

Quick Updates



ArizonaAlliance
FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

*Primary Healthcare for All
Since 1985*



Enrollment by Phone

Yes, you can enroll for Obama Care by phone.



- HC.gov
 - Use the regular Marketplace consumer authorization form—there's nothing specific for phone assistance. See page 4, example 1 <https://marketplace.cms.gov/technical-assistance-resources/obtain-consumer-authorization.pdf>
- AHCCCS
 - Assistor consent can be **audio recorded and uploaded** (consent script will pop up as part of the application) or a form can be filled out by consumer on their phone and sent by email to assistor (if assistor is filling out the application for consumer, otherwise consumer can upload on their own as assistor talks them through it).
 - Fillable assistor consent form can be found @ <http://www.healthearizonaplus.gov> > Help (upper right corner) > Type "assistor consent" in Search box



Special numbers for Special people

- Certified Application Counselor organizations: **1-855-879-2683**
 - Utilizing the Assister line will only allow Assistors to bypass the regular call center line if they need help with **password resets or accessing certain call center-initiated SEPs.**
 - For all other issues, the wait time will be the same as the regular call center line.
- Each organization has its own unique code/PIN. The CAC lead for your organization should have received an email from CMS. For CAC-related questions, email CACquestions@cms.hhs.gov
- AACHC Navigators: **1-855-868-4678**, PIN available from AACHC

Marketplace Special Enrollment Periods (SEP)

- Within 60 days of the event
- Change in family size
- Move to a new county
- Loss of coverage
- Denied by AHCCCS

- Resource:

<https://marketplace.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/special-enrollment-periods-available-to-consumers.pdf>



COVID & Renewal Letters

- Renewals suspended during COVID Emergency
- AHCCCS now sending renewal letter - expecting an end to the emergency
- Must renew or lose coverage when emergency ends

Pandemic Unemployment Insurance Provisions: What They Mean for Access to SNAP & AHCCCS

- For those already receiving Unemployment Income, the full benefit amount counts as unearned income for SNAP application.
- For Medicaid, the additional \$600 per week of Pandemic UI is not countable and should be excluded in determining eligibility,
- The Stimulus Payment is not income, it should not count against a Medicaid recipient's eligibility.
- Unlike for Medicaid, health insurance marketplaces count all UI benefits, including the additional \$600 per week in benefits,



Applying for Unemployment

- DES does not have Unemployment Insurance offices. You must apply online.
- If you don't have a computer, you may visit a One-Stop Center or DES Employment Service office resource center (access to computers is available free of charge).
- Staff at the One-Stop Centers office can help with the online application. Staff at those offices can also provide information about the other services available to help you find employment.
- <https://des.az.gov/services/employment/unemployment-individual/applying-unemployment-insurance-benefits-QAs>



