

# DOES PUBLIC CHARGE APPLY TO ME?

Some families worry that using public benefits could hurt their chance to get a green card. This paper can help you learn more about the public government programs that will **NOT** impact your immigration status and immigration application:



- SNAP food benefits and P-EBT
- WIC
- Food pantry, grocery, and prepared free meal programs



- COVID-19 Testing, treatment, and vaccination
- Medicaid & other health care
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- CHIP, the Children's Health Insurance Program



- Earned income and child tax credits. Help paying for childcare
- Pandemic economic payments (stimulus checks)
- Unemployment assistance
- Small Business Administration (SBA) loans and grants



- Public housing and Section 8 assistance
- Shelters

The Public Charge test still exists for some immigration applications, but it **ONLY** applies to these benefits: Government cash benefits (for example, TANF, SSI, General Assistance) and Long-term Institutionalized care paid for by the government (for example, nursing homes)