

Public Charge Bond
Information Sheet¹

This bond is issued to guarantee that certain immigrants already in the country who seek to adjust their immigration status, as well as certain new immigrants entering the United States will not use public services or receive money from certain local, state, or federal taxpayer-funded programs. Such prohibited programs may include, but are not limited to supplemental security income (SSI), temporary assistance for needy families (TANF), and government subsidized health insurance. There are exceptions which allow for the use or receipt of small amounts of money from certain otherwise prohibited programs. Benefits not considered public charge benefits may include, but are not limited to Federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance, veterans' benefits, and workers' compensation.

If the bonded immigrant accepts any form of prohibited public assistance, the bond may be breached (loss). This obligation remains in full force and effect until the bonded individual becomes naturalized, permanently departs the United States, or the death of the bonded individual. If a claim is made against the bond, you may appeal the proposed claim. Failure to file a timely appeal may result in a bond breach (loss).

The bond may be cancelled if Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") finds that the immigrant is not likely to become a public charge. The bond may also be cancelled following the fifth anniversary of the admission of the immigrant if DHS finds that the immigrant did not become a public charge prior to the fifth anniversary, and the immigrant has filed Form I-356, Request for Cancellation of Public Charge Bond. DHS will charge a fee for processing the cancellation. The bond may also be cancelled in order to allow substitution of another bond.

If the bonded immigrant accepts any amount of prohibited public assistance, even if that amount is less than the amount of the bond, the entire amount of the bond may be forfeited in the event of a breach.

After the immigrant becomes a naturalized U.S. Citizen, he or she may request that the bond be cancelled, which is at the sole discretion of DHS. Forms have not yet been developed by DHS, but Producer expects one of the forms to be a county clearance letter from each county where the immigrant has resided. There may be a fee charged by the county to obtain such a clearance letter. An additional fee may be charged by Producer to process the request for bond cancellation, depending on the time required. Additionally, the DHS fee and the Producer fee must be paid in advance of filing the request for bond cancellation.

For more details regarding this bond, please review the Code of Federal Regulations, 8 CFR 212.21 and related provisions.

I have received a copy of this information sheet.

Date _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Indemnitor _____

¹ The following information is provided per the bond agreement and is for general guidance only. It does not create, alter, or waive any contract, agreement, or rights between or among the parties. It shall not be construed as legal advice, nor is it a substitute for legal advice from a licensed attorney.