Stimulus Checks

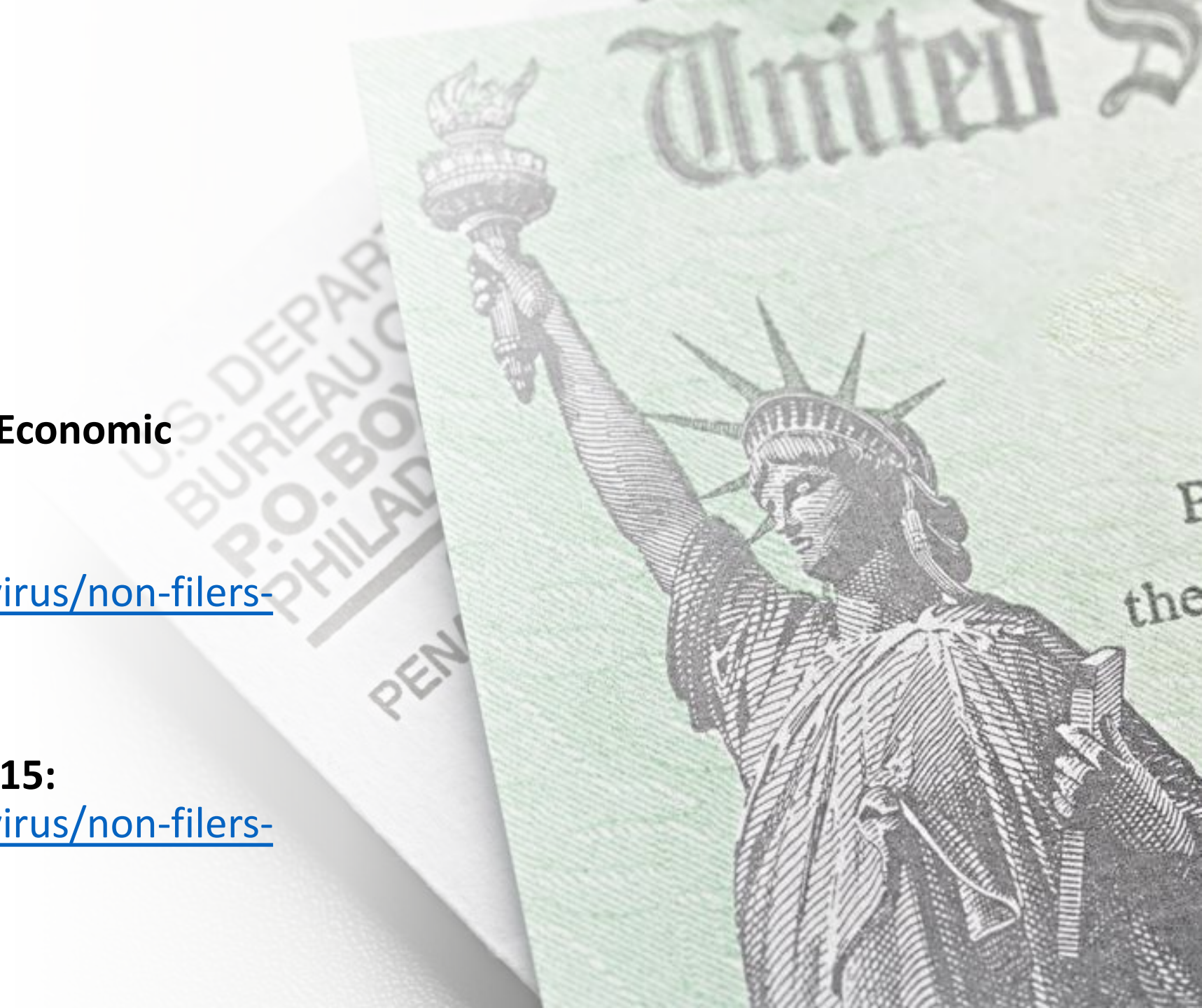
Check on the status of your Economic Impact Payment

Get My Payment:

<https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>

Non-Filer Site -Deadline Oct 15:

<https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>



SHIP Hotline: (800) 432-4040



SHIP volunteers assist & guide, they do not sell,
they are like Assisters.



Arizona Alliance

FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

*Primary Healthcare for All
Since 1985*

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Thank you



Public Charge Rule Update

Erika Mach | 10.1.2020

This presentation is NOT legal advice. For more details, please speak with an immigration attorney.

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of a United States Permanent Resident Card. The card is light blue with a dark green border. The words "PERMANENT RESIDENT" are printed in large, bold, white capital letters across the top. Below this, there is a pattern of small, repeating geometric shapes. The card is held by a hand, and a portion of a red and white patterned fabric is visible in the top right corner.

