

Help Book—English

FIRN

www.firnonline.org

Foreign-Born Information and Referral Network

HELPBOOK

For foreign-born persons
living or working in and around
Howard County

Updated version made possible by:
State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship grant
facilitated by the State Farm office of Fred Weaver in Columbia, MD.

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This book has been prepared for you by FIRN, Inc. (Foreign-Born Information and Referral Network) thanks to a generous grant from State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship grant facilitated by the State Farm office of Fred Weaver in Columbia, MD.

The book is based on a FIRN publication initially funded by a Howard County Dept. of Citizen Services, Office on Aging, Caregiver Initiative grant.

Versions in English, Spanish, Korean & French are available.

FIRN is a non-profit organization which provides information to immigrants who live or work in Howard County, Maryland.

FIRN provides English tutoring, job counseling and placement, information and referral services, social services, and assistance with immigration and citizenship.

Funding for FIRN comes from the Howard County Government, various foundations, faith-based communities, corporate and individual donors, project-specific grants, and modest fees charged for some services.

Please call FIRN at 410-992-1923 if you have any questions about this booklet, or if you need help finding English classes, jobs, housing, etc. Welcome to your new life here!

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FIRN

FIRN is here to help immigrants and refugees adjust to life in the U.S.

Services that FIRN provides include:

- Orientation to life in the United States and to local resources
- Job counseling and placement
- English tutoring
- Interpreters and translators
- Immigration counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Information and referral on health care, housing, transportation and other basic needs

FIRN: Columbia Office

5999 Harpers Farm Rd.
Suite E-200
Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 410 992-1923

Fax: 410 730-0113

Email: info@firnonline.org

Website: www.firnonline.org



FIRN Entrance: Columbia Office

Hours:

Monday & Tuesday (Walk in Days)	8:30am - 5:00pm
Wednesday	Office Closed
Thursday & Friday (General info & appt. only)	10:00am - 5:00pm
*Rotating Lunch Hour for FIRN employees	12:00pm - 2:00pm

FIRN: Laurel Office

Whiskey Bottom Shopping Center
9105 All Saints Rd.
Laurel, MD 20723

Phone: 301-498-7509

Fax: 301-498-7027

Laurel Hours (walk-in for appointment):

Thursday-	Immigration Services only	12:00pm - 7:00pm
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Emergencies

911

Dial 911 on your telephone. Give your name, address, and telephone number. Give the address where the emergency is located. Teach this number to your children in case they need help when you are not at home. If you don't speak English, tell the operator your language to get an interpreter.

Emergency Health Care

Dial 911. Ask for a rescue squad or ambulance or go to the Emergency Room at...



Howard County General Hospital

Howard County General Hospital

5755 Cedar Lane

Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 410-740-7890

(Phone number is not for emergencies! Dial 911 for emergencies)

Note: Hospital emergency room care and ambulance services are **very expensive**, and **not always covered by health insurance**. If the illness is **not** an emergency, it is better to go to a doctor's office or walk-in clinic. (See pages 8-11)

Maryland Poison Center: 1-800-222-1222

Accidental poisoning, exposure to poisonous substances, bites, reactions to drugs. Phone interpreters for some languages available.

www.md.poison.com

Domestic Violence Center : 410-997-2272

(If your partner is hurting or abusing you or your children)
Spanish speaking counselor available.

www.dvcenter.org

Grassroots Crisis Hotline: 410-531-6677

(If you have any kind of emergency and you don't know what to do)

www.grassrootscrisis.org

Emergencies (continued)

STTAR Center (Sexual Trauma, Treatment, Advocacy, and Recovery):

24/7 Hotline: 410-997-3292

(If you or someone you know has been raped, sexually assaulted, or suffers from post traumatic stress disorder)

Office Phone: 410-290-6432

www.sttarcenter.org

Alcoholics Anonymous: 410-663-1922

(If you or someone you know has a drinking problem)

www.baltimoreaa.org

Addiction Assistance: 410-313-6202

For more information see page 11, under “addiction services”

