Navigating Benefits.gov: Resources for Community Advocates
Webinar Agenda

- Welcome
- Mission & History
- Categories and Highlights
- The Benefit Finder Tool
- How to Apply
- Quick Info
- Exploring Popular Benefits
- Open Forum Q&A
Mission & History

Our Timeline

- **2002**: GovBenefits.gov launches in 96 days
- **2003**: GovBenefits.gov houses 1k Federal and State Programs
- **2004**: GovLoans.gov launches
- **2005**: Program implements Enterprise Content Management System
- **2006**: Program implements Customer Satisfaction Survey tool
- **2007**: SSA BEST launches
- **2008**: DisasterAssistance.gov launches
- **2010**: Site becomes Benefits.gov, Benefit Finder tool launches, cloud hosting services implemented
- **2012**: Benefits.gov named one of Five Best Government Websites
- **2013**: Benefits.gov and Disaster Assistance.gov go mobile responsive
- **2014**: Excellence.gov Intergovernmental Collaboration Award
- **2016**: Redesigned website and added new Personalization features
- **2017**: Benefits.gov celebrates 15 years of citizen service
- **2018**: Reached a record-breaking 1.4 million site users in one month
What Type of Benefits Are You Looking For?

- Healthcare/Medical Assistance
- Housing and Public Utilities
- Financial Assistance
- Disaster Relief

Benefit Finder
Start the questionnaire to find the right benefits for you.

Start

Benefits.gov is an online resource to help you find federal benefits you may be eligible for in the United States. About Us
Categories and Highlights

Browse Benefits by Category

- **Agriculture/Environmental Sustainability**
  - Example Categories: Agricultural Loans

- **American Indian/Alaska Native**
  - Example Categories: Youth

- **Disaster Relief**
  - Example Categories: Disaster Relief Loans

- **Family and Children Services**
  - Example Categories: Child Care/Child Support, Death Survivor, Early Childhood Services

- **Education/Training**
  - Example Categories: Fellowships, Scholarships, Education Loans

- **Employment/Career Development**

- **Financial Assistance**
  - Example Categories: Tax Assistance, Living Assistance, Insurance

- **Food/Nutrition**

- **Grants**

- **Healthcare/Medical Assistance**
  - Example Categories: Children's Health, Disability Assistance, Medicaid/Medicare

- **Housing and Public Utilities**
  - Example Categories: Energy Assistance, Housing Loans

- **Immigration and Refugee Assistance**

- **Loans**
  - Example Categories: Education Loans, Housing Loans, Loan Repayment

- **Military: Active Duty and Veterans**
  - Example Categories: Veterans Education, Veterans Health, Veterans Loans

- **Social Security/Retirement**
  - Example Categories: Family Social Security, Insured Social Security, Spouse & Widow(er) Social Security

- **Volunteer Opportunities**
Highlights and Categories

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- Example Categories:
  - Tax Assistance
  - Housing Assistance

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  - Veterans Health
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  - Survivors & Widower's Social Security

Volunteer Opportunities

Benefits.gov
Your Path to Government Benefits
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What Type of Benefits Are You Looking For?

1. Disaster Unemployment Assistance
2. Texas Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
3. Texas Medicaid
4. Texas Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Top 4 Most Popular Benefits In Texas

[benefits.gov homepage]
Featured Compass eNewsletter Article

Articles

Mental Health Series: Alzheimer’s
January 31, 2019

In the U.S., approximately 5.5 million adults 65 and older have Alzheimer’s. Benefits.gov wants you to know that there are resources available to help if you or a loved one are affected by Alzheimer’s.

Find Resources to Improve Your Living Conditions
January 31, 2019

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 12% of Americans, or almost 40 million people, are living in poverty. Benefits.gov offers information on a range of resources that can help improve the living conditions of individuals and their families.

Rebuild in the New Year
January 31, 2019

In 2018, many people were impacted by natural disasters, from hurricanes and tropical storms to floods and wildfires. In the new year, disaster relief efforts are still ongoing as individuals and families try to get their lives back to normal.

Facing your Finances in 2019
January 31, 2019

It’s the start of a new year, a time where many people start to organize and adjust areas of their lives, often focusing on health, education, and career.
Job Accommodation Network (JAN)

Program Description

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) provides free, expert and confidential technical assistance to both employees and employers regarding workplace accommodations and disability employment issues.

Program Requirements

Anyone can receive information from JAN. JAN programs are targeted towards employers and employees requiring workplace accommodations for disability or health related issues.

Application Process

JAN offers several ways to obtain confidential, personalized assistance:

- By Phone: From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, customers can call JAN toll-free to speak with a workplace accommodation expert at 1-800-526-7234 or 1-877-781-9403 (TTY).
- Via the Web: AskJAN.org offers more than 300 disability-specific publications, as well as the Searchable Online Accommodation Resource (SOAR), which enables users to explore accommodation options for different disabilities and workplace settings.
- On Demand: JAN's online service provides customers with individualized e-mail responses to questions about accommodations and the ADA.
- Through Social Networks: JAN connects with users through a variety of social media platforms, from Facebook and LinkedIn, to Twitter, blogs, and Second Life.
- Through In-Person Trainings: JAN delivers training workshops at events sponsored by corporations, organizations, and Federal, state, and local governments.

Contact Information

For more information about this program go to:
http://askjan.org/index.html
Quick Info

JAN provides assistance to employers and employees about workplace accommodations and disability employment issues.

1-800-526-7234

Application Information

People Also Viewed

- U.S. Participation at Venice and Cairo Biennale Exhibitions
- Life Sciences Awards
- Identity Protection
Help Center

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Help Center

General Questions
- What is Benefits.gov?
- How often should I use Benefits.gov?
- How do I apply or check my application status for a benefit program?
- What if I am helping someone else?

Benefit Finder
- How does Benefits.gov determine which benefits I may be eligible to receive?
- Why does Benefits.gov say I "may" be eligible to receive benefits in my Results list?
- How much time will it take to complete the Benefit Finder questionnaire?
- Will my benefit results stay on the website for future reference?

Benefit Questions
- How does the Search function work?
- How do I view "popular benefits" in my area?
- What should I know about Government Financial Assistance?
- Where did a benefit program that was previously available go?

Questions?
Contact Us
Get Involved

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What Type of Benefits Are You Looking For?
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As a community advocate, you dedicate your time to serving those in need. Benefits.gov can be a key resource on your path to help others. On Benefits.gov, you can:

**Search**
Search a public database of more than 1,200 government benefits. From anywhere on the site, you can browse by category.

**Create, print and email**
Empower your clients to help themselves by informing them of Benefits.gov and teaching them how to use the site.

**Personalize**
Personalize the benefits search by using the free and confidential Benefit Finder prescreening tool. Find out which benefits your client may be eligible to receive, as well as information on how to apply. Answer questions on behalf of your client or show them how to use the Benefit Finder.

**Empower**
Create, print, and email a customized list of benefits that address your clients' unique circumstances. Add benefits you're interested in to the "Your Favorites" list and share it with your clients.

**Downloads**
Benefits.gov Brochure: English | Spanish
Benefits.gov Poster: English | Spanish
Benefits.gov User Guides: Families | People With Disabilities | Unemployed
Individuals | Seniors | Students | Veterans | Native Americans
Open Forum Q&A

• Thank you for tuning in!
• Any questions?
• Connect with us on Social Media
• Or reach out to us directly:
  – Myung Moon – Moon.Myung@dol.gov
  – Tyler Bryant – Bryant.Tyler.M@dol.gov
  – Jess Condlin – Condlin.Jessica.M@dol.gov