The public charge rule

- In effect as of **February 24, 2020**
- Directly impacts people applying for residency (green card) for the first time or people looking to come into the United States
 - There are numerous exemptions to the rule

Benefits Considered

* Cash Assistance for Income Maintenance

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or Food Stamps)

Housing Assistance
(Public Housing or Section 8 Housing Vouchers and Rental Assistance)

** Non-Emergency Medicaid (with exceptions)

*Included in previous rule

*Exceptions for **MEDICAID ONLY** (1) coverage of children under 21, (2) women who are pregnant and up to 60 days postpartum

The latest information

On Sept. 11, 2020, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued a decision that allows the Department of Homeland Security to resume implementing the public charge rule nationwide, including in New York, Connecticut and Vermont. The decision stays the July 29, 2020, [injunction](#), issued during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, that prevented DHS from enforcing the public charge final rule during a national health emergency.

On September 22, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services updated its website to state that it would apply the 2019 public charge regulations and related guidance to all applications and petitions postmarked (or submitted electronically) on or after February 24, 2020. It also reposted Form I-944, which is used to implement the new rule. Litigation challenging the regulations continues in multiple federal courts. You can find more information from NILC [HERE](#).

Available Resources

bit.ly/aachcadvocacy

Resources for Immigrants and Their Families During COVID-19

Published: April 14, 2020

Can I use Unemployment Benefits?

If you are sick, lose your job, or are caring for someone with the virus, you may be able to get financial or medical help. This guide will help you understand what resources your family may be able to use.

Will the government send checks to everyone. Will I get a check?

It depends. The US Government will send money to people who filed taxes last year with a social security number. If you filed taxes last year with a social security number, you may get a stimulus payment. If you are not married and make less than \$75,000 a year you could receive a check for \$1,200, with an extra \$500 for every child under 17 who you claimed on your 2019 taxes. **The stimulus money will not count against you on a public charge test and will not impact other benefits, like SNAP or AHCCCS.**

If you filed taxes in 2019 using an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), you will not receive a stimulus check.

How can I find health care for my family during COVID-19?

If you are concerned that someone in your family has COVID-19, you should not feel afraid to see a doctor. The US Government has said that **getting tested or treated for COVID-19 will not count against you on a public charge test** and will not hurt your immigration or green card application.

Your family may be able to get health insurance through AHCCCS or KidsCare. If you are not eligible for AHCCCS or KidsCare, you can still see a doctor at a federally qualified community health center (FQHC) at low- or no-cost. FQHCs will treat anyone, regardless of immigration status.

What is Public Charge?

"Public Charge" is a test U.S. Immigration uses to decide if a person can get a visa or green card without a lot of help from the government. When the government makes this decision, they look at many different things, including income, work, age, health, education, skills, family, and whether a U.S. citizen or resident has agreed to support the person.

In the past, only using cash assistance or long-term care funded by the government would hurt someone's visa or green card application. On February 24, 2020, the federal government changed how they make public charge decisions. Now, using some types of Medicaid/AHCCCS*, EBT or food stamps, or federal housing could also harm your green card application.

Not all immigrants are subject to a public charge test. **Using benefits not listed above will not hurt your green card application.** Every situation is different. If you have specific questions, you should speak to an immigration attorney.

**Medicaid used in an emergency, or by children under 21, or by pregnant women up to 60 days after giving birth does not count against someone's public charge test.*

Benefits That Do Not Count Against Your Green Card Application

- Public benefits used by your family members
- Emergency Medicaid/AHCCCS
- Medicaid/AHCCCS used by children under age 21
- Health care provided by community health centers
- Using unemployment benefits

Contact Information

To make an appointment with someone who can help you find low or no-cost health insurance, call **1-800-377-3536** or visit **coveraz.org/connect**

To find federally qualified community health center (FQHC) near you, visit **aachc.org/communityhealthcenters/map**

For free and low-cost immigration resources, visit **immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/legaldirectory**

This document provides general information. This is *not* legal advice.



<https://www.keepyourbenefitsca.org/en/questionnaire>

Welcome! This guide will help you understand how public benefits affect immigration options. Public benefits are part of the Public Charge rule.

Continue

<https://www.keepyourbenefitsca.org/es/questionnaire>



Thank You

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