

PUBLIC CHARGE AND IMMIGRATION LAW

1ST EDITION

INDEX OF APPENDICES

Chapter 1	Introduction	
§ 1.1	Purpose of This Manual	1
§ 1.2	Contents of This Manual	2
§ 1.3	Staying Informed and Getting Involved	3
Chapter 2	Brief History of Public Charge	
§ 2.1	History and Evolution of Public Charge	5
§ 2.2	October 2018 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Public Charge	8
§ 2.3	What Happens Next?.....	10
Chapter 3	Public Charge as a Ground of Inadmissibility	
§ 3.1	Inadmissibility Generally	14
§ 3.2	Who Is Subject to the Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility?	17
§ 3.3	Who Is <i>Not</i> Subject to the Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility?.....	18
§ 3.4	The “Public Charge” Inadmissibility Ground	21
§ 3.5	The Definition of Public Charge	21
§ 3.6	Public Benefits Considered in the Public Charge Assessment.....	23
§ 3.7	Public Benefits Exempt from the Public Charge Assessment.....	24
§ 3.8	Adjudicating Public Charge: Overview of Public Charge Tests	25
§ 3.9	Considering Past Use of Benefits.....	26
§ 3.10	Receipt of Benefits by Family Members.....	27
§ 3.11	Proposed Changes to Public Charge Policy	27
§ 3.12	Waiver and Bond.....	29
§ 3.13	Impact of Negative Public Charge Determination	29
§ 3.14	Important Takeaways	30
Chapter 4	Assessing Public Charge	
§ 4.1	Overview of Public Charge	33
§ 4.2	Adjudicating the Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility	34
§ 4.3	The “Totality of the Circumstances” Test	34
§ 4.4	Using Current Factors to Assess Future Likelihood.....	35
§ 4.5	Work and Ability to Work as a Factor	35
§ 4.6	Prior Use of Benefits as a Factor.....	36
§ 4.7	Processing at the Consulate vs. Adjusting Status in the United States.....	38
§ 4.8	Totality of the Circumstances in Consular Processing Cases and Recent Changes to the Foreign Affairs Manual	39
§ 4.9	Affidavit of Support Requirement.....	41

Chapter 5	The Affidavit of Support	
§ 5.1	Overview of the Affidavit of Support Requirement and Exemptions to This Requirement	43
§ 5.2	Who Can Submit the Affidavit of Support as an Affidavit of Support Sponsor	44
§ 5.3	What the Sponsor Must Earn.....	46
§ 5.4	How to Satisfy the Affidavit of Support Requirement if the Petitioner Does Not Earn Enough Money	49
§ 5.5	Sponsor Obligations Under the Affidavit of Support.....	54
§ 5.6	Exemptions to the I-864 Affidavit of Support Requirement for Family Immigrants	57
Chapter 6	Affidavit of Support Process	
§ 6.1	Overview of the Affidavit of Support Process	63
§ 6.2	Completing Form I-864 and the Affidavit of Support Packet.....	66
§ 6.3	Completing Form I-864W, Affidavit of Support Exemption.....	72
Chapter 7	Public Charge and Consular Processing	
§ 7.1.	Public Charge Inadmissibility and Consular Processing: The Foreign Affairs Manual and Public Charge	73
§ 7.2	Special Considerations for Public Charge and Consular Processing	79
Chapter 8	Public Charge as a Ground of Deportability	
§ 8.1	Introduction to the Public Charge Deportability Ground.....	83
§ 8.2	Definition of Public Charge	83
§ 8.3	Requirements to Prove Public Charge Deportability	84
§ 8.4	Practical Application of Public Charge and Deportability	86
Chapter 9	Considerations for Lawful Permanent Residents and Naturalization Applicants	
§ 9.1	Introduction	89
§ 9.2	No Public Charge Test for Naturalization.....	91
§ 9.3	The Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility and Its Effect on LPRs	92
§ 9.4	The Public Charge Ground of Deportability and Its Effect on LPRs.....	97
§ 9.5	Importance of Screening Naturalization Applicants and Advising LPRs Regarding Public Benefits and Travel.....	98
§ 9.6	Special Considerations Involving Fee Waivers.....	100
§ 9.7	Best Practices for Naturalization Workshops.....	102

INDEX OF APPENDICES

Appendix A	USCIS Fact Sheet on Public Charge
Appendix B	1999 USCIS Field Guidance on Deportability and Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds
Appendix C	Poverty Income Guidelines from 2018 and 2019
Appendix D	Sample I-864 Affidavits
Appendix E	Foreign Affairs Manual Public Charge Section