National Drug Abuse Treatment and Hotline: 1-800-662-4357

Howard County Police Department: 410-313-2200

(For non-emergencies only)

http://www.co.ho.md.us/Police/Police_HomePage.htm

Short-Term Emergency Help

Howard County Department of Social Services

7121 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, MD 21046

Phone : 410-872-8700
(English & Spanish prompts)

Hours : Monday thru Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

Walk-Ins: 8am-11am (Mon,
Tues, Thurs & Fri only)

Call the Department of Social Services if your family is in need of food stamps, medical assistance, day care information, job information, temporary disability, child support, etc. You will be told if you qualify for government assistance. Be sure to go early in the morning if you are asked or need to go to the office.

www.dhr.state.md.us



Department of Social Services

Community Action Council

6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, 2nd floor
Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-6440

Hours: Monday through Friday (No clients on Wednesday)
8:30 am – 4:30 p.m. (get there before 2:00pm)

The Community Action Council administers programs that can help low-income people and screen for eligibility for certain programs.

Call first to see if you qualify for the following:

**Maryland Energy Assistance Program-* (including Fuel Fund and Weatherization) (410-313-6440)

**Head Start-* (410-313-6443) a program to prepare 3 – 4 year olds for kindergarten

**Eviction Prevention-* (410-313-6440) to help people stay in housing

**Food bank-* (410-313-3752)

**First month's rent for income eligible people*

**RAP (Rental Assistance Program)* for those needing short term assistance in paying rent

www.cac-hc.org

Short-Term Emergency Help (continued)

United Way First Call for Help:

(for information on any problem)

Local Callers: 410-685-0525
Long Distance: 1-800-492-0618
Hearing Impaired: 410-685-2159

Salvation Army:

Able to provide assistance with food, clothing, small household items, toiletries, short term financial relief including: rent/mortgage, utilities, burial, transportation, & prescriptions. Also have caseworkers.

Howard County Location

8722 Town & Country Boulevard
Ellicott City, MD 21041-0420
Phone: 443-656-3376
Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri, 8:30-4:30

Baltimore City Location

814 Light Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
Phone: 410-783-2920
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30

Fish of Howard County, Inc.

Able to deliver food to homes, provide emergency financial relief for prescriptions, toiletries, diapers, rent, utilities and other emergencies.

Phone: 410-964-8660

Phone Hours: 9:00am-8:00pm

For assistance please call this number. Make sure your caller id is turned off (press *87 before dialing, to turn it back on press *77). If no one picks up leave a slow, clear message stating your ***name, phone number, reason of call/need, times/days you can be reached.***

www.fishhowardcounty.com

Emergency Food

You must pre-qualify through FIRN or the Community Action Council, and take a referral form to receive assistance from the Howard County Food Bank

Howard County Food Bank:

Clients that qualify are eligible for assistance once a month, and must fill out and bring an application each month. Clients must bring a photo ID when they go to the Food Bank.



Food Bank

Address:

Oakland Ridge Industrial Park
8920 Route 108, Suite A
Columbia, MD 21045

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday
1:00-4:00pm

Phone: 410-313-6440

The following places have their own food pantries.

Call directly for hours and eligibility:

Bethany Lane Baptist Church (Ellicott City):	410-465-0150
Bridgeway Community Cupboard (Columbia):	410-992-5832 ext. 305
Celebration Church (Columbia)	410-997-2088
Church of the Resurrection (Ellicott City):	410-461-9111
Christian Services (Ellicott City):	410-465-1060
Columbia Baptist Fellowship (Columbia)	410-730-2026
Community Action Council (Columbia):	410-313-6440
Elkridge Food Pantry (Elkridge)	410-796-1456
Elkridge Independent Christian Community Church	410-796-1534
First Baptist Church of Savage	301-725-3944
FISH of Howard County, Inc. (Can Deliver Food)	410-964-8660
Friendship Baptist Church (Sykesville)	410-489-5117
Gideon House of God, Patapsco Manor (Elkridge)	410-379-2555
Jessup Baptist Church (Jessup)	410-799-4842
Mt. Pisgah AME Church (Columbia)	410-730-6688
Rolling Hills Baptist Church (Clarksville)	301-490-4777
St. Francis of Assisi (Fulton)	410-792-0470
St. John Baptist Church	410-992-6977
St. Michael's Catholic Church (Woodbine/Mt. Airy)	410-442-1717
St. Peter's Episcopal Church (Ellicott City)	410-465-2273
United Way First Call for Help (Food Stamp Hotline)	410-685-0525

