

Policy Roundtable for Child Care & Development Commission

October 14, 2026

Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners, Alternates, and Guests

Comments from the Chair

Consent Calendar

3a. Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2026

**3b. Approval of Policy Roundtable for Child
Care and Development Commission
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Presentation of Proposed Policy Roundtable Vice Chair Nominations for FY 2026-2027

Nomination Process for Electing Vice Chair for FY 2026-27

1. September 9, 2026 Policy Roundtable meeting
 - Chair Blakely nominated Commissioner Dora Jacildo for Vice Chair FY 2026-27
 - No other nominations were provided
2. September 2026 – October 2026
 - Commissioners could email nominations to OAECE staff before 10/14/2026 Policy Roundtable meeting
 - No nominations were emailed
3. October 14, 2026 Policy Roundtable meeting
 - Commissioners can nominate from the floor
 - Vote is called

Approval of Proposed Policy Roundtable Vice Chair for FY 2026-2027

Presentation on Child Care Planning Committee Activities for FY 2026-2027 Update

Presentation on LA County Office of Immigration Affairs Programs and Resources



2026 Public Charge Rule Change

Daniel Sharp

Chief, Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs

October 14, 2026



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CONSUMER &
BUSINESS AFFAIRS

What Is Public Charge?

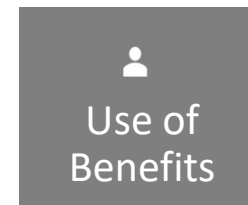
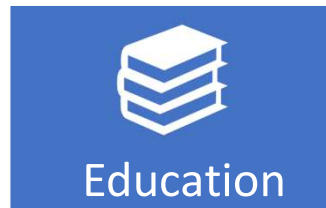
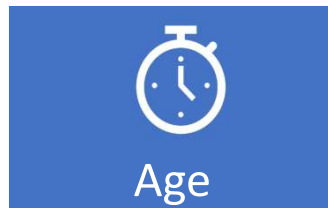
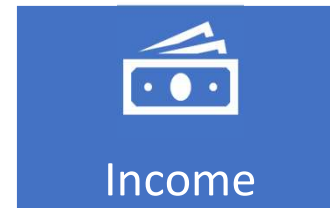
- Public charge is an *immigration determination* that applies to certain groups during their immigration process
- *Eligibility for public benefits* is a completely different issue

What Is Public Charge?

- When a noncitizen applies for **permanent residence**, an immigration officer reviews several eligibility criteria before approving or denying a case. The public charge test is part of that review.
- The officer reviews whether the applicant is likely to **rely on government support** for basic needs in the future. If the officer decides the applicant is likely to rely on such support, the application will be denied.
 - The public charge test is **not** part of all immigration applications.

How is a Public Charge Decision Made?

- Public charge *law* requires immigration officials to consider many different factors.
- Use of public benefits is JUST one factor.



Does Public Charge Apply?

The public charge ground of inadmissibility applies to:

- People applying for permanent residence through a family-based or employment-based petition
- People applying for certain visas to enter the United States, or renewing certain visas



Who Is NOT Subject to the Public Charge test?

- **Permanent residents** unless they remain outside the U.S. for 6 months or more
- **Naturalized citizens**
- People applying for or granted **asylum, refugee status**
- Special Immigrant Juveniles (SIJS)
- **VAWA self-petitioners**, and survivors who have applied for or been granted **T or U Visas**
- People applying for or renewing **DACA*** and **TPS***
- Applicants under NACARA, HRIFA, and Lautenberg
- *Undocumented persons who are not eligible to apply for lawful immigration status*



Reinterpreting the Public Charge Law in 2026

- 2022 public charge rule gave immigration officials clear guidance to determine who is considered a public charge in the permanent residence application process.
- 2026 rule change ***eliminates*** that guidance and allows officers to use their own judgment to determine whether a person will be dependent on the government.
- New rule applies to permanent residence applications filed in the U.S. on or after September 18

New Rule: Changes Starting September 18

- **Key Changes.** USCIS Officers can now consider:
 - Use of any “means-tested public benefit”
 - Benefits received by a “dependent”
 - Prior use of benefits (if the person continues receiving them on or after September 18)
 - More discretion for immigration officials generally

What is considered a “means-tested public benefit”?

