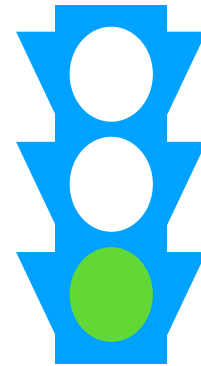
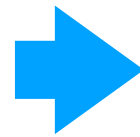


# New Public Charge Rule: Is it still safe to get benefits?

You may have heard about a new public charge rule for Green Card applications.  
Here's what you need to know:

Do you have (or are trying to get) one of these statuses?

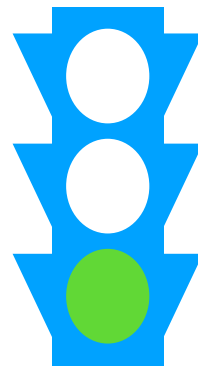
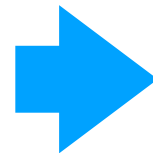
- Asylee
- T Visa Holder
- Special Immigrant Juvenile
- Special Immigrant from Iraq or Afghanistan
- Refugee
- U Visa Holder
- Self-Petitioner under VAWA



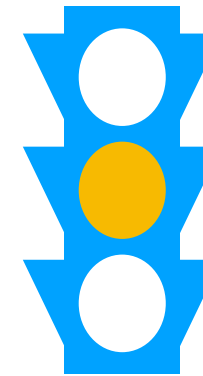
The public charge test does **NOT** apply to you!

The public charge test mainly affects people applying for Green Card status through a family visa petition.

Do you have already have a Green Card?



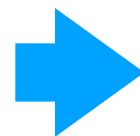
The public charge test does **NOT** apply to you when you renew your Green Card or apply for naturalization.



But you should limit trips outside the US to less than 180 days.

Get legal advice before applying to naturalize if you have taken a trip outside the US that was longer than 180 days.

Do you plan to apply for a Green Card through a family visa petition?



The public charge test applies to you, but some benefits are OK to use.

Immigration officials will consider if you use these benefits after February 24, 2020:

- cash assistance (like SSI, TANF, or ABD)
- federal food assistance
- non-emergency Medicaid (with some exceptions)
- some kinds of housing assistance, including section 8

Immigration officials should **NOT** consider :

- emergency Medicaid
- Washington Apple Health used by children under 21 & pregnant women
- benefits used by your family members
- programs funded entirely by Washington state