absentee ballot. Send a letter to the Board of Elections where you normally reside and ask them to mail you an Absentee Ballot Application at the jail.

Addresses for local Elections Boards are shown below.

Albany

Albany County Board of Elections
260 South Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12202

Rensselaer

Rensselaer County Board of Elections
1600 7th Avenue
Troy, NY 12180

Schenectady

Schenectady County Board of Elections
2696 Hamburg Street
Schenectady, NY 12303

Saratoga

Saratoga County Board of Elections

50 W. High Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

When you have received your Absentee Ballot

Fill in your name and the address where you are registered to vote. If you are detained in jail or are in prison awaiting trial or confined for an offense that was not a felony, check the box titled Jail or Prison in the section titled, “The Reason I am Requesting an Absentee Application.” In addition, in the appropriate section, write the jail or prison address as the location where the ballot should be mailed.

Cast your ballot by mailing it to the Board of Elections where you normally reside, ensuring it has a postmark no later than the day before Election Day.

Voting by Absentee Ballot if not in Jail

STEP 1: You must APPLY for an absentee ballot before voting by absentee ballot. You can apply for an absentee ballot in any of the following ways:

- **Send a letter** to the Board of Elections where you normally reside (addresses shown above) and ask them to mail you an Absentee Ballot Application at your home address.
- **Go in person** to your local county board of elections and request an Absentee Ballot Application.
- **Mail** your Absentee Ballot Application to your local county board of elections. Your application must be received by your local county Board of Elections no later than 15 days before Election Day.
- **Go online** to the Application portal at: <https://absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov/>

STEP 2: Once you have received your absentee ballot, fill in your name and the address where you are registered to vote. You can cast your ballot in any of the following ways:

- **Mail it** ensuring it has a postmark no later than the day before Election Day.
- **Bring it to your county board of elections** no later than the day before Election Day.
- **Bring it to an early voting polling site** in your county during the designated early voting dates.
- **Bring it to a polling site** in your county by the day before Election Day.

BE AWARE that due to a recent change in NYS law, voters are no longer permitted to cast a ballot on a voting machine if they have already been issued an absentee ballot for that election. Voters who have already been issued an absentee ballot can still vote in person using an affidavit ballot!

If this situation happens to you and someone at the polling place gives you a hard time, remind them that you have the right to vote by affidavit ballot

Veterans Benefits

13



"The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude." -Jeff Miller

Note: Any veterans and their loved ones in crisis can call the Veterans Crisis Hotline; open 24/7. Dial 988 and select 1 or text 838255. For further info on resources, go to VeteransCrisisLine.net.

Individuals may be eligible for benefits appropriated by the discharge from military service. The benefits appropriated to veterans are not usually affected by a person's criminal history; however, each case is reviewed on an individual basis. To find out more information about veteran's benefits, call: 1-800-827-1000.

Minority Veterans Program

VA Benefits:

Minority Veterans may be eligible for a wide variety of benefits available to all U.S. military Veterans. VA benefits include disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and burial.

Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active military service means full-time service, other than active duty for training, as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Administration or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or its predecessor, the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Disability Compensation:

Disability compensation is a monthly tax-free benefit paid to Veterans who are at least 10% disabled because of injuries or diseases that occurred or were aggravated during active duty or active duty for training. VA also pays disability compensation for disabilities from injury, heart attack, or stroke that occurred during inactive duty training. The disability must not be a result of your own willful misconduct, or alcohol or drug abuse.

Veterans with a service-connected disability may also qualify for other benefits, including: Automobile Allowance, Clothing

Allowance, Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) or Special Home Adaptation (SHA) Grant, Service-Disabled Veterans' Insurance (SDVI) and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment.

Pension:

VA Pension provides tax-free monthly benefit to wartime Veterans with limited or no income who are:

Age 65 or older, OR permanently and totally disabled, OR Patients in a nursing home receiving skilled nursing care, OR Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance, OR Receiving Supplemental Security Income.

Eligibility requires least 90 days of active military service, including one day during a wartime period. If your active military service occurred after September 7, 1980, you must have served at least 24 months or the full period that you were called up.

Education:

VA education benefits provide financial support for undergraduate and graduate degrees, vocational and technical training, licensing and certification tests, apprenticeships, and on-the-job training. You may be eligible for one or more of the following VA education benefit programs if you meet these requirements:

Post-9/11 GI Bill – at least 90 aggregate days of active service or were discharged with a service-connected disability after serving 30 continuous days, after September 10, 2001.

Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty (MGIB-AD) – you meet the eligibility requirements for one of four MGIB-AD categories, which include factors such as the dates and length of your service. Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following your release from active duty.

Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) – have a six-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve signed after June 30, 1985 and meet training and attendance requirements. Generally, your eligibility for MGIB-SR benefits ends on the day you leave the Selected Reserve.

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) - reservists who were activated for at least 90 days after September 11, 2001, for a contingency operation, which includes Iraq and Afghanistan operations.

Post-Vietnam Era Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) - certain Service members who elected to make contributions from their military pay to participate.

Health Care

VA Health Benefits include all the necessary inpatient hospital care and outpatient services to promote, preserve, or restore your health. VHA medical facilities provide a wide range of services including traditional hospital-based services such as surgery, critical care, mental health, orthopedics, pharmacy, radiology and physical therapy.

Home Loans

VA guaranteed loans are provided by private lenders, such as banks and mortgage companies, and not by VA directly. Through the VA Home Loan Guaranty Program, VA guarantees a portion of your loan against loss and helps lenders provide you with more favorable financing terms. VA offers the following home loan products and grants:

Purchase Loan can help you purchase a home at a competitive interest rate. Generally, you do not have to make a down payment or buy mortgage insurance to obtain a purchase loan. Cash Out Refinance Loan allows you to cash out your home equity so you can pay other debt, pay for school tuition, or make home improvements

Interest Rate Reduction Refinance Loan (IRRRL), also called the Streamline Refinance Loan, can help you obtain a lower interest rate by refinancing your existing VA loan.

The Native American Direct Loan (NADL) Program helps eligible Native American Veterans finance the purchase, construction, or improvement of homes on Federal Trust Land, or to reduce the interest rate on a VA loan.

Adapted Housing Grants help Veterans with certain permanent and total service-connected physical disabilities purchase or construct an adapted home, or to modify an existing home to account for your disability.

Insurance

VA offers life insurance programs that provide financial security and peace of mind for Service members, Veterans, and their families. VA provides the following life insurance options at relatively low monthly premiums, which vary by program:

Service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) is a low-cost group term life insurance program for Service members. Service members who are totally disabled at separation may extend coverage for up to two years.

Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) allows Veterans to convert their SGLI to a civilian program of lifetime renewable term coverage after separation from service.

Family Service members' Group Life Insurance (FSGLI) insures spouses and children of Service members with SGLI coverage. Spousal coverage may not exceed the Service member's coverage. Dependent children are automatically covered at no charge.

Service members' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI) is an automatic feature of SGLI that provides payments to Service members who suffer severe losses, such as amputations, blindness, and paraplegia, due to traumatic injuries that occur in service.

Service-Disabled Veterans' Insurance (S-DVI) provides life insurance coverage to Veterans whom VA has granted service connection for a new disability within the last two years. Totally disabled Veterans are eligible for free coverage and have the opportunity to purchase additional insurance.

Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI) provides mortgage life insurance protection to severely disabled Service members and Veterans who received a Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant.

VA Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

The VA provides a variety of employment and independent living services through the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program. VA may provide you with

vocational counseling, job search assistance, and other education and training services. The VR&E Vet Success program provides a range of career services, including comprehensive evaluation to determine your abilities, skills, and employment interests.

VA Career Counseling and Rehabilitation Planning for Employment

Employment services, such as job training, job-seeking skills, résumé development, and other work-readiness assistance. Assistance in finding and keeping a job, including how to use special employer incentives and job accommodations. On-the-Job Training (OJT), apprenticeships, and non-paid work experiences.

VA Burial

The VA provides memorial services and allowances to help reimburse burial costs for a Veteran and/or his or her dependents. Burial benefits include burial at a national cemetery, an inscribed headstone, marker, or medallion, an allowance to partially reimburse the burial and funeral costs of a Veteran, a Presidential Memorial Certificate, and an American flag to drape over a Veteran's casket. Eligibility requires that the Veteran was serving on active duty, or his/her death was due to an injury or disease that developed during, or was aggravated during, active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty for training.

Persons with criminal convictions may be eligible to serve in the armed forces. Generally, those convicted of minor, nonviolent offenses will be eligible to serve. Individuals interested in the armed forces should contact their local recruitment office for more information.

Veterans Services Resources

Albany County Veterans Service Bureau
100 Heritage Lane, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12211
Phone: (518) 447-7710 Fax: (518) 447-7714
Hours: Monday- Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Assists veterans and their dependents in filing claims, obtaining important documents, and determining eligibility for the benefits and services they have a legal right to.

Albany Stratton VA Medical Center

113 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 626-5000 or (800) 223-4810

Website: <https://www.albany.va.gov>

A variety of health care, counseling, and comprehensive services for veterans.

Albany Stratton VA- Veterans Justice Outreach

113 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 626-5368

The aim of the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) program is to avoid the unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration among Veterans by ensuring that eligible, justice-involved Veterans have timely access to Veterans Health Administration (VHA) services, as clinically indicated. VJO specialists provide direct outreach, assessment, and case management for justice-involved Veterans in local courts and jails and liaison with local justice system partners.

Albany Veterans Center

17 Computer Drive West, Albany, NY 12205

Phone: 518-626-5130 Or 877-927-8387 Fax: 518-458-8613

Website: <https://www.va.gov>

For assistance after hours, weekends, and holidays call the National Veterans Center Call Center: 1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387) Guide Veterans and their families through the major adjustments in lifestyle that often occur when Veterans return from combat. Services for a Veteran may include individual and group counseling in areas such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), alcohol and drug assessment, and suicide prevention referrals. All services are free of cost and are strictly confidential.