Clothing

Christian Services of Howard County

3267 Pine Orchard Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042



Christian Services of Howard County

Phone: 410-465-1060

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday

10:00am-1:00pm

2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month 10:00am-1:00pm

Salvation Army

10350 Guilford Rd. (and Route 1)
Savage, MD 20763

Phone: 301-776-4888

For Emergencies Call: 410-685-8878 (after 4:30pm only)

Hours: Monday – Thursday 10:00am-7:00pm

Friday 10:00am-9:00pm

Saturday 10:00am-7:00pm

Laurel Thrift Center (Am Vets)

9880 Washington Blvd. N.
Laurel, MD 20723

Phone: 410-792-0090

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9:00am – 9:00pm

Sunday 11:00am - 7:00pm

Health - Howard County Health Dept.

Howard County Health Department

The Howard County Health Department (HCHD) has different locations that offer specific services and clinics, which are outlined below. *Call the specific location for an appointment.*

Administrative Office

7178 Columbia Gateway Drive

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-6300

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm

Services: Can provide birth and death certificates from 9am-4pm

Savage Office

Southeastern Community Center

9525 Durness Lane

Laurel, MD 20723

Phone: 410-880-5888

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm

Services: Immunizations, Teen & Adult Family Planning Clinics, Free Pregnancy Testing, Refugee Health Screening, AIDS/HIV Counseling & Testing, Infant & Toddler Program, Healthy Start Program, Pre-exposure Rabies Immunization, TB Clinic, HIV Clinic



Savage Office

Cancer Control Center

7178 Columbia Gateway Dr.

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-4255

Hours: 8:00am-5:00pm

Services: Breast & Cervical Cancer Programs, Colorectal Cancer Program

Gateway: ACES

6751 Columbia Gateway Dr.

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-6300

Hours: 8:00am-5:00pm

Services: Screening, Consultation & Referral for Adults with Special Needs & the Elderly

Health - Howard County Health Dept. (contd.)

Howard County Health Department Locations (continued)

Columbia Health Center

7180 Columbia Gateway Dr.

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-7500

Hours: 8:00am-5:00pm

Services: Immunizations, Teen & Adult

Family Planning Clinics, Healthy Start

Program, HIV/AIDS Counseling & Testing, Free Pregnancy Testing, Maryland

Children's Health Insurance Program, Maternity Clinics that provide complete

prenatal care, Colposcopy Services, STD (Sexually Transmitted Disease) Clin-

ics & Investigation, Communicable Disease Investigation, WIC- a supplemental

food program for eligible pregnant and nursing women, infants & children

Addiction Services

7178 Columbia Gateway Dr.

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-6202

Hours:

Walk-Ins

Mon 12pm-2pm

Tue-Thurs 9am-2pm

Fri 8am-5pm

Appt. Only

Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm

Fri 9am-12pm

Services:

Information & Referral, Screening Services, Outpatient Detoxification

Services, Education, Individual/Group Counseling (also have counseling

groups for solely adolescents & women), Relapse Prevention Groups, Family

Services, Confidential Evaluations and in-court assessments, Prevention

Outreach Services

Environmental Health

7178 Columbia Gateway Dr.

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-2640

Services: Water supply testing, animal bites, rabies clinics for animals,

inspections, environmental complaints, air & water quality, etc.

Health

Children's Insurance

Legal immigrant children under 18 years of age are eligible for MCHIP (Maryland Children's Health Insurance Program) if you meet the moderate-income guidelines.

