



Housing Benefits and the new Public Charge rule

At Home Forward we welcome all members of our immigrant community.

We want you to know about issues that may affect your household. If you are an immigrant and receive housing assistance or other public benefits, new federal rules may apply to you.

Where can I learn about my rights to housing and other benefits?

- Get free and safe advice. Call the Oregon Law Center's Public Benefits Hotline: **1-800-520-5292**
- Get advice from an immigration attorney at <https://oregonimmigrationresource.org/>
- Visit www.protectimmigrantfamilies.org

What is *Public Charge*?

The *Public Charge* test is part of the immigration process. The federal government recently changed the rules for immigrants who receive public benefits, including housing assistance.

I am worried about the Public Charge rule. Should I cancel my housing assistance or other benefits?

Do not cancel your housing assistance or other benefits until you know your rights. The Public Charge rule does not apply to every immigrant.

Does the Public Charge rule affect my family?

The Public Charge rule does not apply to all immigrants. Generally, the Public Charge rule applies to individuals applying for a green card (Legal Permanent Resident status), individuals seeking admission or re-admission to the U.S., or individuals applying for visa extensions or renewals.

What kinds of housing assistance are on the Public Charge test?

- Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)
- Public Housing or project-based voucher (Section 8) housing assistance
- *Not included:* Other housing assistance, including Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), as long as the assistance does not also include one of the kinds of assistance listed above.

Can Home Forward help?

Home Forward cares about you and your family. Home Forward cannot give legal or immigration advice. We hope that you contact the resources above to learn more about your rights.