Living Resources

300 Washington Ave Ext., Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 218-0000 Fax: (518) 862-2175, M-F, 8:30am-4:00pm. Services include: Specialized

Traumatic Brain Injury Services; Brain Café,
Wednesdays, 11am-1pm.

New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs

Telephone: (888) 838-7697 Website: <https://veterans.ny.gov>

Advocates on behalf of New York's Veterans and their families to ensure they receive benefits granted by law for service in the United States Armed Forces. The Division provides free benefits advising with professional help to resolve social, medical, and economic matters. Veterans Benefits Advisors assist the claimant, whether a Veteran, spouse, child, or parent, in completing applications, obtaining necessary documentation, and filing claims for a broad spectrum of federal, State, local, and private Veterans' benefits.

Veterans Crisis Line

Telephone: (800) 273-8255, press 1

Confidential help to veterans and their families.

Veteran & Military Student Services, University at Albany

Hours: M-F, 8am-4pm

1400 Washington Avenue, Campus Center 137, Albany, NY 12222, Telephone: 518-442-8387

Assist students of Veteran status with support and assist with GI Benefits.

Veterans Miracle Center

10 Interstate Avenue, Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518) 486-8398 Email: Info@VMCAAlbany.org

Website: www.vmcAlbany.org

Hours: Monday – Friday 9 AM – 3 PM (By appointment only.)

Provides clothing, personal care and houseware items, ambulatory equipment and more to veterans and active-duty military personnel and their families. Specialists are available in counseling for personal needs, jobs, housing, or financing.

Veterans of Foreign Wars

69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: 518-463-7427

Website: [Veterans of Foreign Wars - Albany, NY \(Address and Phone\) \(countyoffice.org\)](http://Veterans of Foreign Wars - Albany, NY (Address and Phone) (countyoffice.org))

Senior Citizens

14



"It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

-Unknown

Senior Citizen Resources

Albany County Department for Aging

162 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 447-7198 Fax: (518) 447-7188

Website: www.albanycounty.com/aging/

Provides information, referral, advocacy, and outreach for seniors.

Jewish Family Services

184 Washington Ave Extension, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 482-8856 Email: nnorc@jfsneny.org

Website: <http://www.jfsneny.org/programsservices/senior-adultservices/>

Jewish Family Services provides several senior adult services, including family conferences, comprehensive assessments, care management, and supportive visits. Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NNORC) helps people aged 60 and over age in place. NNORC staff coordinates services and community resources that help seniors maintain their quality of life and independence, access services, and remain connected to their neighborhoods.

Pride Center of the Capital District

332 Hudson Avenue, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 462-6138 Fax: (518) 462-2101

Website: www.capitalpridecenter.org

Promoting the well-being of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer identified people and those affected by discrimination based on gender identity and expression. Services include:

- Aging With Pride (seniors): Social and Educational Events, Service Provider Services.

Schenectady County Office for the Aging, Schaffer Heights

107 Nott Terrace, Suite 305, Schenectady, NY 12308

Telephone: (518) 382-8481

Senior Hope Counseling Inc.

301 South Allen St. Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 489-7777 Fax: (518) 489-7771

Website: www.seniorhope.org/

Senior Hope is a non-profit organization, licensed by New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services for persons 50 and older. Clinic Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Call for an appointment/leave a message: (518) 489-7777. Services: Evaluation & Assessment, Case management & referral, Individual & Family Counseling, Specialized group sessions, Weekly AA meetings.

Unified Family Services for the Rensselaer County
County Office Building, 1600 7th Ave.
Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 270-2730

Website: <http://www.renso.com/departments/unified-familyservices/>

New York Statewide Senior Action Council
Medicare/EPIC Patients' Rights Medicare Fraud
1-800-333-4374/Nysenior.org

Home Delivery Meals
Albany County NY: 518-447-7177

Albany County Department of Aging:
100 Heritage Lane Albany, New York 12211
www.albanycounty.com/aging/
email: aging@albanycounty.com

In- Home Contact and Support - 518-456-2898

Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP)
518-447-7177
Social Adult Day Programs
518-447-7177
Caregiver Services
518-447-7177

Disability Advocates (US Veterans and Non-Vets):
Access Disability Advocates (Serving Disabled US Veterans)
641 Grooms Road Ste 234,
Clifton Park, NY
Telephone: 518-377-4204

Website: [Access Disability Advocates - Providing Social Security Disability Representation Across America](#)

Center for Disability Rights
99 Washington Ave, Ste 806B
Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: 518-320-7100

Website: [Center for Disability Rights – Integration, Independence, Civil Rights \(cdnys.org\)](#)

Disability Advocates, Inc.
5 Clinton Square – 3rd Floor
Albany, NY 12207
Telephone #: 518-432-7861

Website: [SSDI and Benefits Help | Social Security Disability Advocates \(socialsecuritydisabilityadvocatesusa.com\)](#)

Disability Right New York
725 Broadway, Suite 450
Albany, NY 12207
Telephone #: 518-432-7861/1-800-993-8982

Website: [Disability Rights New York - Disability Rights New York \(drny.org\)](#)

Legal Assistance:

The elder law attorney is available by phone for those without access to a senior center, or in case of emergency, at (518) 462-6765 and at Senior Projects of Ravena: (518) 756-8593. For an in-person appointment, please contact one of the following centers:

Senior Centers/Senior Services:

Town of Bethlehem Senior Services Department: 518-439-4955
Cohoes Senior Citizens Multi-Service Center: 518-235-2420
Colonie Senior Services Center 518-459-6064 / 518-459-2857
Guilderland Senior Services 518-631-9589 / 518-280-7607
Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department: 518-459-5051
Town of Guilderland Senior Services: 518-280-7607
Westview Senior Center: 518-435-1794
Whitney M. Young Jr. Health Center: 518-465-4771
Town of Berne Senior Center: 518-861-8960
Senior Services of Albany, Westview Center, 680 Central Ave.
Albany, 518-482-2120

Senior Projects of Ravenna, 9 Bruno Ave. Ravenna, 518-756-8593
Whitney Young Jr. Health Center, Lark and Arbor Dr. Albany,
518-465-4771, ext. 4496

55 + Employment

PathStone Training and Employment Services
400 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607
Pathstone.org/workforce-development

Health Insurance Counseling
518-447-7177

EPIC:

The NYS Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program helps people 65 and older pay for their prescription drugs. EPIC supplements other drug coverage including Medicare Part D. Seniors can apply any time of the year and must be enrolled or eligible for a Medicare Part D drug plan in order to receive EPIC benefits and maintain coverage.
https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/epic/

Earned Income Tax Credit

The New York State Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) program provides refundable tax benefits for working people with low or moderate incomes. Workers who qualify and file Federal and State tax returns may get back some or all of the income tax withheld during the year. https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/credits/earned_income_credit.htm

Half Fare CDTA Bus Card

Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) offers half fare rates to citizens aged 65+ and disabled individuals accessing CDTA's fixed route service All customers who qualify will need to obtain a Navigator Half Fare photo ID card to pay reduced fare on the bus. Call 518-437-6875 or go to www.cdta.org/half-fare for details.

HEAP

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) supplements annual household energy costs for eligible low-income individuals. HEAP may also help pay for a heat-related energy emergency and/or a heating equipment repair or replacement. Contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension Choices program at 518-756-8650 or <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>

<https://mybenefits.ny.gov/>

This is an online tool for determining which programs and services you may be eligible for. Questions about your household and financial situation can help you identify potential programs.

IT-214

This New York State income tax program will refund part of the local property tax paid by moderate- and low-income homeowners. A homeowner may qualify even if they pay no income tax. Visit

https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/ads/efile_addit214.htm

Income Tax Assistance

AARP provides free tax preparation assistance from February 1st- April 15th. To find a site near you call 1-888-687-2277 or go to

https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/

Lifeline Discounted Telephone Service Eligible low-income consumers can receive a discount on either their home (landline) telephone service or their wireless service through this program.

[http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/askpsc.nsf/All/01 BC8E76E515299785257FA2006AE2F7?OpenDocument](http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/askpsc.nsf/All/01_BC8E76E515299785257FA2006AE2F7?OpenDocument)

NYSERDA EmPower

Whether you own or rent, you could benefit from free energy upgrades improved insulation and lighting, replacement of inefficient refrigerators and freezers, and more. For more information, call: 518-862-1091 and press 1.

Older New Yorkers Guide to Resources

A comprehensive A-Z resource covering a myriad of programs and services:

<https://www.aging.ny.gov/ResourceGuide/NYSOFAResource%20Guide%202015-08-17%20AH%20email%20version.pdf>

Prescription Drug Prices Compare:

The New York State Board of Pharmacy publishes an annual list of the most frequently prescribed drugs in the most common quantities. The New York State Department of Health collects retail price information on these drugs from pharmacies that participate in the Medicaid program and from pharmacies that submit their retail price information directly to

the Department of Health. The website allows you to search for specific drugs and compare prices by city, county, or zip code:
<https://apps.health.ny.gov/pdpw/SearchDrugs/Home.action>

Real Property Tax Credit

Available to New York State residents who have a household gross income of \$18,000 or less and pay either real property taxes or rent for their residence. If at least one member of the household is age 65 or older, the credit can be as much as \$375.

Senior Subsidized Housing

Housing is available for seniors with limited income and resources who are to live independently. If eligible, the rent may be 30% of monthly income. The buildings are accessible and include ramps and elevators, on-site laundry and weekly trips for grocery shopping. Contact the Albany Guardian Society at 518-434-2140 or view the latest edition at <http://www.albanyguardiansociety.org/housingdirectory.php>

SNAP

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) can help low-income people boost their monthly grocery budget. The Legal Aid Society's Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) can evaluate eligibility and help with applying for benefits. Call NOEP at 518-689-6327.

STAR

The New York State School Tax Relief Program (STAR) provides a tax rebate and partial property tax exemption from school taxes for all who own and live in their homes. The Enhanced STAR exemption is available for homeowners aged 65+. Go to <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm>

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

SSI pays monthly checks to people aged 65+ who have limited resources and income, are blind, and/or have a disability.