Call the Health Dept. for information. 410-313-7500

Chase Brexton

Affordable health care for clients without health insurance, English & Spanish spoken. You must call to apply for services.

Phone: 410-884-7831

Walk-In Clinics

Route 40 Walk-in Clinic

8455 Baltimore National Pike
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Phone: 410-465-6300

Hours: Mon-Thurs 8am-7pm,
Friday 4pm-8pm
Saturday 10am-3pm

Cost: First visit \$50

Briggs Chaney Medical Center

Route 29 & Briggs Chaney Rd.
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Phone: 301-890-8000

Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-9pm
Sat-Sun 9am-5pm

English & Spanish Speakers

Centro de la Comunidad

2720 Pulaski Highway
Baltimore, MD 21224

Phone: 410-675-8906

Hours: Mon 12pm-6pm
Saturday 9am-3pm

English & Spanish Speakers

Allcare of Maryland

6955 Oakland Mills Rd.
Columbia, MD 21045

Phone: 410-290-9990

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-8pm
Sat-Sun 12pm-6pm

English, Korean & Spanish Speakers
Health insurance not required

After-Hours Urgent Care

Nighttime Pediatrics- For Adults & Children

6334 Cedar Lane
Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 301-596-NITE

Hours: Mon-Fri 5pm-12am

Saturday 12pm-12am

Sunday 11am-12am

Health

Dental Needs:

For dental emergencies: Contact Howard County General Hospital.

For dental non-emergencies:

Chase Brexton
5500 Knoll North Dr.
Suite 370
Columbia, MD 21045
Phone: 410-884-7831

Catholic Charities
1618 Monroe St. NW
Washington D.C. 20010
Phone: 202-939-2402
For low-income, uninsured
persons

University of Maryland Dental School

Please call for an appointment
410-706-2716.

Mental Health Needs:

Services for the Disabled:

Howard County
Mental Health Authority
4785 Dorsey Hall Dr., Ste. 111
Ellicott City, MD 21042
Phone: 410-313-7350
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am–4:30pm

Andromeda Transcultural Health
1400 Decatur St. NW
Washington D.C. 20011
Phone: 202-291-4707
Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

DORS (Division of Rehabilitative Services)

Helps severely disabled people access life.

3451 Court House Dr.
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Phone: 410-461-0387
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30am – 5:00pm

**For more information regarding health services in Howard County,
contact FIRN at 410-992-1923**

Housing & Low-Income Services

Housing & Community Development

Call for information, applications for low-income rental units, federal Section 8 vouchers, and a homebuyers program.

6751 Columbia Gateway Dr.
3rd floor
Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-6318

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

Community Homes

Information and applications for five subsidized housing developments in Howard county for low income families. There are waiting lists for each size apartment or townhouse.

10339 Twin Rivers Road
Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 410-730-6595

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am-5:00pm

Social Security & TIN

Social Security Administration

Lake Side Building
8865 Stanford Boulevard
Suite 110
Columbia, MD 21045



Lakeside Office
Social Security Administration

Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00am – 4:00pm (office hours)

Phone: 410-872-4758 or call
1-800-772-1213 Mon- Fri,
7am – 7 pm (telephone hours)

You will need a Social Security card before you can work or open a bank account. You must also list the Social Security number of each child and adult on your income tax return.

Taxpayer Identification Number

If you are ineligible for a Social Security number, you can apply for a TIN (Taxpayer Identification Number) in order to file taxes.

FIRN can help you apply for a TIN to file taxes, you may come on a walk-in day or call for an appointment with the social service counselor.

You will need to bring the following items to apply for the TIN:

- Birth Certificate
- Federal Tax Return from last year
- Government photo ID (passport, drivers license, state ID)

You may also call the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
1-800-829-1040 for forms and information.

Legal Information

Legal Aid Bureau, Inc.

