This virtual document is available at the QR code above or at https://tinyurl.com/stonewallresource

If you have updates for the guide or questions, please email the UMass Stonewall Center.
Resources for Trans Individuals and Families Moving to Western Mass

- **Elevated Access** is a volunteer-based organization of pilots that flies individuals out of state to access emergency healthcare, including abortion services and gender-affirming care. This is done at no cost for those seeking care.

- **Transitional Justice** is a grassroots organization that helps provide emergency housing, financial support, and other resources to LGBTQ+ individuals and families who are fleeing from states with anti-trans laws.

- **Southern Trans Youth Emergency Project** is a comprehensive mutual aid and resource network for trans youth seeking healthcare and other emergency services. They provide referrals to local healthcare providers, as well as emergency grants for those in immediate need of support, including travel expenses.

- **Trans Lifeline** is an emergency helpline, as well as an emergency resource for those in financial need. They provide microgrants for those who need funds to change their name, receive medical care, and funds for trans migrants seeking asylum.

- **Trans Pride Initiative** is a support initiative that assists trans people with housing, education, employment, healthcare, and other public accommodations. Their focus is on healthcare and housing in Dallas, Texas, but they also offer help to people fleeing the state and to people across the U.S.

- **AFTER (Anti-Fascist Trans Emergency Response)** is a grassroots group that tries to build mutual aid networks in Western Mass. They also provide fundraising for trans individuals fleeing to Western Mass from out of state. You can reach them at AFTERrivervalleyMA@proton.me or 413-217-0655.
General Moving Resources

There are several moving checklists available for those moving out of state. An example of a comprehensive list is here.

- **Getting a Driver’s License in MA**: You can begin transferring your out of state license online; however, getting your new license must be done in-person at a local Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV). It is recommended that you apply for a REAL ID, as a normal driver’s license will not permit entrance to federal buildings. **Note: you must change your address with the RMV within 30 days of your move or risk a suspended license.**

  [Transferring your license via the mass.gov website](#)
  [Transferring your learner's permit via the mass.gov website](#)
  [Changing your address with the RMV](#)

- **Registering a Vehicle**: There is no grace period when registering a vehicle in Massachusetts; it must be done right away.

  [Transferring your registration and title from out of state](#)

- **How and Where to Vote in MA**: You may register to vote 10 days before any election or town meeting. There are opportunities for you to vote online, by mail, or in person. You may also automatically register to vote at the RMV.

  [Voter information for MA residents](#)
  [Online voter registration system](#)
  [Find your polling station](#)

- **Legally Changing Your Name in MA**: If you are moving to MA from out of state or from another country, you need a birth certificate from the city or town in which you were born. You can access this in the U.S. from the Registry of Vital Records from your state.

  [Changing your name in MA](#)
  [A guide on changing your name and gender marker in MA from Fenway Health](#)

- **Changing Your Mailing Location with the U.S. Postal Service (USPS)**: In order to have mail forwarded to your new address, you must fill out a Change-In-Address form with USPS. This may cause some delays in receiving mail for the first several months after your move.

  [USPS Change-In-Address form](#)

- **Transfer Your Insurance Policies**: Call your insurer about transferring your policies.

  [Learn about health insurance from MassHealth](#)
Housing in Western Mass

- **Queer Housing Western MA**: A private Facebook group designed for queer people to find housing with other queer people.

- **Community Legal Aid Fair Housing Project**: Community Legal Aid assists people who have been discriminated against in housing in Western and Central Massachusetts. They provide advice, as well as advocacy and representation. They also offer educational programs about tenants rights, fair housing, and civil rights investigations.

- **Community Support for Trans Rights**: in 2018, voters in Massachusetts overwhelmingly affirmed a state law banning gender identity discrimination in public restrooms and other facilities. Many towns in Western Mass had more than 90% support for the law. A [town-by-town voter breakdown] provides a snapshot of how supportive different towns are of trans rights.

Trans and LGBTQ+ Resources in Western Mass

- **East Coast FTM Group**: a support group for trans men that meets monthly in Holyoke.

- **Generation Q**: a peer-led social support group for 14-24 year-old LGBTQ+ youth and young adults that meets in Northampton and Greenfield.

- **Out Now**: a youth-driven LGBTQ+ organization based in Springfield.

- **PFLAG, Franklin-Hampshire Chapter**: the Western Mass chapter of PFLAG provides support and advocacy for LGBTQ+ people, their families, and allies.

- **Rainbow Elders**: a group for LGBTQIA+ elders and their allies, which meets virtually each month.

- **Safe Schools Program**: a statewide program that supports LGBTQ+ students in K-12 schools. They provide training, initiatives on improving school climate, inclusive curriculum materials, and in-school resources.

- **UniTy of the Pioneer Valley**: a support group for trans individuals based in Springfield.
Trans-Inclusive Healthcare in Western MA

- **LGBTQ-Friendly Providers at Cooley-Dickinson Hospital**

- **LGBTQ+ Healthcare Directory**: a national directory for finding local LGBTQ+ affirming healthcare providers.

- **Stonewall Center’s Western MA Trans Resource Guide**: the guide lists electrologists, endocrinologists, OB/GYNs, pediatricians, primary care providers, therapists, and other providers. The providers give info about their practices and the extent of their experience working with trans patients/clients.

- **Tapestry Health**: a community-based healthcare organization that provides reproductive care, gender-affirming care, harm-reduction services, and nutritional support.

- **Transhealth Northampton**: a trans-led organization that provides mental health and primary care and gender-affirming healthcare services.

- **Translate Gender**: a nonprofit trans organization that provides youth and caregiver support groups, gender-affirming therapy, and workplace training.

- **Wildflower Alliance**: a harm-reduction focused community centered on support, training, and advocacy. They host free healing practices like community acupuncture, fitness, kickboxing, and peer-to-peer support.

### Gender-Affirming Care Services Provided at the Five Colleges

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**Trans and Gender-Nonconforming Support Group**: a weekly (during the school year) support group sponsored by the UMass Center for Counseling and Psychological Health that is open to all Five College students.
Other Trans-Supportive Services

- **American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) MA**: the largest defender of civil rights in the country.

- **Community Action Pioneer Valley**: offers resources for low-income families, including heat and energy assistance, job assistance, early learning programs, and financial counseling.

- **Community Legal Aid**: provides free legal aid for elderly and low-income people living in Western and Central Mass.

- **Safe Passage**: an advocacy network for survivors of domestic violence based in Northampton. It is free, accessible, and confidential. They provide specialized services for LGBTQ+ survivors.

Hotlines

**MA Attorney General’s Office Hate Crimes Report Hotline**: 1-800-994-3228.

**The Network/La Red**: 800-832-1901; a 24/7 domestic violence helpline for LGBTQIA+, BDSM, and polyamorous communities.

**Project Bread’s Food Source Hotline**: 800-645-8333; a confidential resource line designated to help people across Massachusetts access a variety of food resources. The hotline is staffed Monday through Friday from 8am to 7pm and Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.

**Sexual Assault Support Advocacy (SASA) Hotline**: 413-545-0800; a 24/7 free and confidential service for all impacted by sexual violence in Hampshire County. They provide connections to support groups, counseling, medical providers, police officials, and court advocacy services.

**Trans Lifeline**: 877-565-8860; a 24/7 crisis counseling and suicide prevention service for trans and nonbinary people.

**Trevor Lifeline**: 866-488-7386 or text “START” to 678-678; a 24/7 crisis hotline for LGBTQ+ youth.