Veterans' Property Tax Exemption Qualified Veterans can receive a property tax exemption or partial property tax exemption.
<https://veterans.ny.gov/content/property-tax-exemptions-veterans>

Umbrella of the Capital District

This non-profit agency helps seniors, and the disabled maintain their homes by providing low-cost home and garden maintenance and services. There is a yearly membership and hourly rate for services. Call 518-346-5249 or see <http://www.theumbrella.org/>

AARP Driver Safety Program

Designed for people aged 50+, this course consists of six hours of classroom or online instruction reinforcing safe driving skills. Courses are conducted in English, Spanish and Chinese; AARP membership is not required. To find out more: 1-877-846-3299 or www.aarpdriversafety.org

Albany Community Action Partnership

Assists with the cost of adapting homes for accessibility, enabling low- and moderate-income disabled individuals to remain safely in their homes. Call Albany Community Action Partnership: 518-463-3175 or visit: www.albanycap.org

The Center for Problem Gambling

Provides counseling and support services to individuals who need help with their gambling problem. For more information: 518-462-6531 or www.capitalcounseling.org/the-center-for-problem-gambling/

Driver Fitness Center

Empowers older adults to drive safely and stay connected to an active lifestyle. To locate a nearby center, call 518-459-2857, ext. 326 or email dfc@colonieseniors.org

Elder Abuse or Neglect

For any concern regarding financial, physical, emotional, verbal, or sexual abuse; self-neglect or neglect by others, contact Albany County Adult Protective Services: 518-447-7177.

Hearing Loss Association of America - Albany Chapter

HAAA is a nonprofit volunteer organization for persons with hearing loss. They provide education and advocacy and foster social opportunities. 518-525-1375/<https://hearinglossalbany.wordpress.com/>

Medication Management

It is important to develop a safe, effective system for organizing and identifying prescription and over-the-counter medications, including: purpose of the medication

- recommended dosage
- possible side effects

Ask your pharmacist to attach large-print labels to pill bottles, prepare a list of your medications and keep it updated; take this list with you to medical appointments. For more information, call 518-447-7177.

Northeast Association for the Blind at Albany (NABA)

NABA helps people with vision impairments obtain information, referrals, and adaptive equipment. Call 518-463-1211 or go to <https://naba-vision.org>

Senior Hope Counseling, Inc.

Compassionate chemical dependency care for adults 50 years and older and their families. For more information, call 518-489-7777 or go to www.seniorhope.org

Smart Seniors: Resources for Older Adults

For consumer alerts, protection against fraud and scams, health care proxy forms and much more, view the NYS Attorney General's website at <https://ag.ny.gov/smart-seniors> or call 1-800-771-7755.

Star Bus Para-transit

This bus service transports disabled individuals who cannot access the CDTA bus. For more information: 518-482-2022 or cdta.org/star-program

Volunteer Opportunities

- Serving as a trained counselor for the health insurance Information and Assistance Program (HIICAP)
 - Helping the Home Delivered Meals Program
 - Visiting a homebound older adult
 - Assisting at a congregate dining site
 - Helping an older adult with their food shopping
- Call: 518-447-7198

Congregate Dining

Congregate dining sites are great places to get a nutritious meal and to meet people. The meal program is open to people 50 years of age, plus the w of an eligible individual regardless of age. There is a suggested voluntary contribution of \$3.00 for the meal, but no one will be denied if they are w to contribute. Please call the meal site in advance to make a reservation

ALBANY

Frank Chapman Memorial Institute 340 First St. 518-729-3472/
Lunch: Tues. at Noon

LifePath Living Center at Livingston School Apartments
315 Northern Blvd., Albany 518-505-5944 Lunch: Wed, and
Thurs. at 11:30a.m. Dinner: Tues, at 4:30p.m.

Ohav Shalom

115 Krumkill Rd. 518-756-8593 / Lunch: Mon. 11:30a.m. Dinner:
Wed. at 4:30 p.m.

Parkview Apartments

400 Hudson Ave. 518-756-8593 / Lunch: Mon.-Fri. at Noon

Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center

340 Whitehall Rd. 518-438-6651 ext. 112/ Dinner: Mon, and Wed.
at 5p.m.

South Mall Senior Center

101 South Pearl St. 518-463-0294/ Lunch: Fri. at 11:30a.m.
Dinner: Tues and Wed. at 4:30p.m.

Townsend Park Apartments

45 Central Ave. 518-756-8593/ Lunch: Mon.-Fri. at Noon

Westview Homes

680 Central Ave. 518-482-2120/ Lunch: Mon., Tues., Thurs. and
Fri. at 11:30a.m.

The Legal Project

24 Aviation Road, Suite 101

Albany, Ny 12205

www.legalproject.org

518-435-1770/Fax:518-435-1773

Transportation

800-342-9871

New York State Resources

Department of Health,

Alzheimer's Disease Program Email: alz@health.ny.gov

www.health.ny.gov/diseases/conditions/dementia

Department of Health,
Adult Care and Assisted Living Complaint Line 866-893-6772

Department of Health,
Home Safety Checklist
www.health.ny.gov/publications/3106.pdf

Department of Health,
Hospital Patient Care Issue Line 800-804-5447

Department of Health, Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment
(MOLST)
www.health.ny.gov/professionals/patients/patient_rights/moist

Department of Health,
Medicaid Program
www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid

Department of Health,
Nursing Home Patient Care Line 888-201-4563

Department of Health, Patient Rights
www.health.ny.gov/professionals/patients/patient_rights

Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program
(HIICAP)
800-701-0501

Home Care and Hospice Information
800-628-5972

Hospice & Palliative Care Association of New York State
www.hpcanys.org

Local Offices for the Aging throughout NYS
www.aging.ny.gov/local-offices

Medicaid Managed Care
Managed Long Term Care
www.health.ny.gov/healthcare/managed_care

Medicare General Information Line
800-633-4227

Medicare Rights Line – 1-800-333-4114

Mental Health Association of New York State
www.mhanys.org

NY Association for Independent
Living www.ilny.us

New York State Bar Association
www.nysba.org

New York State Caregiving and Respite Coalition
www.nyscrc.org

New York Connects
800-342-9871/www.nyconnects.ny.gov

New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs
888-838-7697/www.veterans.ny.gov

New York State Homecare Registry
https://apps.health.ny.gov/professionals/home_care/registry/home.action

New York State Homes and Community Renewal
www.nysher.org

New York State Office for the Aging
1-844-NYSOFA1 or 1-844-697-6321
www.aging.ny.gov/programs/caring-loved-one

New York State Unified Court System
www.nycourts.gov/forms/surrogates/guardianship.shtml

Office of Children and Family Services
518-473-7793/www.ocfs.ny.gov

Office of Mental Health
800-597-8481/www.omh.ny.gov

Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
www.opwdd.ny.gov

Elder Law Assistance Program
518-435-1770

Refugee & Immigrant Services



I urge you to celebrate the extraordinary courage and contributions of refugees past and present. –Kofi Annan

Website: <https://catholiccharitiesny.org/what-wedo/welcoming-integrating-immigrants-refugees>

Catholic Charities helps immigrants reunite legally with their families, obtain proper work authorization, learn English and civics, and prepare to pass citizenship exams. Catholic Charities also assists immigrants in avoiding exploitation by unscrupulous practitioners by providing correct information and realistic counsel about immigration status. Below you can learn more about our immigration services in NY.

US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

99 Pine St #101, Albany, NY 12207

By appointment: Monday- Thursday 9am-5pm

Drop-in Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 1-3pm

Telephone: (518) 459-1790

Website: <https://refugees.org/field-office/albany/>

In the neighborhoods across Albany, New York, we open doors for uprooted people, helping the world's most vulnerable rebuild their lives. We are part of a nationwide network that breaks through social, cultural, and economic barriers so previously interrupted lives can flourish. The first welcome begins with navigating American culture, laying solid foundations for a fresh start, and making essential community connections to successfully integrate into our community.

Prisoners' Legal Services - Immigration Unit, Albany

Telephone: (518) 694-8699

41 State Street suite #112, Albany, 12207

www.plsny.org/

Hours: Monday- Friday 8:30-5:00

Prisoners' Legal Services (PLS) provides representation to detained immigrants facing deportation hearings providing critical legal assistance to one of our most vulnerable populations. In one recent case, PLS represented an individual who was wrongly placed in removal proceedings. After presenting the case to an immigration judge, the judge terminated the removal proceeding. After being released, our client was able to reunite with his mother and sister. Without

PLS' help, this person would have been wrongly deported to Jamaica, a country that he left over a decade ago.

The Legal Project

24 Aviation Road, Suite 101 Albany, NY 12205

Phone: (518) 435-1770

We can help you with answers to your immigration questions by providing free, confidential one on consultations with an immigration attorney.

Provides representation to qualified cases through a Staff Attorney, BIA Accredited Representative, and the Capital Region Immigration Collaborative with other local immigration service providers.

- Provides referrals to private Immigration Attorneys to qualified clients.
- Staff can assist you complete certain forms at no cost, such as N400 Application for Naturalization, N600 Application for Certificate of Citizenship, Consideration for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), etc.
- Staff speaks Spanish, Turkish, Arabic and French. We also work with local, in person interpretation services to provide for other languages.

Office for New Americans Opportunity Center

99 Pine Street, Suite 101 Albany, NY 12207

Phone: 518-459-1790

Offers free services for all immigrants including naturalization assistance and community workshops.

Other resources:

https://www.healthycapitaldistrict.org/content/sites/hcdi/SDOH_Resource_Guide/Refugee-Services-Resource-Guide.pdf

NYS.Gov Resources in the Capital region

[School District/LEA Resources | New York State Education Department \(nysed.gov\)](https://www.nysed.gov/school-district-lea-resources)

Website:<https://catholiccharitiesny.org/what-wedo/welcoming-integrating-immigrants-refugees>

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Immigration Legal Services

Contact: *Paula Read, Immigration Counselor/BIA Accredited Representative*

Immigration Attorney: David W. Meyers, Esq.

