Hello All,

Below you will find updates and information on the following topics: I. New resources posted to our website: Advance Parole FAQ & Employment Immigration Webinar; II. Public Charge Rule update; III. CDSS Webinar: COVID-19 Vaccines for Immigrant and BIPOC Families; IV. Dream and Promise Act of 2021; V. TPS is now available to Venezuelans living in the U.S.; and VI. ILRC: What Every Noncitizen Must Know About Cannabis and Immigration, video and infographic.

**I. New resources posted to our website**

- **Advance Parole for DACA Recipients**: We have created a frequently asked questions infographic explaining Advance Parole for DACA Recipients, available on our resources page.
- **Employment Immigration Webinar**: Our recent webinar, Employment-Based Immigration; Solutions for Undocumented Students and their Allies, has also been posted to our Resources page.

**II. Public Charge Rule update**

Last week, **USCIS officially implemented a US District Court's decision** to vacate the Trump Administration's "Public Charge Final Rule". Therefore, the public charge test reverts back to its previous standard.

Public charge is a test to determine if someone applying for a green card through a relative, or a visa to enter the U.S., is likely to become primarily dependent on the government for costs of day-to-day living. Under the Trump Administration’s regulation, many additional factors were to be considered—notably, past use of public benefits such as Medi-Cal, CalFresh, and public housing. Under the current (pre-Trump) standard, the only public benefits considered are cash assistance for income maintenance (this does not include COVID relief or student aid) and institutionalization for long-term care at government expense. General statutory factors to be considered in the public charge test are listed in [INA Section 212(a)(4)](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/8/212), and further regulatory guidance is provided in the [Federal Register](https://www.federalregister.gov/).
Also note that updated editions of several immigration forms are now available, including the I-485 Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status, I-912 Request for Fee Waiver, and I-864 Affidavit of Support. In addition, the form I-944, Declaration of Self Sufficiency, is no longer required.

III. CDSS Webinar: COVID-19 Vaccines for Immigrant and BIPOC Families (tomorrow!)

The Children's Partnership, together with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and parent groups, will host a bilingual English/Spanish educational webinar on access to COVID-19 vaccines for immigrant and BIPOC families on Thursday, March 25th, 2021 at 5:30pm.

The goal of this webinar is to educate families and those who work with families (providers, advocates, etc.) about the COVID-19 vaccines, explain California’s vaccine plan with a focus on equity for immigrant and BIPOC families including how to sign up, as well as share developments on when vaccines will be administered to children and school re-openings. There will also be time for attendees to ask questions and uplift systemic issues they are facing to accessing COVID-19 vaccines.


IV. Dream and Promise Act of 2021

As you likely know, House Democrats approved two separate bills on Thursday, March 18: H.R. 6 - the American Dream and Promise Act of 2021, which would provide a pathway to citizenship for so-called "Dreamers" as well as for TPS recipients and DED beneficiaries, and H.R. 1603 - the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which would permit farm workers, and their spouses and children, to earn legal status through continued employment in the agricultural sector, and would make changes to the H-2A agricultural guest worker program. These bills must now pass the Senate with 60 votes in order to move forward.

V. TPS is now available to Venezuelans living in the U.S.

An estimated 320,000 Venezuelans who fled to the U.S. will be eligible to apply for TPS. Those in the U.S. as of March 8, 2021 may apply for TPS and, if approved, would be eligible for protection from deportation and the ability to work in the United States.

VI. ILRC: What Every Noncitizen Must Know About Cannabis and Immigration, video and infographic.
Despite numerous state laws legalizing cannabis for recreational use, marijuana remains illegal under federal law. Because immigration is part of federal law, this means that non-citizens need to understand how their experiences with cannabis could impact them. This video and infographic detail the risks associated with the use or possession of cannabis and/or employment in the cannabis industry.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you,
The UC Immigrant Legal Services Center team