

# 什麼是“公共負擔”

需要政府提供某些公共福利的移民可能被政府視為“公共負擔”。這可能會影響您的移民身份。您不會因為使用了政府福利而自動被視為公共負擔。

## 哪些公共福利可能會使某人面臨被視為“公共負擔”的風險？

目前只些政府計劃是處於險中的：

- 現金補助 (例如 TANF 或 SSI)
- 依賴政府Medicaid資助的長期照護 (例如療養院費用)

即使參加這些政府計劃，您不必然被視為“公共負擔”，但他們是一些政府看的事情。

大部分的重要政府福利不包括在此。如果您孩子是美國公民，您可以申請他們使用這些計劃而不會讓自己冒風險。

## 政府何時決定某人是否是“公共負擔”？

這種情況發生在您申請綠卡時。

當您申請公民身份時，政府不會檢查您是否是“公共負擔”。

某些身分(包括相關綠卡申請)不在公共負擔的適用範圍內。這些包括：

- 難民和持庇護身分者
- 人口販賣受害人 (U和T簽證)
- 家暴或其他重大犯罪受害人 (U 簽證)
- VAWA 自呈申請人(對於遭受家庭成員暴力侵害的人)
- 特殊少年移民 (SIJS)
- 及某些其他移民身分

政府最近有意改了「公共負擔」的法規及定義。這些改變以比訴訟停止。目前，一切都沒變。公共負擔不適用於很多人，而規則不包括大多數政府計劃。

## 我該怎麼辦？

若您不被視為“公共負擔”，您不需要停止您的公共福利。即使您是，您必需慎重地考慮您和您家人的需要以及移民情況。如果您有對公共負擔，現在或未來的移民申請案件的疑問，請諮詢移民律師。請洽 New Americans 熱線 1-800-566-7636 索取法律諮詢的相關訊息。該熱線是免費和匿名的，並有多種語言協助。



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# What is a “public charge?”

A person who uses some kinds of benefits from the government might be considered a “public charge” by the government. This can affect your immigration status. Just using government programs does not make you a public charge.

## Which programs might put someone at risk of being considered a “public charge”?

The **ONLY** government programs right now are:

- Cash assistance (like TANF or SSI)
- If the government is paying for institutionalized longterm health care (like a nursing home)

Even being enrolled in these programs does **NOT** mean you will automatically be considered a public charge. But these are some of the things the government looks at.

**MOST** government benefits are not included. If your children are US citizens, you can apply for them to use these programs without putting yourself at risk.

## When does the government decide if someone is a “public charge”?

It happens when you are applying for a green card. When you apply for citizenship the government does NOT check if you are a “public charge.”

Immigrants with certain statuses can apply for a green card without being considered a “public charge” no matter what. These include:

- Refugees and asylees
- Victims of serious crimes (like U and T visa holders)
- VAWA self-petitioners (for people who are victims of violence committed by family members)
- Special immigrant juveniles (SIJS)
- Some other immigrants



The government recently attempted to change the rules used to decide if someone is a “public charge.” Lawsuits have stopped the changes, and for now, **NOTHING HAS CHANGED.** Public charge doesn’t apply to many people, and most government programs aren’t included in the rules.

## What should I do?

You don’t need to cancel your benefits if you’re not at risk of being considered a “public charge.” Even if you are, it is important to think about what programs you and your family need as well as immigration concerns. If you have questions about “public charge” related to an existing or future immigration application, you should talk to an immigration lawyer. Call the **New Americans Hotline at 1-800-566-7636** for suggestions about where to get legal advice. The hotline is free and anonymous, and help is available in many languages.