District Court of Howard County
2nd floor
3451 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043



Legal Aid
Bureau
Ellicott
City

Phone: 301-480-1057 (leave a message if no one is there)

Or call the main office: 1-888-215-5316 *during the following hours:*

Consumer Issues & Bankruptcy:	Mon. and Fri.	9:00am–11:30am
Housing:	Mon. and Fri.	1:00pm–3:00pm
Public Benefits:	Tuesday	1:00pm–3:00pm
General issues:	Thursday	1:00pm–3:00pm
Elder Law (60 years and older):	Tues. and Thurs.	9:00am-12:00pm

Las personas que hablan español pueden llamarnos tambien acerca de cualquier asunto legal los miercoles por la manana desde las 9:00 am hasta las 12:00 del medio dia.

For criminal cases: a public defender may be available for very low-income people. *Call 410-461-0155 Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am -5:00 pm at least 10 days prior to court date for an appointment.* Bring charge papers and income verification (2 months paystubs, or verification if on SSI, or statement from person supporting you if you are not working)

Lawyers Referral Service of Howard County: 410-313-2030

First 30-minute consultation with a lawyer is free.

Catholic Charities (drop in legal clinic)

430 S. Broadway, 3rd floor
Baltimore, MD 21231-2409

Phone: 410-534-8015

Hours: Wednesday 9:00am – 12:00pm, Thursday 1:00pm – 4:00pm

The charge is \$40, but fees are based on ability to pay.

Office of Human Rights

6751 Columbia Gateway Dr., 2nd. Floor
Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: (410) 313-6430

Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm

Call first if you feel you have been discriminated against in matters of housing, jobs, finance, law enforcement, etc.

Immigration & Citizenship

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

Address

100 South Charles Street
12th floor, Tower One
Baltimore, MD 21201

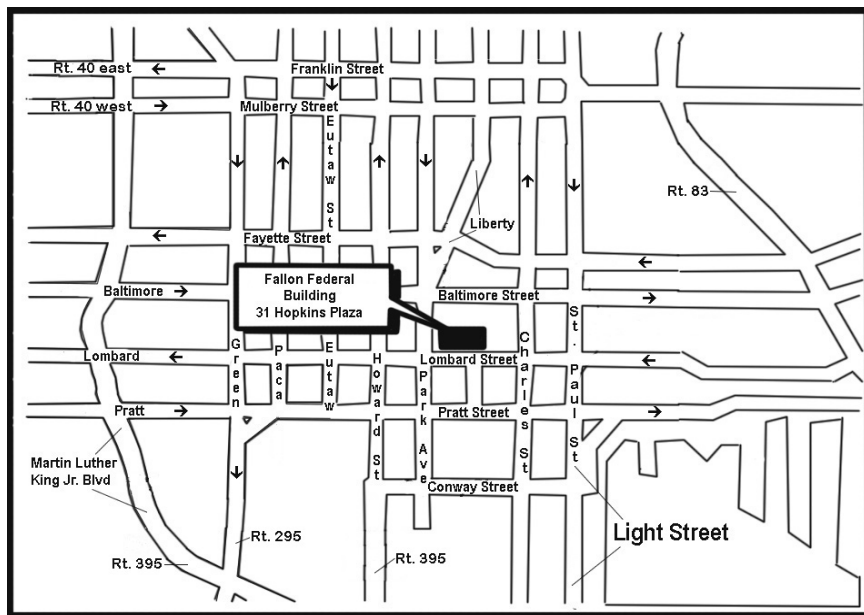
Note: USCIS is located in the Bank of America building

Phone: 410-962-1898 (USCIS Automated Information)

To be seen by an immigration officer you should make an appointment through INFOPASS. This can be done on their website or through FIRN.

To request a USCIS form, call 1-800-870-3676 or stop by FIRN.

Official USCIS Website: <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis>



FIRN

Provides USCIS forms and information regarding immigration and USCIS processes including professional immigration counseling, and assistance in completing the USCIS forms.

Please come in on one of FIRN's walk-in days, Monday & Tuesday from 8:30am-5:00pm to speak with an immigration counselor. Try to arrive as early as possible (before 8:30 if possible) to ensure an appointment.

