# ADVOCATE FOR YOURSELF

# AND YOUR RIGHT TO HEALTHCARE

### FIND OUT IF THE PUBLIC CHARGE TEST APPLIES TO YOU





(650) 376.8006





English: benefits

Spanish: libre

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www.KeepYourBenefitsCA.org

REVIEW THIS DOCUMENT WITH A TRUSTED LAWYER

# 1. BASED ON MY IMMIGRATION STATUS, WILL I FACE THE PUBLIC CHARGE TEST?

NOT ALL IMMIGRANTS face the Public Charge test. The test DOES NOT apply to:

- Refugees & Asylees
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- T-Visa Status (trafficking victims)
- Legal Permanent Resident Card Renewal VAWA Self-Petitioners (victims of domestic violence)
- U.S. Citizenship Applications

- DACA & TPS Renewal Status
- Liberian DED Holders eligible for LRIF Act
- U-Visa Status (crime victims)
  - VAVVA Self-Petitioners (victims of domestic violence)
- Undocumented and NOT applying to change status

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Public Charge **DOES NOT** apply to you. Continue using services and stay healthy.





# 2. BASED ON MY CIRCUMSTANCES, WHAT IS MY RISK FOR THE PUBLIC CHARGE TEST?

Check-off the factors that apply to you.

Discuss your helpful and unhelpful factors with a lawyer to determine your risk.

HELPFUL FACTORS	<b>✓</b>		<b>/</b>	UNHELPFUL FACTORS	
Age 18 to 61 yrs.		AGE		Below 18 yrs. or over 61 yrs.	
Employed or Full-Time Caretaker		WORK		Unemployed	
English Speaker		LANGUAGE		Limited English	
High School Diploma, Degrees, Work Experience & Job Qualifications		EDUCATION & SKILLS		No High School Diploma, No GED, No Work Experience of Job Qualifications	
Healthy and Able to Work		HEALTH		Health Hinders Work	*
Private Health Insurance		HEALTH INSURANCE		No Health Insurance	
★ Over 250% of the Federal Poverty Level Example: Family of 4 making over \$64K		INCOME		Below 125% Federal Poverty Level Example: Family of 4 making below \$32K	*
Good Credit		CREDIT		Bad Credit	
Financial Savings		ASSETS		No Savings	*
No use of services in Question #3		SERVICES		Use of services in Question #3 for 12 out of 36 months	

<sup>\*</sup> Factors **HIGHLY** considered in the Public Charge test decision.

UPDATED: 6/26/2020

## **REVIEW THIS DOCUMENT WITH A TRUSTED LAWYER**

#### **BEWARE OF:**

- Lawyers that tell you to not use ANY public services without reviewing your case.
- Notarios that guarantee results and claim to know someone in immigration.

# 3. ARE THE SERVICES I USE CONSIDERED FOR THE PUBLIC CHARGE TEST?

NOT ALL SERVICES count against you in the Public Charge test. The test DOES NOT include:

- Testing, prevention or treatment for COVID-19 Pandemic EBT
- **Pandemic Unemployment**
- State-Only Funded Medi-Cal
- Emergency Medi-Cal
- County-Only Funded Health Services or Programs
- Medi-Cal for Children under age 21
- Medi-Cal during Pregnancy
- Earned Income Credit or Child Tax Credit

- WIC: Women, Infant & Children
- School Breakfast or Lunch Services
- Public Education including Head Start
- Emergency and Disaster Relief
- California Food Assistance Program
- Community Resources: Food Banks



\*Services used by family members DO NOT count against your application\*

# IF YOU FILED FOR A FAMILY BASED GREEN CARD OR HAVE AN APPOINTMENT OUTSIDE THE US:

# **BEFORE FEB 24, 2020**

ON OR AFTER FEB 24, 2020

**HOUSING:** Section 8 assistance & Public Housing

NOT including state or county-only funded health programs such as Health4All children, young

FOOD: Cal-Fresh (food stamps)

**HEALTH:** Federally funded Medi-Cal

adults, pregnancy & emergency services.

**MAYBE** 

the following services are considered for the Public Charge test:

#### CASH ASSISTANCE

- CalWORKs (welfare)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- CAPI or General Assistance

#### LONG-TERM CARE

# YES

Discuss next steps with your lawyer to improve your Green Card or Visa application.

CASH ASSISTANCE

Nursing Home under Medi-Cal

NO

The services you use are **NOT** considered for the Public Charge test. Continue using services and stay healthy.

### TO FIND LOCAL RESOURCES:











Outreach & Communication Workgroup, CA-PIF UPDATED: 6/26/2020