Provides immigration-related legal services for low-income clients. Services include consultation, counseling, and preparation of petitions and applications for, among other benefits, lawful permanent residency, and U.S. citizenship. Assists individuals who are victims of human trafficking.

Empire Justice Center

(Albany, NY) Languages: English, Spanish; technology that translates for other languages 119 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12210 Phone: (518) 462-6831 <https://empirejustice.org/> Involved in litigation, policy, and training to strengthen the legal rights of New Yorkers who are poor, disabled, or disenfranchised, in a variety of areas. Immigration services, with a focus on immigrant victims of crime, include government benefit assistance and representation and technical assistance.

<https://empirejustice.org/issuesareas/immigration/>

Legal Services of Central New York (Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Otsego, and Oswego, NY)

Languages: English; interpretation services for other languages Phone: (877) 777-6152 <https://www.lscny.org/> Provides free legal help in civil cases in eviction defense, home conditions, public benefits, economic security, consumer rights, education advocacy, workers' rights, language access, immigration, healthcare access, HIV/AIDS, cancer, mental health and homelessness, jails, and economic development.

Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.
(Ballston Spa, NY) Languages: English, Spanish 39 Bath St.
P.O. Box 169, Ballston Spa, NY 12020 Phone: (518) 288-3206
<https://www.lifeworksaction.org/immigrant-services> Provide
services for women, infants, and children, a Head Start program,
emergency food pantry and community lunch program, crisis
and family development services, advocacy, and referral, and a
Latino Community Advocacy Program with English as a
Second Language classes and advocacy.

US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
99 Pine St #101, Albany, NY 12207
By appointment: Monday- Thursday 9am-5pm
Drop-in Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 1-3pm
Telephone: (518) 459-1790
Website: <https://refugees.org/field-office/albany/>

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rebuild their lives. We are part of a nationwide network that
breaks through social, cultural, and economic barriers so
previously interrupted lives can flourish. The first welcome
begins with navigating American culture, laying solid
foundations for a fresh start, and making essential community
connections to successfully integrate into our community.
Languages: Arabic, Burmese, Dari/Farsi, English, Karen,
Pashto, Spanish

Prisoners' Legal Services - Immigration Unit, Albany
Telephone: (518) 694-8699
41 State Street suite #112, Albany, 12207
www.plsny.org/
Hours: Monday- Friday 8:30-5:00

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Office for New Americans Opportunity Center

99 Pine Street, Suite 101 Albany, NY 12207

Phone: 518-459-1790

Offers free services for all immigrants including naturalization assistance and community workshops.

Albany Regional Immigration Assistance Center

Immigration Helpline: 1-833-373-2677

Providing support to immigrants in the community and to the legal service providers who represent them.

Refugee and Immigrant Support Services of Emmaus (RISSE)
RISSE is located in Emmaus United Methodist Church at
715 Morris Street
Albany, NY 12208
You may enter on the North side where the red ramp is located
(Yates St).
Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 11am-7pm
Call us: 518-621-1041 (Main Office)
Fax #: 518-487-4912
E-mail Us: info@risse-albany.org

RISSE mission is to equip refugees and recent immigrants to build sustainable, independent lives by offering language and literacy instruction, as well as support with life skills and integration into U.S. culture and community.

Capital District Latinos
Contact: Migdalia “Micky” Jimenez
160 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206
585-801-9440 Ext #5080
Mjimenez@promesa.org
www.capitaldistrictlatinos.org

Centro Civico
143 East Main St.
Amsterdam, NY 12020
518-842-3762
<https://www.ibero.org/centrocivicony/>

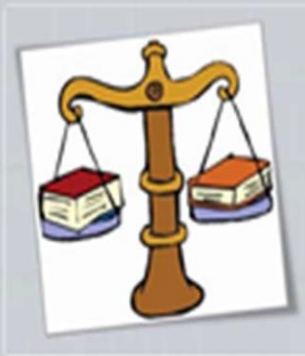
NYS Education Dept Resources for Bi-lingual Learners &
Immigrants:

[A Guide to Community-Based Organizations for Immigrants
\(nysed.gov\)](http://nysed.gov)

[Dignity for All Students Act \(DASA\) Translated Resources | New
York State Education Department \(nysed.gov\)](http://nysed.gov)

Legal Resources

15
16



"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Quick Phone Reference Guide:

Complaints Against Police Officers:

Citizens' Police Review Board: 518-455-2329

Complaints Against Lawyers:

Committee on Professional Standards: 518-285-8350

Lawyers Fund for Client Protection: 518-434-1935

Complaints Against A Judge:

Commission on Judicial Conduct: 518-453-4600

In Need of A Lawyer?

[Albany Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services - Justia New York Lawyer Directory](#)

NYS Bar Association: 1-800-342-3661

Albany County Bar Association: 518-445-7691

The Legal Project: 518-435-1770

Legal Aid Society: 518-462-6765/1-800-462-2922

Legal Hand: 518-400-5544

Empire Justice Center: 518-462-6831

Prisoners' Legal Services: 518-438-8046

Public Defenders: 518-447-7150

Albany Law School: 518-445-2338

The Justice Center Clinics:

Community Economic Development Clinic

Domestic Violence Prosecution Hybrid Clinic

Family Violence Litigation Clinic

Health Law Clinic

Immigration Law Clinic

General Legal Resources:

Albany Citizens' Police Review Board

c/o Government Law Center, Albany Law School

80 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208-3494

e-mail: cprb@albanylaw.edu

Phone: 518-445-2383 Fax: (518) 445-2303

The Board reviews complaints lodged against the Albany Police Department. The Government Law Center can offer further information on the Board's operation and complaint procedure.

Albany Law Clinic and Justice Center

(Albany Law School)

80 New Scotland Ave, 2000 Building, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 445-2328 Website: www.albanylaw.edu

Provides free legal services to eligible clients with legal issues pertaining to civil rights, disabilities, domestic violence, family violence, health, taxes, immigration, and securities arbitration. Free legal advice and services to individuals who are HIV+ or have AIDS. Provides legal representation for clients in areas such as family law, Social Security Disability (SSD) benefits, wills, living wills, housing and employment discrimination, access to health care, privacy, and other legal matters.

Albany Law School Family Violence Litigation Clinic

Albany Law School of Union University

80 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: (518) 445-2328

Website: <http://www.albanylaw.edu/centers/law-clinic-andjustice-center/our-clinics/in-house-clinics/family-violencelitigation-clinic>

The Albany Law School Family Violence Litigation Clinic provides legal assistance to victims of family or intimate partner violence. Cases range from family law to immigration. Intake must be done over the phone. Serving Albany, Rensselaer, and Saratoga and Schenectady counties.

Center for Community Justice

144 Barrett Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 346-1281 Fax: (518) 346-1311

Website: www.theccj.org

Provides bail assistance for those at the Schenectady County Jail for amounts under \$2000. Also, provides mediation services in the areas of criminal, civil, and family disputes as well as supervising court ordered visits for non-custodial parents.

Center for Law and Justice

Physical Location: 220 Green Street, Albany, NY 12202

Mailing Address: Pine West Plaza #2, Washington Avenue
Ext., Albany, NY 12205

Phone: (518) 427-8361 Fax: (518) 427-8362

Email: info.cflj@gmail.com/Website: www.cflj.org

Provides legal and criminal justice information and referrals.

Provides NO LEGAL REPRESENTATION in Court.

Commission on Judicial Conduct, New York State

Corning Tower Suite 2301, Empire State Plaza,
Albany, NY 12223

Telephone: (518) 453-4600 Fax: (518) 299-1757

Website: www.cjc.ny.gov/e-mail: cjc@cjc.ny.gov

Receives and reviews written complaints of misconduct against judges of the state unified court system, which includes state, county, municipal, town, and village courts. Types of complaints that may be investigated include improper demeanor, conflicts of interest, intoxication, bias, prejudice, favoritism, corruption, prohibited business or political activity, and serious financial and records mismanagement.

Committee on Open Government, New York State

1 Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave, Suite 650,
Albany, NY 12231

Telephone: (518) 474-2518 Fax: (518) 474-1927

Website: <https://opengovernment.ny.gov/>

Administers the Freedom of Information Law, which governs the right to access of government records.

Committee on Professional Standards, New York State

286 Washington Avenue Ext, Suite 200, Albany, NY 12203

Telephone: (518) 285-8350 Fax: (518) 453-4643

Handles complaints against attorneys related to all aspects of their professional career, malpractice, and personal life if it interferes with their ability to practice law.

Department of Labor Public Information Office, New York State

Building 12, Room 586, Harriman State Campus,

Albany, NY 12240 website: labor.ny.gov

Telephone: (518) 457-9000 or 1-888-4-NYS-DOL (1-888-469-7365/TTY/TDD: 1-800-662-1220/Fax: (518) 485-1126

Will connect a person who has legal questions concerning labor, such as wages, safety, or unemployment benefits, with the office within the Department of Labor equipped to answer the particular questions.

District Attorneys' Offices

There is an officer on duty daily during regular business hours who will answer legal questions concerning criminal law.

- Albany County District Attorney's Office
Albany County Judicial Ctr., 6 Lodge St., Ste 401,
Albany, NY 12207
Telephone:(518)487-5460
- Rensselaer County District Attorney's Office
80 Second Street, Troy NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 270-4040
- Schenectady County District Attorney's Office
County Courthouse
612 State St., Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 388-4364

Empire Justice Center

119 Washington Ave., 3rd Floor, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 462-6831 Fax: (518) 935-2852

Website: www.empirejustice.org

Provides referrals to local legal service programs. In some cases, may provide free legal representation to low-income residents on the following issues: Medicaid, Food Stamps, housing, immigration & Social Security.

Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection

119 Washington Avenue,

Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 434-1935 or (800)-442-FUND

Fax: (518) 434-5641

Website: www.nylawfund.org

Provides reimbursement to clients who have lost money or property due to a lawyer's dishonest conduct in the practice of

law, such as the wrongful taking of client's money or other property. Typical losses covered include theft of money from estates, escrow funds in real property transactions, and settlements in personal injury actions.

Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York
95 Central Avenue, Albany NY 12206
Telephone: (518) 462-6765 Website: www.lasnny.org

Provides free legal services and representation in the areas including, but not limited to: landlord-tenant, public assistance, Social Security disability, and family law. Serves Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, and Schenectady counties.

*No Criminal law

The Legal Project, Capital District Women's Bar
Association
24 Aviation Road, Suite 101,
Albany, NY 12205
Telephone: (518) 435-1770 Fax: (518) 435-1773
Website: www.legalproject.org

Sponsors free 30-minute consultations at different locations in the Capital District. The clinics cover all areas of civil law. The Legal Project also provides pro-bono or reduced rate assistance in the following areas:

- Domestic Violence- Legal representation in family court for survivors of domestic violence.
- Bankruptcy- Legal assistance for bankruptcy actions.
- Affordable Housing- Legal assistance for low and moderate-income home buyers.

Mental Hygiene Legal Services, Albany Field Office
200 Great Oaks Blvd, Suite 233, Albany, NY 12203
Telephone: 518-471-4870/Fax: 518-451-8730

The Mental Hygiene Legal Service (MHLS) provides legal services, advice and assistance to persons receiving care or alleged to be in need of care at inpatient and community-based facilities for individuals with mental disabilities and certain patients or residents of residential health care facilities.

Website: <http://www.nycourts.gov/ad3/mhls/index.html>

New York Civil Liberties Union (Capital Region Chapter)

41 State Street, Ste 612, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 436-8594 Fax: (518) 426-9341

Website: www.nyclu.org/en/chapters/capital-region

Provides information and assistance on matters involving individual civil liberties. Will accept for direct litigation only test cases which involve precedent-setting civil liberties issues. Does not provide direct representation in criminal defense cases.

New York State Defenders Association

194 Washington Avenue, Suite 500, Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 465-3524 Fax : (518) 465-3249

Website: www.nysda.org

Provides research, consultation, and training to public defenders. Works to improve the quality of defense representation statewide. Provides legal information to individuals.

* No individual criminal defense representation.

Prisoners' Legal Services (PLS)

41 State St., Suite M112, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 438-8046 Fax: (518) 438-6643

Website: www.plsny.org

Provides legal services to persons incarcerated in the New York state prison system who cannot afford legal representation. Does not handle criminal trials or direct criminal appeals. If entitled to assigned counsel, PLS will not assist in legal representation.

Public Defenders' Offices

Provide representation for all criminal matters. Applicants must qualify based on income and other conditional factors.

Albany County

112 State Street, 2nd Floor, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 447-7150

Conflict Defender Telephone: 518-447-5532

Rensselaer County

County Courthouse, 82 Congress Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 270-4030

Conflict Defender Telephone: 518-270-2802

Schenectady County
519 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 386-2266
Conflict Defender Telephone: (518) 388-4782

Public Utility Law Project
Website: <https://utilityproject.org>
Telephone: 1-877-669-2572

A “help center” program that provides direct assistance or advice to consumers concerning electric, gas, and telephone utility issues. Explains the procedures regarding administrative complaint and informal hearing procedures for dealing with residential customer complaints.

Roarke Center
107 4th Street, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518)273-8351 Fax: (518) 270-0579
Website: www.roarkecenter.wordpress.com

Provides case management for people who need help in accessing benefits and services and for women with legal issues or leaving incarceration.

Disability Advocates (US Veterans and Non-Vets):

Access Disability Advocates (Serving Disabled US Veterans)
641 Grooms Road Ste 234,
Clifton Park, NY
Telephone: 518-377-4204

Website: [Access Disability Advocates - Providing Social Security Disability Representation Across America](#)

Center for Disability Rights
99 Washington Ave, Ste 806B
Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: 518-320-7100

Website: [Center for Disability Rights – Integration, Independence, Civil Rights \(cdrnys.org\)](#)

Disability Advocates, Inc.
5 Clinton Square – 3rd Floor
Albany, NY 12207
Telephone #: 518-432-7861

Website: [SSDI and Benefits Help | Social Security Disability Advocates \(socialsecuritydisabilityadvocatesusa.com\)](#)

Disability Right New York

725 Broadway, Suite 450

Albany, NY 12207

Telephone #: 518-432-7861/1-800-993-8982

Website: [Disability Rights New York - Disability Rights New York \(drny.org\)](#)

Legal Immigration Services

Albany County Regional Immigration Assistance Center
Region 3

112 State Street, Suite 720

Albany, New York 12207

Telephone: (518) 447-4890

Services: To assist, train, advise and support all attorneys assigned to provide mandated representation to noncitizen clients in family court and criminal court proceedings throughout the Capital District and Northern New York. Criminal charges, convictions, and/or plea agreements and sentencing dispositions. Appellate and post-conviction relief options, Family Court dispositions which include matters involving child support and family law offenses.

Albany Law School Immigration Law Clinic

80 New Scotland Ave.,

Albany, NY 12208

Telephone: 518-445-2328

Website: www.albanylaw.edu/cjc/clinics/immigration-lawclinic

Services: Under the direct supervision of an Albany Law School faculty member, law students are trained to provide direct representation to both detained and non-detained immigrants, including immigrant victims of domestic violence, intimate partner violence and sexual assault. The cases may include special immigrant juveniles, applications under the Violence Against Women Act, representation of victims of violent crime in U-Visa applications, adjustment applications, bond applications, and any other claim for immigration relief

that may be available. Students will learn and practice essential lawyering skills and draft correspondence, pleadings, motions and forms central to the application for an immigration benefit.

Empire Justice Center
119 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 462-6831 Fax: (518) 935-2852

The Albany Office has a program for the representation of immigrant victims of domestic violence and other crimes. This section of the website provides information and resources both about immigrants and their access to public services and benefits and about potential immigration remedies for those immigrants who are victims of domestic violence and other crimes.

The Legal Aid Society
95 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

Website: <http://www.lasny.org> Email: info@lasny.org

Telephone: (518) 462-6765 Toll-free: 1-800-963-5604

Fax: (518) 427-8352

Services: Adjustment of Status, Consular Processing, Employment authorization, Family-based petitions, Naturalization/Citizenship, Removal hearings, T visas, U visas, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) petitions.

The Legal Project Immigration Legal Network
24 Aviation Rd Suite 101
Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518)-435-1770

Services: Petition to bring family members to the United States
Petition to allow family members to stay in the United States
Petition for legal status for victims of domestic violence by a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident; Petition for legal status for victims of certain other crimes; Apply for a green card, apply for asylum; Apply for Consideration for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); Apply to travel outside of the United States; Apply for a work permit

Prisoners' Legal Services (PLS)
41 State St., Suite M112, Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: 518-694-8699/Fax: 518-438-6643
Website: www.plsny.org

Provides legal services to persons incarcerated in the New York State prison system who cannot afford legal representation. Does not handle criminal trials or direct criminal appeals. If entitled to assigned counsel, PLS will not assist in legal representation.

Lawyer Referral and Information Services:

The following are programs that will refer individuals to local attorneys. Lawyers participating in the service have agreed to charge \$25 for the initial 12-hour consultation to discuss legal problems. Any fees beyond the initial consultation fee will be decided between you and the lawyer.

New York State Bar Association
1 Elk Street, Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 463-3200
Website: www.nysba.org/lawyerreferral

Provides a series of informational pamphlets on an individual's legal rights.

Albany County Bar Association
112 State St., Suite 1120, Albany, NY 12207
Telephone: (518) 445-7691
Website: www.albanycountybar.org Pro bono (free) referrals are sometimes possible if applicants qualify.

Rensselaer County Bar Association
P.O. Box 395, Troy, NY 12180/email: info@renscobar.org
Website: www.renscobar.org

Schenectady County Bar Association
P.O. Box 1728, Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 393-4115
Website: www.schenectadycountybar.org

Human Rights Resources

Division of Human Rights

New York State Empire State Plaza, Agency Building, 2nd
Floor Mailing: P.O. BOX 2049 Albany, NY 12220

Telephone: (518) 474-2705/Fax: (518) 473-3422

Website: www.dhr.ny.gov/index.html

Administers the New York State human rights law which prohibits discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, disability, marital status, age, arrest record, and conviction in employment, housing, places of public accommodations, and credit. Accepts and helps to prepare and process complaints from individuals who believe that they have been discriminated against. Serves 16 northeastern New York counties including Albany, Rensselaer, and Schenectady.

Human Rights Commission, City of Albany

24 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 434-5284

Investigates discrimination complaints based on race, gender, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability. Must make an appointment with an investigator.

Human Rights Commission, County of Schenectady

620 State Street, 2nd Floor, Room 305, Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: (518) 384-3627/Fax: (518) 384-3602

Website: www.schenectadycounty.com/humanrights

Receives complaints of alleged discrimination based on race, creed, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age. Serves as a fair housing office. Seeks to eliminate discrimination through community conferences and conciliation.

Community Resources

16
17



*"The best way to find yourself is to be
yourself in the service of others."*

-Mahatma Gandhi

Note: In development in 2023: Albany.gov's Department of Neighborhood & Community Services:

Improving Residents' Quality of Life, Neighborhood by Neighborhood:

- Create a new Department of Neighborhood & Community Services
200 Henry Johnson Boulevard will now be known as The Neighborhood Center where the public will have seamless access to City services and information while maintaining the highest levels of customer service
- A true "one stop shop," the Department will partner with residents, community groups, and local businesses to help enhance Albany's vibrant neighborhoods and reflect the City's diverse population through a neighborhood-focused approach to planning, community development, and code enforcement

Community Resources

A Village Inc.

3 Lincoln Square, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 859-4305 Fax: (518) 729-5921

A grass roots group that is working to improve, enrich, and empower the lives of children and families in the Albany South End community and beyond, by reclaiming the neighborhoods and by encouraging, engaging, and empowering the communities. President: Willie J. White

Albany Citizens' Police Review Board

c/o Government Law Center, Albany Law School

80 New Scotland Avenue

Albany, NY 12208-3494/e-mail: cprb@albanylaw.edu

Phone: 518-445-2383/Fax: (518) 445-2303

The Board reviews complaints lodged against the Albany Police Department. The Government Law Center can offer further information on the Board's operation and complaint procedure.

