

BACK TO SCHOOL TOOL KIT 2024

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FOOD ASSISTANCE

Houston Food Bank

Operates several programs for those in need of food assistance.

- The Houston Food Bank Client Assistance Program (CAP) provides assistance to people who don't have enough money to buy food, and to people who need healthcare for their families through Medicaid, CHIP, Women's Health Initiative. In some cases, help is available to pay bills through TANF cash benefits. Keegan's Kitchen
- Visit their website to find a food pantry, meal site, and/or shelter near you.
<http://www.houstonfoodbank.org/agency-locator>
- Can also call the Houston Food Bank Helpline (number below) to find a pantry near you. 832-369-9390
- HFB has an app that can locate food assistance within 3 miles radius of where you are located.

Emergency Food Pantry

- The purpose of the Emergency Food Pantry is to serve working families who can't access their neighborhood pantry.
- Requirements: Photo ID or two other forms of identification
- Proof of employment (paycheck or paystub) from an employer dated within 30 days of your visit
- These services can be provided every full 30 days
- To find a pantry near you, call 832-369-9390.
- 535 Portwall Street, Houston, TX 77029

Your Texas Help

- <http://yourtexashelp.org/>
- This site will assist with food location, rental assistance etc.

Gulf Coast Community Association

- <http://www.gccsa.org/food-assistance/>
- The **GCCSA Food Pantry** is a Gold Status Houston Food Bank Partner that serves individuals and families who are in need of food in the Greater Houston area. Help with food for 3 – 5 day supply. Assistance one time per year.

Brighter Bites

- Non-profit initiative bringing fresh produce to families while also providing nutrition education. Currently working with various Houston area schools and community centers.
- The project introduces families to fresh produce (each family is given 50 servings of fruits and vegetables in a recyclable bag each week) with combined nutritional education over a 16-week program.
- <http://brighterbites.org/>



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- Call 2-1-1 to get information on food banks in your area. This service also assists with finding many other community health and human services.
- Visit their website below to search for food banks by zip code or city. You can also visit the United Way Houston website, enter your zip code in the keyword box:
referral.unitedwayhouston.org/Search.aspx
- Website: <https://www.211texas.org/cms/search-food-resources-in-texas>
- Phone: 877-541-7905

Doctors For Change

- Food Banks and other community resources by zip code
- <http://dfcguide.org/docs/Food%20Insecurity-5.pdf>

WIC Enrollment

- WIC provides money (in the form of an EBT card) for eligible mothers to purchase approved foods for their infants and/or children.
- Program members are required to re-qualify every 6 months and to attend nutrition classes every 2 months. Program application instructions can be found in the document below. Call to make an appointment to begin the application process.
- Website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/wichd>
- Phone: 832-393-5427

SNAP Enrollment

- Formerly called Food Stamps, SNAP Food Benefits provides money (in the form of an EBT card) for food to individuals and families in need.
- The amount and duration of money provided depends on your family size and income status. Instructions on applying for the SNAP program can be found in the document below, or you can apply online using the link below. Call the Houston Food Bank Hotline if you need assistance applying.
- Website: <https://www.yourtexasbenefits.com/ssp/SSPHome/ssphome.jsp>
- Phone: 832-369-9390 (Houston Food Bank Hotline)

LIFE Houston – Local Infant Formula for Emergencies

- Southeast Houston
 - Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM; Friday 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
 - Requires:
 1. Document showing baby’s name and birth date



2. Photo ID for parent/caregiver
3. Doctor proof of need for specialized formula
 - 2002 S. Wayside Drive, Suite 113 Houston, TX 77023; 713-528-6044
- Central LIFE/Houston
 - Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM Friday 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
 - 170 Heights Blvd. Houston, TX 77007; 713-864-9993
- Southwest LIFE/Houston Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
 - 9600 S. Gessner, Building E Houston, TX 77071
 - 713-270-0369 Food Benefits
 - Client will initially be given enough formula to provide 32 ounces per day for one week

