



EMPLOYMENT &
HUMAN SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

Kathy Gallagher, Director

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To: All Staff, Code 2A

Date: June 9, 2021

From: Kathy Gallagher, Director

Subject: Public Charge Rule Changes Ended, Restoring Longstanding Policy

Helping Contra Costa families understand the complexities surrounding public charge rule proposals and changes over the past few years has been an ongoing endeavor for EHS and several of our County partners. Our Policy and Planning team has closely followed all developments and recently prepared an **Immigration & Public Charge Update** ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) about the policy's current status.

The update explains that in March of this year, recent changes to the public charge rule ended with the Supreme Court of the United States dismissing pending cases related to expanding it. The result of this move was that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is no longer applying the rule changes that the previous administration made. This final federal court ruling restores the United States' longstanding public charge policy.

As we continue to deliver quality services and access to resources that support, protect and empower individuals and families to achieve self-sufficiency, we encourage all residents to apply for and receive benefits for which they are eligible. This aligns with Contra Costa County's commitment to being a welcoming county for refugees, immigrants, and all community members.

You can use and share the Immigration & Public Charge Update with EHS customers or direct them to the [Immigration & Public Charge](#) page on ehs.org for information and resources. There, you will soon find more versions of the flyer in various languages as we complete the translations in the coming weeks. Special thanks to all EHS staff who are helping translate or reviewing translations of this flyer.

I also want to recognize our Policy & Planning team and our many staff members who helped provide accurate information to our customers about the various developments over the past few years, while helping customers understand the importance of continuing to apply for and receive benefits for which they are eligible.