Birth Right

12 Jay Street #1, Schenectady, 12305

Telephone: (518) 370-1532 HOTLINE: 1-800-550-4900

A free and confidential pregnancy crisis center. Offers pregnancy tests, support for pregnant females, and provides maternity and baby clothes. Also assists in finding homes and apartments and

provides temporary shelter for pregnant women. Offers legal, financial, and educational aid.

Capital District Latinos

160 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: 518-898-9438

Website: <https://acacianetwork.org/cdl>

Founded in 2010, Capital District Latinos (CDL) is a nonprofit organization that seeks to create conditions for the success of the Latino community in the Capital District.

Center for Law and Justice, Inc.

Physical Location: 220 Green Street, Albany, NY 12202

Mailing Address: Pine West Plaza #2, Washington Avenue
Ext., Albany, NY 12205

Phone: (518) 427-8361 Fax: (518) 427-8362

Email: info.cflj@gmail.com/Website: www.cflj.org

Provides legal and criminal justice information and referrals.

Provides NO LEGAL REPRESENTATION in Court.

Centro Civico Ibero (Services Capital District)

143 E. Main Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010

Telephone: (518) 842-3762

Website: [Centro Civico - Ibero](#)

A dual-language not-for-profit that provides programs and services to individuals and families who are focused on building greater self-sufficiency. Services include adult literacy and language courses, health and education programs, employment services, affordable housing opportunities, small business development, and consumer advocacy for individuals with special needs.

Community Crisis Network/Schenectady Community Action Program

913 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY 12307

Telephone: (518) 374-9181

Provides immediate crisis intervention, comprehensive assessment, and help in accessing appropriate community resources for those in need due to homelessness, unemployment,

or poverty. Hours are Monday - Friday 8:30am- 4:30pm, Wednesday until 6:30pm.

Northern Rivers JumpStart
60 Academy Road, Albany, NY
Telephone: 518-982-2188
Website: nrfs.org/jumpstart

Help any City of Albany resident with short term services to secure housing, food, Insurance (Medicaid), Public Assistance/SNAP, IDs, etc.

NYS Jail Justice Network
33 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: Thomas Kearney: 518-720-9556/Jerome Wright:
716-907-5706

Website: [Home - NYS Jails Justice Network](#)

Committed to reducing harm of jails on everyone – especially targeted individuals and communities.

Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP)
913 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 374-9181

Provides job-readiness training to displaced employees, including those receiving social services, through classes offered at Schenectady Community College and a job placement counselor. In addition, the program provides advocacy and assistance with public benefits, Social Security, Medicaid, unemployment benefits, food stamps,

Schenectady Inner City Ministry Center (SICM)
1055 Wendell Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12308
Telephone: (518) 374-2683 Fax: (518) 382-1871

Programs include food assistance, security deposit loan fund program, employment training center, and appliance assistance. SICM is also home to the Damien Center, a drop-in center for individuals infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

United Way 211

Telephone: dial 211 or 1-888-366-3211 (Toll Free) Hours
of Operation: Monday-Friday, 9-5p.m.

Website: www.211ny.org (Northeast Region)

If you don't know where to turn, call 211! Call to receive help with: food, housing, childcare, employment, senior care, substance abuse, mental health, financial problems, crisis counseling, legal matters, and volunteer opportunities. 70% of New Yorkers are covered by 211, just dial 211 and if your county is a participant it will connect to the regional 211. The Northeast region contains Albany, Colombia, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, and Washington counties.

Unity House of Troy, Inc.

2431 Sixth Ave, Troy NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 274-2607 Fax: (518) 271-9687

Website: <http://www.unityhouseny.org/>

24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: (518) 272-2370 (accepts collect calls). Provides housing, case management, and counseling services for adults diagnosed with a mental illness, as well as crisis intervention, advocacy, skills teaching and support.

Burial Assistance Programs:

Albany Department of Social Services -518-447-7005

Re-Entry Programs/Resources:

NYS Re-Entry Task Force Locations Brochure:

<https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/initiatives/reentry-docs/reentry-brochure-2017.pdf>

ACAP Career Services

333 Sheridan Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

Telephone: 518-463-3175

Website: <https://albanycap.org/>

Albany County Re-entry Task Force

C/O Department of Mental Health

175 Green St., Albany, NY 12202

Phone: (518) 447-2003

Website/Brochure: [reentry-brochure-2015.pdf \(ny.gov\)](#)

The mission of Task Force is to increase public safety and to reduce recidivism by developing a strong reentry system that emphasizes evidence-based principles and approaches to addressing the criminogenic needs of formerly incarcerated individuals.

Capital Area Against Mass Incarceration

E-mail: support@actionnetwork.org/Website: Contact Us - Action Network

Center for Employment Opportunity (CEO)

41 State Street, Suite 408

Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: 518-426-0390

Website: www.ceoworks.org

NYS Division of Criminal Justice

County Re-Entry Task Force Initiatives

Alfred E. Smith State Office Building

80 South Swan St., Albany, New York 12210

Website: [County Re-Entry Task Force Initiative - NY DCJS](#)

Re-Entry Task Force Brochure: [Re-entry FINAL 2022 Brochure 04 27 22 English.pdf \(ny.gov\)](#)

The goal of New York State's re-entry strategy is to reduce recidivism and promote community safety.

P & P Rock Initiative

P.O. Box 1512, Troy, NY 12181 Telephone: (518) 253-6484

P & P Rock Initiative is a program sponsored by the Triumphant Development Corporation (TDC). The P & P Rock Initiative assists men and women in their transition from incarceration, probation, parole or drug rehabilitation as they move toward integrating back into the community.

Re-entry.net/Website: [Reentry Net - A collaborative education and resource center for individuals and organizations advocating for people with criminal records and their families](#)

Serving people from incarceration to reintegration

Rensselaer County Re-entry Task Force
C/O District Attorney's Office
80 Second St., Troy, NY 12180
(518) 270-4002

ROOTS, Inc/Trinity Alliance
15 Trinity Pl, Albany, NY
Text: 518-268-8029/e-mail: a.morris@ta-cr.org
Website: www.rootsinc.net

Schenectady County Re-Entry Task Force
c/o The Center for Community Justice
144 Barrett Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Phone 518-346-1281/Fax 518-346-1311
Regular Office Hours:
Monday-Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
We are closed for lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
We follow the federal holiday schedule and will be closed accordingly. We will close at 3:00 pm on Fridays during the summer months of July and August
<https://www.theccj.org/>

T.H.E. Program, Peter G. Young Housing, Industry and Treatment, Inc.
134 Franklin Street, Albany, NY 12202
Telephone: (518) 465-8034 Fax: (518) 465-6632
Programs are designed to assist criminal justice clients affected by substance abuse. Multiple programs located throughout upstate New York provide treatment, housing, employment training and alternatives to incarceration.

Trinity Alliance Arbor Hill Center
47 North Lark Street, Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 463-1516
Website: www.trinityalliancealbany.org/re-entry/
Re-Entry, otherwise known as Jail Transition, assists youth, ages 17-20, who currently reside in the Albany County Jail through assessment, crisis intervention, referral for critical service needs and post release planning. The core of this program features a 12-session series of workshops that focus on a new way of thinking, problem solving and daily living skills, job readiness, and special presentations from key areas of the community.

Immigration Resources

USCRI Albany

99 Pine St. Suite 101, Albany, NY 12207

Phone: 518-459-1790 Fax: 518-459-1876

Website: www.refugees.org/field-office/albany/

Email: info@uscra-albany.org

By appointment: Monday – Thursday 9 AM – 5 PM.

Drop-in hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 1 – 3 PM

Areas of immigration assistance: Adjustment of Status, Consular Processing, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Employment authorization, Family-based petitions, Naturalization/Citizenship, T visas, Temporary Protected Status (TPS), U visas; Help completing forms, Filings with USCIS, Employment services, ESL, Language services, Legal Orientation Programs (LOP) / Know Your Rights Presentations (KYR), Office Of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)funded services for trafficking victims, Referrals to other services.

Catholic Charities of Albany

40 N. Main Ave. Albany, NY 12203

Website: <http://www.ccrca.org>

Email: catholic.charities@rcda.org

Phone: (518) 453-6650 Fax: (518) 453-6792

Areas of immigration assistance: Adjustment of Status, Consular Processing, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Employment authorization, Family-based petitions, Naturalization/Citizenship, Temporary Protected Status (TPS); Help completing forms, Filings with USCIS

NY Connects: 1-800-342-9871

Prisoner's Legal Services: 518-438-8046

Refugee and Immigrant Support Services of Emmaus (RISSE)

715 Morris Street

Albany, NY 12208

Tel: (518) 621 – 1041 Fax: (518) 487-4912

Email: info@risse-albany.org

Website: www.risse-albany.org

Adult Services: ESL Group instruction, September-June: Mon-Fri 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm, July and August: Mon-Fri 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Computer access for assisted job and housing search Youth Services: ESL After-school Program (NYS licensed) and homework help for children ages 5-13 September-June: after school - 6:00 pm

ESL Summer School Program (NYS licensed) for children ages 5-13 July and August: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm. hot meals and healthy snacks for after-school and summer students. Structured play times. Naturalization/Citizenship Classes - Must Pre-Register.

Immigration Service Complaints:

NYS Attorney General's Immigration Fraud Hotline:

1-866-3902992

Services: Provides assistance to immigrants who have been victims of fraudulent consultation and false information regarding immigration-based issues.

Telephone Conversation Partners

Telephone Conversation Partners gives immigrant families who are learning to speak English a chance to improve their English skills by providing a safe, supportive environment for learning. The program pairs volunteer tutors with ESL students who want to increase the duration and intensity of their language learning opportunities. Partners speak over the phone 30 minutes a week for conversation practice. Tutors are trained and provided scripts of scenarios that deal with useful everyday situations. Cultural exchange is a fundamental part and a natural outcome of this program. Intake Procedure: Call 518-274-8526

Library Resources:

Libraries cannot provide legal advice. Please call for days and hours that the library is open.