Driver's License & Identification

Motor Vehicle Administration - Beltsville

11760 Baltimore Ave Route 1

Beltsville, MD 20705

Phone: 410-768-7000

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday 8:30am - 12:00pm

**for driver's license
services only**

Note: Many documents are required to register a car or obtain a license. Call the MVA or FIRN to see what you need to bring.



MVA Office
Beltsville, MD

MVA Express Office - Columbia

Services restricted to: License renewal, change of name or address on license, photo ID cards, copies of your driver's record and tag returns only.



MVA Express,
Columbia, MD

Located in the Columbia Business Center:

6490 Dobbin Road

Columbia, MD 21045

Phone: 410-768-7000 or 1-800-950-1682

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am – 4:30p.m.

Saturday 8:30am -12:00 p.m. **for driver's license**

**services only, no vehicle title or tag services
on Saturday.**

Official Website of the MVA: <http://mva.state.md.us/>

For more MVA locations visit their website or call FIRN at 410-992-1923

Note: You cannot get your first US driver's license at the Express Office. You must go to a full service office (Like Beltsville or Glen Burnie).

Transportation

Howard Transit Service

Public bus transportation between Clarksville, Columbia, Ellicott City, North Laurel, Savage and Elkridge. Specific routes can go to BWI and select MARC stations.

For route, schedule, and fare information call 410-313-1921 or visit their website (available in English, Spanish & Korean)
www.howardtransit.com

Must have exact fare ready when boarding the bus.

Fixed Route reduced fares available for seniors, people with disabilities, and medicare card holders.

For more information, call 410-313-3707.

Urban Rural Transportation Alliance, Inc. (URTA)

Provides transportation services to elderly, limited income, and disabled persons certified through the one of the following organizations...

Community Action Council	(410-313-6440)
Department of Citizen Services	(410-313-6400)
Office on Aging	(410-313-7212).

Neighbor Ride

For those age 65 and older that live within or near Howard County, call 410-884-7433 for more information

Christ Episcopal Church

May be able to provide transportation to medical appointments in Howard County, only for people living in Howard County, you must call in advance of the appointment, 410-381-9365

Job Information

Pinnacle Career Resources

Pinnacle provides career coaching and training and can help you with job placement. You must be eligible to work in the United States to meet with a Pinnacle representative.

Chartwell Professional Park

8180 Lark Brown Road, Suite 301

Elkridge, MD 21075

Phone: 410-799-1098

Fax: 410-799-1098

Pinnacle Services are available at FIRN once a week! Please call our office, 410-992-1923 for more information and to set up an appointment. Interpreters can typically be provided free of charge for clients with limited English ability.

Howard County Employment and Training

Can help you upgrade your skills through computer classes, GED preparation, etc.

10650 Hickory Ridge Rd.

Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 410-313-4600

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm

Green Thumb, Inc.

For people 55 or over looking for work.

Phone: 410-243-7907

Maryland State Employment Services



Maryland State Employment Services

For help finding a job, including computerized job listings and workshops.

7060 Oakland Mills Road

Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-312-5760

For Unemployment claims:

410-767-0954.

Job Information

Casa de Maryland

Workers Centers

*For both day or temporary work and permanent positions

*For more information or
locations please call CASA at
410-431-4185

Silver Spring Location

734 University Blvd. E.
Silver Spring, MD 20903
Phone: 301-431-4177

Baltimore Location

2224 Fayette St
Baltimore, MD 21231
Phone: 410-732-7777

Wheaton Workers Center

2729 University Blvd. W.
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone: 301-933-6674

Center for Employment & Training at Shady Grove

16642 Crabbs Branch Way
Rockville, MD 20855
Phone: 301-926-0810

Alianza de la Comunidad

Can provide more immediate career placement/employment for Latinos

Phone: 443-812-8486

School Registration

Howard County Public School System:

International Student & Family Services

Assists with school registration and other school related information for international students or families with limited English proficiency

Contact them at the following numbers:

English/Korean - 410-313-1525

English/Spanish - 410-313-7101

English/Spanish - 410-313-7102

Note: Schools may not deny admission to an undocumented student. You do not have to answer any questions about the immigration status of your family or your child. You do not need a social security number to register a child for school.

