

**LOCAL LAWS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR 2026**

No. 39

Introduced by Council Members Salaam, Won, Louis, Brannan, Zhuang, Schulman, Brooks-Powers, Williams, Banks, Hanif and Dinowitz.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of social services to create web forms for benefits and services applications

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 21 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 21-156 to read as follows:

§ 21-156 Benefits and services applications web forms. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Application. The term “application” means a form that a person is required to complete to apply to the department for any benefit or service for such person or a member of such person’s household.

Web form. The term “web form” means an interactive document on a website that allows a person to input data, such as text or numbers, to a server for processing.

b. Except where prohibited by state or federal law or regulation, the department shall:

1. Provide a web form for any application that allows a person to sign and submit such application electronically; and

2. Provide an option for a person to conduct by telephone any interview required for purposes of completion of any application, except where the department determines an in-person interview is necessary to prevent fraud or address any safety concern.

c. Notwithstanding subdivision b of this section, the department shall receive and process any application that a person mails or delivers in person.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after it becomes law.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on December 18, 2025 and returned unsigned by the Mayor on January 20, 2026.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

I hereby certify that the form of the enclosed local law (Local Law No. 39 of 2026, Council Int. No. 1366-A of 2025) to be filed with the Secretary of State contains the correct text of the local law passed by the New York City Council, presented to the Mayor, and neither approved nor disapproved within thirty days thereafter.

SPENCER FISHER, Acting Corporation Counsel.