

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: IMMIGRATION & PUBLIC BENEFITS

The new “Public Charge” immigration rule seeks to limit the admission of new immigrants who cannot show that they are self-sufficient. A “Public Charge” refers to new immigrants who are seeking a Green Card and depend on government assistance.



What if I have a Green Card?

If you already have a Green Card, you will not be affected by the new rule, unless you leave the United States for more than six (6) months or violate the terms of your Lawful Permanent Resident status. Barring these exceptions, the new rule will not affect your U.S. citizenship application.



What if I receive SNAP (“Food Stamps”) or Medicaid?

If you already have a Green Card, or if you are classified as a member of one of the exempted groups, receiving these benefits will not affect your immigration status under the new rule.



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THE CITY OF JERSEY
CITY MAYOR STEVEN
M. FULOP, THE
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,
AND THE DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES



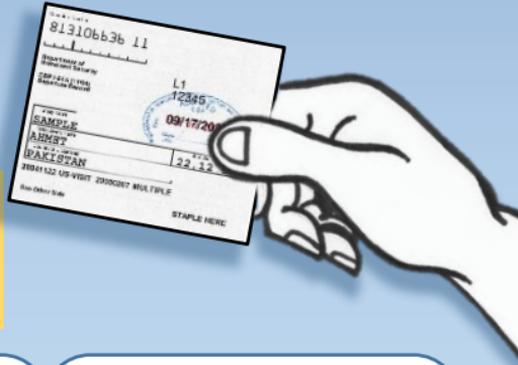


What if I am a refugee or asylee?

Refugees and people who were granted asylum are exempt from the new “Public Charge” rule. U, T, & VAWA visa holders are also exempt, as are DACA, TPS, and SIJ.

What if I receive WIC?

WIC and all other state and local programs are not part of the new rule and will not affect your immigration status.



Who is affected by the new rule?

People who are seeking a Green Card through a **Family Petition** filed by a family member who is a citizen or Green Card holder;

Green Card holders who leave the U.S. for more than six (6) months, or who violate the terms of their Lawful Permanent Resident status;

People who have a visa or “non-immigrant status” who are seeking a Green Card through an **Adjustment of Status**;

People applying for a Green Card at a U.S. consulate in a foreign country.



Should I cancel my enrollment in any government assistance programs?

Most immigrants who receive some form of government assistance will not be affected by the new “Public Charge” rule, but you should speak to an immigration attorney before making any decisions. Contact the **Jersey City Division of Immigrant Affairs** at 201-547-6800 or JCDIA@icnj.org for information about non-profit lawyers.