English Classes

FIRN

We provide one on one tutoring for all levels and a group class for beginners. The classes go for 3 month sessions with a 1 month break in-between sessions. You must pre-register. One on one tutoring is offered on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoon and is held at Bridgeway Community Church. The group class is on Monday evenings and held FIRN's Columbia office. Call 410-992-1923 for more information or for registration information.

Howard Community College

Howard Community College offers English classes at two locations. Classes are held in Fall and Spring and are usually free with some cost for books.

Registration starts several weeks before classes begin. Register early because classes fill up quickly. Call for specific dates and times.

Hickory Ridge Building

10650 Hickory Ridge Rd.
Columbia, MD 21044
Phone: 410-772-4919

Chapelgate Presbyterian Church

Beginner to advanced classes are offered from September to December and January to April. Registration is open all year.

Classes are Wednesday nights 7:00pm-9:00pm, there is a \$25.00 fee for books but no other costs.

2600 Marriottsville Rd.
Marriottsville, MD 21104

Call Nancy Booher at 410-465-0154 for more information



Entrance to HCC
From Little Patuxent Pkwy.

First Baptist Church

Call Norma Barkdull:
301-725-6163 or the church's
main phone: 301-725-1688 for
more information

811 Fifth Street
Laurel, MD 20707

Project Literacy

English classes for beginners
provided by the Howard County
Public Library.

Call 410-313-7900 for more
information

(For more information about the
public libraries refer to pg. 23)

Howard County Public Libraries

Howard County Library
(Central Branch)
10375 Little Patuxent Parkway
Columbia, MD 21044
Phone: 410-313-7800

East Columbia Branch
6600 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045
Phone: 410-313-7700

Elkridge Branch Library
6540 Washington Blvd.
Elkridge, MD 21075
Phone: 410-313-5077.

Lisbon Community Library
701 Lisbon Center Drive
Woodbine, MD 21797
Phone: 410-489-4290

Miller Branch
9421 Frederick Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042
Phone: 410-313-1950

Savage Branch Library
9525 Durness Lane
Laurel, MD 210-880-5975
Phone: 410-880-5975

Hours: Call individual branches
for hours of operation

The library has foreign language books as well as books to help you study English and improve your skills. There are programs for children and adults. You can check out educational toys, cassettes, and videos.

English Classes at the Library

Project Literacy at the Howard County Library (Central Branch) can help beginners learn to read and write English.

Call 410-313-7900 for information.

Elderly Services

The Bain Center

5470 Ruth Keeton Way
Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 410-313-7213

Hours: Monday - Friday,
8:00am – 4:30pm



The Bain Center

There are many senior centers throughout Howard County.
Call the main center to learn of location closest to you.

Members of your family who are 60 years of age or older may
find help and enjoyable activities at this and other senior centers.

The staff here can also certify eligibility to ride the URTA buses.

Green Thumb, Inc.

Phone: 410-243-7907

Helps people 55 or over looking for work.

Neighbor Ride

For those age 65 and older that live within or near Howard
County, call 410-884-7433 for more information

Office on Aging

Phone: 410-313-6410

Other Useful Numbers

Telephone Service

New Service 410-954-6260

For Repair 1-800-275-2355 (24 hours)

Gas and Electric Service

Baltimore Gas and Electric 410-685-0123

Day Care

Howard County Child Care Resource Center: 410-313-1930.

Open Monday-Friday, 9:30am—3:30pm

Call for names and addresses of licensed day care providers by area, by language and/or by need

Financial Counseling

Consumer Credit Counseling Services: 410-747-6803

Translators & Interpreters

Maryland International Center: 410-576-0022

Go to their website (www.wtci.org) for a guide to interpreters and translators in this region.

FIRN offers limited translation and interpretation services:
410-992-1923

Weather

410-936-1212

Other Information:

Howard County Information and Referral: 410-313-3000

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

If you lose your passport:

Contact your embassy in Washington, DC
Call 1-202-555-1212 to obtain the phone number of your
embassy