Emergency Food Options

- Loaves and Fishes: Provides free hot meals.
 - Hours: Tuesday - Sunday 11:00 to 11:30AM
 - 2009 Congress Ave Houston, TX 77002
 - Phone: 713-224-1373
 - www.magnificathouse.org
- Hester House: Food pantry once a month for registered clients.
 - Assists with gas and rental need
 - Phone: 713-672-2573
 - www.julianchesterhouse.org
- St. John's United Methodist Church: Food and clothing distribution program.
 - Hours: Wednesdays beginning at 7:00AM, until it is gone.
 - 2019 Crawford Houston, TX 77002
 - Phone: 713-659-3237
- House of Amos: Emergency food pantry.
 - Immunizations and ESL classes also offered.
 - Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00AM - 12:00PM Saturdays 10:00AM - 12:00PM
 - 8030 Boone Road Houston, TX 77072
 - Phone: 281-495-9061
 - www.houseofamos.com
- Community Family Center: Offers food pantry and ESL classes.
 - Hours: Monday to Friday 8:00AM - 4:30PM
 - 7524 Ave E Houston, 77012
 - Phone: 713-923-2316
 - www.communityfamilycenters.org
- Angel Food Ministries: 70-80 host sites in Harris County.
 - Call for host site information: 1-877-366-3646.
- Champions Covenant Church: Services to families in need of food.
 - Low cost daycare available for children ages 6 weeks to kindergarten.

- Friday night activities for children as well from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- 13111 Bammel N. Houston Road Houston, TX 77066
- Phone: 281-397-7569
- www.championscc.org

Summer Feeding Program

- The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) has created the Summer Feeding Program which provides low-income children ages 18 and younger with nutritious meals during the summer vacation.
- Visit their website to find a summer feeding program site near you.
- Summerfood.org
- or text FOOD to 304-304

DENTAL ASSISTANCE

<p>City of Houston Dental Bureau</p>	<p>houstontx.gov/health/Dental/index.html</p>	<p>Provides care to children with Medicaid, CHIP, Title V funding, City Dental cards and legal guardians enrolled in WIC. Has different locations: Magnolia: 7037 Capitol Street Houston, TX 77011; 713-928-9578 Northside: appointments only 8504 Schuller Houston, TX 77093; 713-742-1320 Sharpstown: for children with Medicaid and CHIP only 6201 Bonhomme Rd Houston, TX 77036; 713-780-5680 Sunnyside: 4605 Wilmington Houston, TX 77051; 713-732-5065</p>
<p>Denver Harbor Clinic</p>	<p>denverharborclinic.org</p>	<p>Provides care to children of all ages. Accepts Medicaid, CHIP, CHIP Perinatal, Medicare; offers sliding scale fee discount. 424 Hahlo Street Houston, TX 77020; 713-674-3326</p>
<p>Good Neighbor Health Care Center</p>	<p>freeclinics.com/det/tx_Good_Neighbor_Health_Care_Center</p>	<p>Provides care to patients 7 years and older 190 Heights Blvd Houston, TX 77007; 713-529-3260</p>
<p>Harris County Public Health Clinic</p>	<p>publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Services-Programs/Services/Health-and-Wellness-Clinic-Locations</p>	<p>Clinic is available for maternity clients, children with current Medicaid eligibility and Title V funding, and other children with family income up to 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Call for an appointment. Antoine Health Clinic: 5815 Antoine, Suite A Houston, TX 77091; 713-602-3355 Southeast Dental Clinic: 3737 Red Bluff Pasadena, TX 77503; 713-740-5013</p>
<p>Houston Children's Dental Center</p>	<p>houstonchildrens.com/</p>	<p>Provides care to children (18 months-21 years) and those with special health care needs. Accepts Medicaid, CHIP, and most private insurances. 7007 N Frwy, Suite 400 713-481-9500</p>
<p>Legacy Clinic (Baker-Ripley)</p>	<p>legacycommunityhealth.org/</p>	<p>Provides care to mainly children (6 months - 14 years). Accepts Medicaid, CHIP, other private insurances; offers sliding scale fee discounts. 6500 Rookin St, Building B, Suite 200 Houston, TX 77074 713-351-7350</p>
<p>San Jose Clinic Mission Dentistry Group</p>	<p>sanjoseclinic.org/</p>	<p>Offers exams, fillings, extractions, and cleanings. Cash only. Eligible for children (5 years +) and adults. 2615 Fannin; 713-228-9411</p>

EYE GLASSES AND HEARING AID ASSISTANCE



Assistance for eye exams, glasses or hearing aids should be requested through your local Lions Club. Local clubs determine their ability to help individuals based on their club funds availability. Your local Lions Club organization will be able to advise you on and possibly offer assistance for the purchase of hearing aids or eyeglasses. You can search for and contact your local Lions Club using our [FIND A LOCAL CLUB](#) website.