New York State Library

222 Madison Avenue, 7th floor, Albany, NY 12230 Located above the State Museum.

Telephone: (518) 474-5355

Provides an extensive law library and will supply basic instructions on the use of the library. Open M-F from 9 AM to 5 PM.

Thomas E. Dewey Library for Public Affairs and Policy
State University at Albany, Mine Hall
135 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12222
Telephone: (518) 442-3691

Provides an extensive collection of American law materials including statutes, case reporters, law reviews, and monographs. Emphasis is on criminal law, public law, and social welfare. Reference assistance is provided regarding the use of the collection. Librarian cannot provide legal advice.

Law Libraries

Schaffer Law Library
Sage College of Albany
80 New Scotland Ave, Albany, NY 12208 Telephone: (518) 445-2340

Provides a complete law library and will supply basic instructions on the use of the library.

Albany City Public Library Locations

Arbor Hill/West Hill Branch
148 Henry Johnson Boulevard, Albany NY 12210
Telephone: 518-694-0596
Email: arborhillwesthill@albanypubliclibrary.org
Website:
www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/arborhillwesthill/

Bach Branch
455 New Scotland Avenue, Albany NY 12208
Telephone: 518-482-2154
Email: bach@albanypubliclibrary.org
Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/Bach/

Delaware Branch
331 Delaware Avenue, Albany NY 12209
Telephone: 518-463-0254
Email: delaware@albanypubliclibrary.org
Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/Delaware/

Howe Branch

105 Schuyler Street, Albany NY 12202

Telephone: 518-472-9485

Email: howe@albanypubliclibrary.org

Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/Howe/

North Albany Branch

616 North Pearl Street, Albany NY 12204

Telephone: 518-463-1581

Email: northalbany@albanypubliclibrary.org

Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/north-albany/

Pine Hills Branch

517 Western Avenue, Albany NY 12203

Telephone: 518-482-7911

Email: pinehills@albanypubliclibrary.org

Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/pine-hills/

Washington Avenue Branch

161 Washington Avenue, Albany NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 427-4300

Email: washingtonave@albanypubliclibrary.org

Website: www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/washingtonavenue-branch/

Albany County Library Locations

Bethlehem Public Library

451 Delaware Ave, Delmar, NY 12054

Telephone: (518) 439-9314

Website: www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/

Cohoes Public Library

169 Mohawk Street #21, Cohoes, NY 12047

Telephone: (518) 235-2570

Website: www.cohoespubliclibrary.org/

Colonie Town Library

629 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville, NY 12211

Telephone: (518) 458-9274

Website: www.colonielibrary.org/

Guilderland Public Library
2228 Western Avenue, Guilderland, NY 12084
Telephone: (518) 456-2400 Website: www.guilpl.org/

Menands Public Library
4 N. Lyons Ave. Menands, NY 12204
Telephone: (518) 463-4035
Website: www.menandslibrary.org/

Watervliet Public Library
1501 Broadway Watervliet, NY 12189 Phone: (518) 274-4471
Website: www.watervlietpubliclibrary.com/

Schenectady County Public Library Locations

Central Library
99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 388-4544

Glenville Branch Library
20 Glenridge Road, Glenville, NY 12302
Telephone: (518) 386-2243

Niskayuna Branch Library
2400 Nott Street East Niskayuna, NY 12309
Telephone: (518) 386-2249

Phyllis Bornt Branch Library & Literacy Center
948 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12307
Telephone: (518) 372-4393

Rotterdam Branch Library
1100 N. Westcott Road, Schenectady, NY 12306
Telephone: (518) 356-3440

Mont Pleasant Branch
1026 Crane Street, Schenectady, NY 12303
Telephone: (518) 386-2245

Quaker Street Branch
133 Bull Street, Delanson, NY 12053
Telephone: (518) 895-2719

Scotia Branch
14 Mohawk Avenue, Scotia, NY 12302
Telephone: (518) 386-2247

Woodlawn Branch
2 Sanford Street, Schenectady, NY 12304
Telephone: (518) 386-2248

Rensselaer County Library Locations

Rensselaer Public Library
676 East Street, Rensselaer, NY 12144
Telephone: (518) 462-1193 Fax 462-2819
Website: www.renselaerlibrary.org/
Cheney Library 73 Classic Street Hoosick Falls, NY 12090-0177
Telephone: (518) 686-9401 <http://www.cheneylibrary.org/>

East Greenbush Community Library
10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY 12061
Telephone: (518) 477-7476 Fax 518-477-6692
Website: www.eastgreenbushlibrary.org/

Troy City Library Locations

Troy Public Library - Main Library
100 Second Street, Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 274-7071 Fax: (518) 271-9154
Email: troyref@thetroylibrary.org www.thetroylibrary.org/

Lansingburgh Branch
27 114th Street, Troy, NY 12182
Telephone: (518) 235-5310

Quick Phone Reference Guide:

Complaints Against Police Officers:
Citizens' Police Review Board: 518-455-2329

Complaints Against Lawyers:
Committee on Professional Standards: 518-285-8350
Lawyers Fund for Client Protection: 518-434-1935

Complaints Against A Judge:
Commission on Judicial Conduct: 518-453-4600

In Need of A Lawyer?:

[Albany Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services - Justia New York Lawyer Directory](#)

NYS Bar Association: 1-800-342-3661

Albany County Bar Association: 518-445-7691

The Legal Project: 518-435-1770

Legal Aid Society: 518-462-6765/1-800-462-2922

Legal Hand: 518-400-5544

Empire Justice Center: 518-462-6831

Prisoners' Legal Services: 518-438-8046

Public Defenders: 518-447-7150

Albany Law School: 518-445-2338

Correctional Services:

NYS Commission of Corrections: 518-485-2346

NYS Correctional Services: 518-457-8126

State Inspector General: 518-474-1010

New York State Prison System

17
18



*"We must stop the trend of closing schools
and building prisons."*

-Gale Sayers

New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision

1220 Washington Avenue
Building 2, State Campus
Albany, NY 12226
Telephone: (518) 457-8126

The New York State Department of Correctional Services is the state agency that operates the state's prisons. The DOCCS administration, based in Albany, includes many different offices responsible for a variety of functions.

DOCCS Classification and Movement

Telephone: (518) 457-6022

Provides information on transfers within the system. If you know the person's DIN (department identification number), you may receive information on his/her custody status by calling the automated New York State VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) system at 888-846-3469.

DOCCS Office of Guidance and Counseling

Telephone: (518) 402-1813

Oversees education and counseling services at all facilities. Each state correctional facility assigns counselors to prisoners. Please call the appropriate facility to speak with an inmate's counselor.

DOCCS Office of Ministerial, Family and Volunteer Services

Telephone: (518) 402-1700

Email: MFVS@doccs.ny.gov

Provides incarcerated individuals with access to religious, family, therapeutic, educational and recreational activities through staff, contract service providers and community volunteers. Family reunification programs are also an integral part of this division providing opportunities for incarcerated individuals to interact with family members in a variety of programs. Core services include:

- Pastoral care
- Religious services
- Holy Days celebrations
- Authorized facility religious programs

- Family Reunion activities
- Video visitation
- Volunteer activities

DOCCS Office of Public Information

Telephone: (518) 457-8182

Manages media relations, television and film requests, website and social media content and event planning, and provides access to information about facilities, employees, parolees and incarcerated individuals.

New York State Commission of Correction

Alfred E. Smith State Office Building

80 South Swan Street, 12th Floor

Albany, NY 12210

Telephone: (518) 485-2346

The New York State Commission of Correction has a mission to provide for a safe, stable and humane correctional system in New York State. To this end, the Commission promulgates minimum standards for the management of correctional facilities; evaluates, investigates and oversees local and state correctional facilities and police lock-ups; assists in developing new correctional facilities; and provides technical assistance.

New York State Office of the Inspector General

Empire State Plaza

Agency Building 2, 16th Floor

Albany, NY 12223

Telephone: (518) 474-1010

The Inspector General's Office is entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that state government, its employees and those who work with the state meet the highest standards of honesty, accountability, and efficiency.

DOCCS Office of Special Investigations (OSI)

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DOCCS Office of Special Investigations (OSI) serves as the Department's investigative body, pursuant to Directive 0700 and Correction Law §§ 112 and 621. The primary mission of OSI is to advance the mission and statutory mandates of the Department; vigorously pursue justice through fair, thorough, and impartial investigations; and foster accountability, integrity, and safety within the Department.

Sex Offender Regulations

18
19



"I am a firm believer that upon release, ex-offenders should be afforded a second chance to become productive citizens..."

-Charles B. Rangel

Sex Offender Registration Act (“SORA”)

SORA General Information

New York State’s Sex Offender Registration Act applies to:

- Individuals who committed certain sex offenses on or after 1/21/1996.
- Individuals who committed an offense before 1/21/1996 if that individual was still serving a sentence of probation, parole or incarceration for a specified offense when the law went into effect.

If you were convicted of a crime requiring registration you will be asked to sign a Sex Offender Registration Form. This form explains your responsibility to register your address with the Division of Criminal Justice Services (“DCJS”) on an annual basis, provide written notice of any change of address within ten (10) days of the change, and any other obligations under the law that may pertain to you.

A Court will determine your risk level under Section 168-d of the Correction Law, which controls the amount of information that can be made available about you to the public. The Court’s designation also determines the length of time you must register as a sex offender.

If you ever move to another state, you may be required to register as a sex offender in the other state. Your duties to New York State under the Sex Offender Registration Act continue.

Sex Offender Risk Levels and Designations

If you have been convicted of a registerable crime, you will have a SORA hearing and one of the following risk levels will be assigned to you:

- Level 1 – low risk of repeat offense
- Level 2 – moderate risk of repeat offense
- Level 3 – high risk of repeat offense and a threat to public safety exists

If you are assigned a risk level of 1, confirmation of your registration is available to the public. If you are assigned a risk level of 2 or 3, all registration information including your address is available to the public.

