

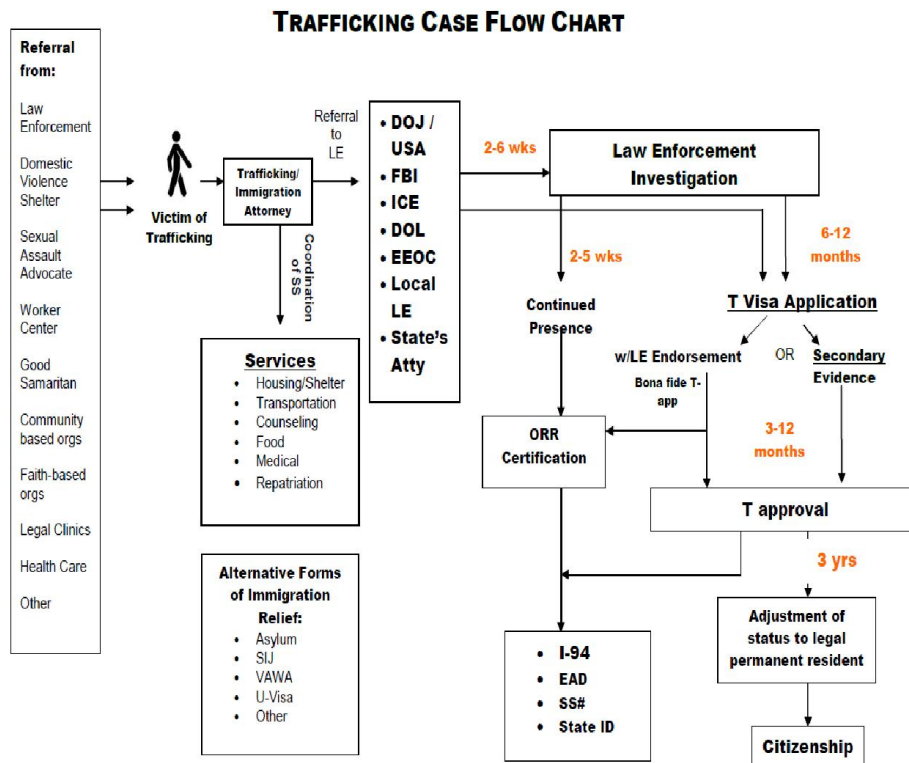
HHS Certification

Adult foreign victims of human trafficking (age 18 and over) who are certified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) can receive federally funded services and benefits to the same extent as refugees. To receive certification, an individual must have completed an application for a T-visa or have received Continued Presence status from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Child victims (under 18) are immediately eligible for benefits and do not need to apply for a T-visa or Continued Presence status. Certified and eligible victims can receive benefits and services necessary for their safety including:

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Housing or shelter assistance | English language training |
| Food assistance | Health care assistance |
| Income assistance | Mental health services |
| Employment assistance | Assistance for victims of torture |

Trafficking Case Flow Chart

The Trafficking Case Flow Chart below, developed by the National Immigration Justice Center, provides a snapshot view of the process and timeline by which foreign victims may seek immigration relief. To ensure trafficking victims’ rights are protected, the first step in seeking immigration relief is to secure legal representation with an immigration attorney. It is highly encouraged that victims should seek legal counsel before contacting law enforcement, or at the earliest possible time thereafter. Legal counsel provides an extra layer of protection that ensures that victims receive fair treatment within the boundaries of current immigration law.



**Adopted from the National Immigration Justice Center.*