With the Club Locator there are two ways to search for clubs:

- “Keyword” search allows users to type in a club name or a partial address, and will yield results that match your search term exactly. This is great if you want to find a particular club by name or find all the clubs in your city or country, for example.
- “Location” search is powered by Google Maps, and it allows users to find all the clubs nearby a particular location. A search by town name may yield several results because it will approximate the location of the town on a map and search for all the clubs within a certain radius of that location. This is a powerful way to search if you want to find clubs near your home address.

Once you've located a club, click the envelop icon to send a message to the club.

LOW COST INTERNET



PROVIDER	COST	ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	DETAILS
AT&T https://www.att.com/internet/access/	\$5.00-\$10.00/mo. Plus tax. Price based on maximum speed available at your address Free installation No Contract	At least one person in household must participate in SNAP, National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and Head Start Program or meet household income based on 200% or less than federal poverty guidelines.	Include 150 GB of data allowance per month depending on type and speed of service. Will be charged \$10 for each additional 50 GB of data usage if monthly allowance is exceed.
Xfinity https://www.internetessentials.com ☎ 855-870-1311	\$9.95/mo. Plus tax. If qualify for Xfinity Essentials internet program, also qualify to get a laptop for \$149.99.	New and existing Xfinity customer who are eligible for public assistance program; National School Lunch Program (NSLP), housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, VA pension, or Tribal assistance.	Have not subscribed to Xfinity internet in the last 90 days.
Optimum Advantage https://www.optimumadvantageinternet.com/ ☎ 844-358-3147	\$14.99/mo. Plus tax. Free installation. Internet service might be free if you qualify for Affordable Connectivity Program.	To qualify for Affordable Connectivity Program: live in a household with K-12 and/or college students and child qualifies for National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Seniors and Veterans also qualify.	Offer subject to change and discontinuance without notice. Must not have an outstanding balance with Optimum and live in an area where Optimum is available.
Federal Communication Commission https://www.lifelinesupport.org/	\$9.25 off monthly internet or phone bill through certain ISPs. Can only use Lifeline for phone or internet, but not both.	Household that make less than 135% of federal poverty guideline or have at least one person in household participate in public assistance programs; SNAP, SSI, Veterans Pension and Survivor Benefits, Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA), Medicaid, or Tribal Programs for Native Americans.	Lifeline is a government program funded by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). It provides a monthly phone or internet service discount for low-income households

FREE CELL PHONE SERVICE

PROVIDER	COST	ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	DETAILS
<p>Q Link</p> <p>https://qlinkwireless.com/signup/lifeline-covid-relief-bill/</p>	<p>Through the Lifeline and Emergency Broadband Benefit programs, Q Link Wireless provides Free Unlimited Data, Talk & Text to eligible Americans.</p>	<p>You must qualify for Lifeline and/or EBB by participating in government benefit programs like SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, and more. Additionally, you may be eligible if your household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty level, or if you are currently unemployed.</p>	<p>UNLIMITED Data, Talk & Text with Picture Messaging every month. Bring your own phone and keep your phone number. Will get a free SIM Card with free activation. Part of America's largest 4G LTE/5G Network</p>

Houston Public Library



LIBRARY CARD INFORMATION

Apply for your library card in person at any Houston Public Library location or online.

Get free access to hundreds of resources with a FREE MYLink card. Apply for immediate access to electronic resources including e-books, e-audiobooks, magazines, music, and more.

Children under 18 may get their own library cards with applications signed by parents or guardians.

Online Registration:

<https://houstonlibrary.org/mylink>

- 1) Select Language and Residency Status to begin form
- 2) Select your preferred library location
- 3) Complete Cardholder's information
- 4) Complete Home Address information
- 5) Create a PIN (Personal Identification Number)
 - a. Be sure to create a PIN that is easy to remember
 - b. Your PIN and library card number will allow you access to Houston Public Library resources
- 6) Other Information
 - a. Type of Identification
 - i. Texas Driver's License
 - ii. Texas State ID
 - iii. Other
 1. Passport or Consular Identification Card can be use as a form of identification. If you do not have any other form of identification, you can show a utility bill or insurance card as proof of residency.
 2. *Apply in person to receive physical card
 - b. Type your email address
- 7) Agree with the Registration Terms and click on "Register" to complete online form.
- 8) Upon submitting form, you will receive an email with your digital library card



