

2022

UPDATED

Public Charge Factsheet

What is the current rule?

The 2019 Public Charge Final Rule is no longer in effect. Under the current rule, non-cash benefits, except for long-term institutionalization, will not work against you in your public charge determination. Programs that will be considered include Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and other cash benefits.

What does this mean?

This means that if you are eligible for non-cash public benefits, such as the programs listed to the right, accessing these benefits will not hurt your immigration case. For example, you are encouraged to seek pandemic-related benefits and services (including food assistance, housing programs, and others) you are eligible for.

Means Tested Public Benefits

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Medical Assistance (MA)
- Section 8 Public Housing
- Head Start
- Free and Reduced Lunch

For more information on these programs, see our flyer on means tested public benefits.

More Info

<https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-processes-and-procedures/public-charge/public-charge-resources>