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Policy Alert

SUBJECT: Incorporating Guidance on Applicability of the Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility

Purpose

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is updating the [USCIS Policy Manual](#) to help applicants for adjustment of status more easily identify whether they are subject to the public charge ground of inadmissibility under section 212(a)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Background

Under INA 212(a)(4), an applicant for a visa, admission, or adjustment of status who is likely at any time to become a public charge, is inadmissible. The public charge ground of inadmissibility applies to such applicants unless they are exempt from this ground.

This update does not change USCIS policy, rather it incorporates information from the related appendices¹ in Part G of Volume 8 of the Policy Manual into the guidance under Chapter 3 (Applicability) to help applicants for adjustment of status more easily identify whether the public charge ground of inadmissibility applies to a specific adjustment of status category.

Additional information about the public charge ground of inadmissibility also remains available on the USCIS [Public Charge Resources](#) webpage.

This guidance, contained in Volume 8 of the Policy Manual, is controlling and supersedes any related prior guidance on the topic.

Policy Highlights

- Incorporates information from the related appendices addressing applicability of the public charge ground of inadmissibility to help applicants for adjustment of status more easily identify the immigration categories to which the public charge ground of inadmissibility applies.

Summary of Changes

Affected Section: Volume 8 > Part G > Chapter 3 > Section B, Applicants for Adjustment of Status

¹ The related appendices remain unchanged.

- Revises section in its entirety, to include the addition of various tables listing the categories of adjustment of status applicants subject to the public charge ground of inadmissibility.

USCIS may also make other minor technical, stylistic, and conforming changes consistent with this update.

Citation

Volume 8: Admissibility, Part G, Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility, Chapter 3, Applicability [[8 USCIS-PM G.3](#)].