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In-person Registration:

- 1) Go to your preferred Library location to complete registration in-person
- 2) Upon walking into the library go to the reception desk and let them know you want to apply for a library card
- 3) The staff will direct you to an iPad station to complete the form online or you can request a paper form.
- 4) The form will ask for the following information:
 - a. Select language and residency status
 - b. Select your preferred library location
 - c. Cardholder's information
 - d. Home Address
 - e. Create a PIN (Personal Identification Number)
 - i. Be sure to create a PIN that is easy to remember
 - ii. Your PIN and library card number will allow you to access Houston Public Library resources
 - f. Type your email address
- 5) Upon submitting form, you will receive an email with your digital library card
- 6) To request a physical library card go to the reception desk
- 7) Present a form of identification (e.g., Texas Driver's License, Texas State ID, Passport, and Consular Identification card)
 - a. If you do not have any other form of identification, you can show a utility bill or insurance card as proof of residency.



Houston Public Library

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

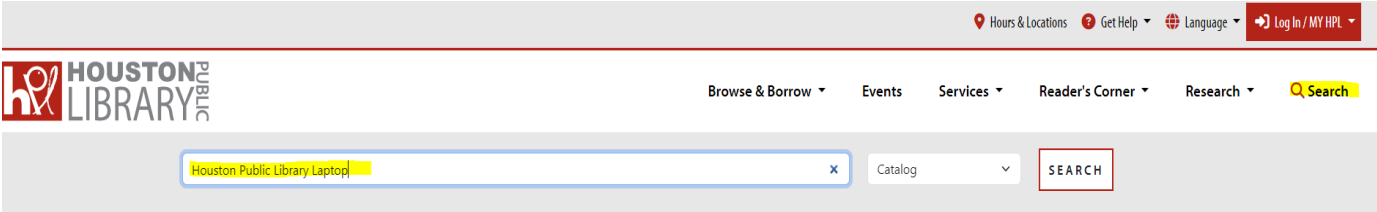
The Houston Public Library (HPL) now has laptops and hotspots available to check out for all library cardholders.

Laptops and mobile hotspots can be check out for up to 3 weeks.

To check out a technology resource please visit the Houston Public Library website, <https://houstonlibrary.org/home>

Central Library Phone: 832-393-1313

1. At the top of the HPL site select “Search”. Type the technology resource you need; “Houston Public Library Laptop” or “Houston Public Library Hotspot” and click “Search”



- a) **Laptop:** Select “Houston Public Library Connected Laptop” After making your selection, click on “Place Hold”.

Connected Laptops are Chromebooks with built-in internet access. Connected Laptops provide the same level of access as a public computer at one of the library locations.



Houston Public Library Connected Laptop
 Format Library of Things
 URL: Search Results

PLACE HOLD
 TEXT TITLE INFO TO ME



b) **Hotspot:** click on “Place Hold” to continue checking out device



2. To complete your hold and check out the selected laptop or Hotspot login using your library card number and pin number.

The screenshot shows a "Log In" form with a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains two input fields: "Library Card #:" and "PIN:". Below the "PIN:" field is a link that says "Trouble Logging In?". At the bottom right of the form is a red button labeled "LOG IN".

Houston Public Library

DIGITAL MEDIA



hoopla is a groundbreaking digital media service offered by your local public library that allows you to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV! With no waiting, titles can be streamed immediately, or downloaded to phones or tablets for offline enjoyment later. Hundreds of thousands of titles to choose from, with more being added daily.

Your public library at your fingertips.



No physical library card is needed to enjoy the electronic resources! Apply online or in person to get your digital library card.



Houston Public Library



COLLEGE RESOURCES



Houston Public Library is offering premier resources for first time college seekers. Services are free and accessible with experienced staff available to ensure all learners are college and career ready. They offer assistance with career planning and preparing, applying, or enrolling in a college or university.

Located inside Carnegie Neighborhood Library and Center for Learning for in-person advising. (In-person advising to all walk-ins)

Please scan the QR Code to schedule a virtual advising session.



¡Servicios también están disponible en Español!

Help with Financial Aid

Assistance with applying for FAFSA, TASFA, scholarships, verification process, and college expenses analysis, financial literacy and student loan guidance.

College Enrollment

Assistance with completing college applications, admissions interviewing skills, essay writing, or transfer planning.



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