

## Position Statement on Increasing Access to Healthcare for Non-Detained Asylum Seekers Living in the United States

## Approved by the ACP Board of Regents on April 25, 2022

- 1. ACP supports efforts to provide medical care, including primary care, treatment for chronic diseases, vaccinations, and medications, to non-detained asylum seekers, as well as financial support for community health centers, safety-net hospitals, and other settings that serve a disproportionate number of immigrants.
- 2. ACP recommends that asylum seekers receive health screenings, medical care, and vaccinations upon applying for asylum in the United States. Care for asylum seekers should be trauma-informed, linguistically and culturally appropriate. Translation services should be made available.
- 3. Immigration officials should be required to return seized prescribed medications and medical equipment to asylum seekers upon release from detention. Medical records of non-detained asylum seekers should be made available to physicians and other health care professionals.
- 4. ACP supports research into the medical needs of non-detained asylum seekers living in the United States as well as their current access to medical care, the health effects of detention versus non-detention for asylum seekers, and alternatives to detention that connect asylum seekers to health care, legal, and other services.