Additionally, at your SORA hearing, the Court will determine a designation, if applicable, of sexual predator, sexually violent offender, or predicate sex offender.

You are entitled to have legal counsel represent you at your SORA hearing, which will be scheduled shortly before your release. If you cannot afford an attorney, the Court will assign you a public defender or some other court-appointed counsel.

Failure to Register and other SORA-related Offenses

If you fail to register or verify your address and other required information with the Registry, you may be convicted of a Class E Felony. If you are convicted of a second or subsequent offense, you may be found guilty of a Class D Felony. Failure to register or verify may also be the basis for revoking your release status.

Specific Requirements for Sex Offenders

The Sexual Assault Reform Act (“SARA”) applies to certain sex offender cases. A mandatory condition of release applies to you if you are a Level 3 sex offender or were convicted of a sex crime on or after 2/1/2001 and are serving one or more sentences for a specified sex offense, and the victim was under the age of 18 at the time of the offense. You will not be allowed to be near or enter upon any school grounds or any other facilities or institutions primarily used for the care and treatment of persons under the age of 18, unless you meet certain criteria and have the written permission of your PO.

Probation & Conditional Discharge

19
20



"Man must live, not only exist; he must do, not merely be; he must grow, not just vegetate."

-Spencer W. Kimball

Probation – Overview

Probation is a sentence or disposition imposed by a criminal court or family court. In general, probationers are released in the community without serving a period of local incarceration, although in certain circumstances they may be sentenced to both local imprisonment and probation. The sentence of incarceration is a condition of and runs concurrently with a sentence of probation. Probation is a county function in New York State.

Alternatively, an individual who is sentenced to prison time would be released to community supervision (commonly known as “parole”). If an individual has their probation revoked and they are resentenced to prison time, their term of probation is over and, once released, will be under community supervision. Please see Parole Overview page 2 for more information on parole.

Probation Revocation

Declaration of Delinquency

Any time during a period of probation or conditional discharge, the court may issue a declaration of delinquency if it has reason to believe that the defendant has violated a condition of the sentence.

i. Notice to Appear

The court may order a defendant under a sentence of probation or conditional discharge to appear in court on a certain day/time. A notice will either be mailed to the defendant or delivered personally. Failure of the defendant to appear in court after receiving a notice is considered a violation of the sentence.

ii. Warrant

When the court believes that a defendant has violated a condition of the sentence, it may issue a warrant directing that the defendant be taken into custody and appear before the court without delay.

1. Appearance before the Court

When a defendant has been brought before the court for a violation of a condition of probation or conditional discharge, the court will:

- Commit the defendant to the custody of the sheriff (jail); or
- Set bail; or
- Release the defendant on their own recognizance to return for the next court date.

Hearing on Violation

The court cannot revoke a sentence of probation or conditional discharge unless the court finds that the defendant violated a condition of probation and the defendant has had an opportunity to be heard in court. This process is often referred to as a “VOP” (violation of probation) hearing.

i. Statement of Violation

The court must provide the defendant with a statement that explains which orders and conditions of probation he/she is alleged to have violated and a description of the time, place and manner of the violation.

ii. The VOP Hearing

The defendant has the right to a hearing to determine whether he/she has violated a term and/or condition of probation supervision. The judge will conduct the hearing, not a jury. The defendant has the right to present evidence and cross examine witnesses.

1. Right to Counsel - The defendant has the right to an attorney at all stages of the probation violation process.
2. Standard of Proof - The standard of proof at a VOP hearing is a preponderance of the evidence. I.e. – the prosecutor must submit evidence (either physical evidence, testimony, or both) that convinces the judge that there is a greater than 50% chance that you violated a term and condition of your probation supervision. At

the conclusion of the hearing, the court may revoke, continue, or modify the defendant's sentence.

iii. Revocation

If the court revokes the sentence, the defendant may be sentenced to a period of imprisonment according to the original crime of conviction.

iv. Continuation or Modification of Sentence

If the defendant is not found in violation of the sentence, he or she will be ordered released. If the court finds the defendant in violation, but decides to continue or modify the sentence, the defendant's term of probation or conditional discharge will be extended up to the time spent on the violation proceedings.

Complaints Against Probation Officers

To make a complaint against a probation officer, contact the officer's supervisor or the County Director of Probation. If dissatisfied with the outcome, contact the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Alfred E. Smith Building, 80 S. Swan St., Albany, NY 12210.

Transferring Probation

Information in this part is cited from the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision Rules, effective June 1, 2009.

The Interstate Compact for Probation is an agreement among the fifty states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia that allows individuals on probation in one state to be supervised in another state. The basic authority for the Interstate Compact is contained in federal legislation originally passed in 1934.

Eligibility for Probation Transfer

At the discretion of the Sending State, an offender shall be eligible for transfer of supervision to a Receiving State, and the Receiving State shall accept transfer, if the offender:

- 1) has more than 90 days or an indefinite period of supervision remaining at the time the Sending State transmits the transfer request; AND
- 2) has a valid plan of supervision; AND
- 3) is in substantial compliance with the terms of supervision in the Sending State; AND
- 4) is a resident of the Receiving State OR has resident family in the Receiving State who have indicated a willingness and ability to assist as specified in the plan of supervision; AND
- 5) can obtain employment in Receiving State or has means of support.

Acceptance of the Offender by Receiving State

A Sending State must submit a completed transfer request with all required information to the Receiving State prior to allowing the offender to leave the Sending State. The Sending State cannot allow the offender to travel to the Receiving State until the Receiving State has replied to the transfer request. It is important to note that a transfer to another state or county is a privilege provided to individuals who are currently complying with their terms and conditions of probation or parole. Both the Receiving State and the Sending State can deny the transfer. For exceptions governing offenders who are residents of living in the receiving state at the time of sentencing, see ICAOS Rules at <http://tinyurl.com/interstatetransfer>

Victims' right to be heard and comment

When an offender submits a request to transfer to a Receiving State or to return to a Sending State, the Victim Notification Authority in the Sending State must inform victims of their right to be heard and comment. Victims of the offender have the right to be heard regarding their concerns for their safety and family members' safety relating to the transfer request. Victims have the right to contact the Sending State's Interstate Compact Office at any time regarding their concerns for their safety and family members' safety relating to the transfer request. The Victim Notification Authority in the Sending State must provide victims with information regarding how to respond and be heard if the victim so chooses.

Courts

20
21



"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Local Trial Courts:

Albany County Courts

Albany Supreme and County Courts

16 Eagle Street, Room 102, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 285-8989

Website: www.tinyurl.com/AlbanyCounty

Albany County Family Court

30 Clinton Avenue, Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 285-8600

Albany City Courts

Albany City Criminal Court

1 Morton Ave & Broad Street, Albany, NY 12202

Telephone: (518) 453-5520

Website: www.tinyurl.com/AlbanyCriminal

Email: AlbanyCriminalCourt@nycourts.gov

Albany City Civil Court

Albany City Hall, 24 Eagle Street, Room 209, Albany, NY
12207 Telephone (Civil): (518) 453-4640

Email: AlbanyCivilCourt@nycourts.gov

Website: www.tinyurl.com/AlbanyCivil

Albany City Traffic Court

Albany City Hall, 24 Eagle Street, Basement, Albany, NY
12207

Telephone (Traffic): (518) 453-4630

Email: AlbanyTrafficCourt@nycourts.gov

Website: www.tinyurl.com/AlbanyTrafficPart

Rensselaer County Courts

Rensselaer Supreme and County Court

Rensselaer County Courthouse

80 Second Street, Troy, NY 12180

Telephone: (518) 285-5025 Fax: 518-285-5077 Website:

www.tinyurl.com/RensselaerCounty

Rensselaer County Family Court
1504 Fifth Avenue Troy, NY 12180
Telephone: (518) 453-5515 Fax: 518-285-8504

Schenectady County Courts

Schenectady Supreme and County Court
612 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 285-8401

Schenectady County Family Court
620 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 285-8435 Fax: (518) 388-4496

Schenectady City Court
105 Jay Street, Room 205
Schenectady, NY 12305
Phone: 518-453-6989
Website: www.tinyurl.com/SchenectadyCourts

Schenectady City Criminal Court
531 Liberty Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 453-6989 (Option 4)

Schenectady City Civil and Traffic Court
City Hall, Jay Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Civil: Phone: 518-453-6989 (option 5) Fax: 518-453-8984
Traffic: Phone: 518-453-6989 (option 3) Fax: 518-453-8983

Troy City Court

Troy City Court
Criminal Part – 51 State Street 2nd Floor, Troy, N.Y. 12180
Civil Part - 51 State Street 3rd Floor, Troy, N.Y. 12180
Phone: 518-453-5900
Email: TroyCityCourt@nycourts.gov
Website: www.tinyurl.com/TroyCourts Adjournments
will not be accepted via email.

Small Claims Courts

Small claims courts will hear claims made against a resident or corporation of the particular county in which the court is located. Courts have jurisdiction of individuals to sue for up to \$5,000 without a lawyer. Anyone over the age of 18 years old can bring an action against the court.

Albany Small Claims Court

City Hall, 24 Eagle St., Albany, NY 12207 Telephone: (518) 453-4640

Schenectady Small Claims Court

City Hall, 105 Jay Street, Schenectady, NY 12305
Telephone: (518) 453-6869

Troy Small Claims Court

51 State Street, 3rd floor, Troy, NY 12180 Telephone: (518) 453-5900

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN CONTACTING AGENCIES BY MAIL:

- (1) At the top of the first page write your full name and DIN clearly, preferably using all capital letters;
- (2) Many of these agencies receive hundreds of letters per month and the following should be avoided to eliminate any delay in responding to your letter: fancy lettering, small print, letters written in pencil, information not pertaining to your issue or need and illegible handwriting.
- (3) Also make sure you include detailed information about an incident, your issue or needs along with any questions you have.
- (4) If looking for re-entry assistance please include your release date and county you will be returning to.

Notes