- Includes cash and ***non-cash assistance*** from any government source
 - Federal, state, local
- “**Means-tested**” = eligibility is based on income/resources

Benefits **not** considered in a public charge determination

- Universal benefits: available to all regardless of income
- Earned benefits:
 - ✓ Unemployment Insurance
 - ✓ Medicare, Social Security retirement
 - ✓ Veterans’ benefits

Challenges

- Assessing impacted/potentially impacted programs
- Ensuring proper training of frontline staff to identify potential public charge concerns
- Establishing referral processes for community members needing guidance
- Messaging & community education
 - Exempt vs potentially impacted categories of immigrants
 - Impacted vs non-impacted programs

Office of Immigrant Affairs public charge landing page:

- <https://oia.lacounty.gov/publiccharge/>

OIA Programs

- **Mobile Immigration Services Program**

- Provides legal assistance and case management services to newcomers and long-term immigrants at risk of homelessness across Los Angeles County.

[Provider Referral Form](#) for MISP



- **RepresentLA Program**

- Consist of 12 immigration legal service providers offering legal representation and linkage to support services for immigrant groups at risk of deportation.

OIA Hotline: (800) 593-8222

L.A. County Office of Immigrant Affairs

(800) 593-8222
OIA.LACOUNTY.GOV

Department of Consumer and Business Affairs

320 W. Temple Ave., Los Angeles 90012



APPOINTMENT

Do you have a community fair coming up? Interested in a workshop? →



COMMUNITY
OUTREACH



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**OFFICE OF
IMMIGRANT
AFFAIRS**

Commission Discussion

- Are there any clarifying question?
- *Given the information provided*
what intersection points with
early care and education should
be uplifted?

Presentation on Local, State, and Federal Public Policies, and Joint Committee on Legislation



Public Policy Updates

County

- Measure ER funds frozen during litigation

State Legislation – PASSED

- **AB 1981** Reimbursement rates
- **AB 1755** CalWORKs
- **AB 2429** Mental Health Consultation
- **SB 902** Electronic Signatures
- **SB 1051** Foster Care

State Budget

- September 2026 state income taxes exceed budget protections
- Year to Date state income taxes surpass projections

Federal: 2027 Funding

- Continuing Resolution through 12/11/2026

Child Care Bills

- H.R. 5334 SEED Act for educator deductions signed into law on 9/18/26
- H.R. 4138 for Early Education Federal Work-Study getting cosponsors

Regulations Changes

- Uniform Guidance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) still paused
- Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) regarding restricting immigrant eligibility for some federal programs; injunction was made permanent
- 3 Head Start NPRMs are in different stages of review
- Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) proposed rule is incoming



Joint Committee on Legislation

Commission Discussion

- **Are there are any clarifying questions?**
- **Is there any other critical legislation or budget items that need to be elevated in this discussion?**

Identify Early Care and Education Supervisory District Delegation Engagement Framework

Board of Supervisors Joint ECE Delegations

District	1	2	3	4	5
Board of Supervisor (BOS)	Supervisor Hilda Solis	Supervisor Holly Mitchell	Supervisor Lindsey Horvath	Supervisor Janice Hahn	Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Staff Contact	Anthony Cespedes	LaJuannah Hills	Lizzy Shuster, Aaron Fox, and Savannah Heap	Esther Lim, Nick Holden, and Vianca Campos-Serna	Monica Banken
Roundtable BOS Appointee	Jessica Perea (Lead)	Justin Blakely (Lead)	Jennifer Cowan (Lead)	Alejandra Albarran Moses (Lead)	Breeda McGrath (Lead)
	Vacant	Gloria Davis	Amber Rivas	Ricardo Mota	Karla Rivas
Roundtable Organization Representative	Dora Jacildo or Jacquelyn McCroskey Commission for Children & Families	Cristina Alvarado or Jackie Clarke Child Care Alliance of LA	Fran Chasen Southern CA Chapter, CAEYC	Luis Bautista or Colin Legerton LACOE	Ranae Amezcuita or Mary Melvin LAUSD
	Ofelia Medina or Jamie Kalenick First 5 LA				Andrea Fernandez Mendoza Child Care Planning Committee
Child Care Planning Committee BOS Appointee	Appointee: Vacant Alternate: Vacant	Jessica Guerra Alternate: Patrick MacFarlane	Ivy Chang Alternate: Elizabeth Scharetg	Sarah Soriano Alternate: Jennifer Harper	Andrea Fernandez Mendoza Alternate: Anna Gamino

ECE Delegation Framework for Engagement

- **Invite Board of Supervisor (BOS) Deputies to attend Policy Roundtable meetings**
- **ECE Delegations engage with BOS Offices in Fall 2026**

Commission Discussion

- What other actions should be considered to include in the Engagement Framework?

Announcements and General Public Comment

Call to Adjourn Meeting



Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development Commission