I am currently not a “qualified” immigrant (as defined in 8 USC §1641) and therefore under 8 USC §1611 I am not eligible for federal public benefits, including: Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Federal Medicaid.

After I become a lawful permanent resident, I will be ineligible for the federal programs listed above for a minimum of 5 years, as provided in 8 USC §§1612 and 1613. Once the 5 years has run, I will likely still be ineligible since my sponsor’s income will be added to mine in determining financial eligibility for these programs. I would not be financially eligible for these programs until I have either earned or been credited with 40 qualifying quarters of work in the United States or become a US citizen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Current Status: “Not Qualified” Immigrant</th>
<th>Future Status: Lawful Permanent Resident, “Qualified Immigrant”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</td>
<td>Ineligible¹</td>
<td>Eligible only with credit for 40 quarters of work (but must wait until lawful permanent resident for 5 years before applying)²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</td>
<td>Ineligible³</td>
<td>Eligible only after lawful permanent resident for 5 years⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)</td>
<td>Ineligible⁵</td>
<td>Eligible only after lawful permanent resident for 5 years⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Scope Medicaid</td>
<td>Ineligible⁷</td>
<td>Eligible only after lawful permanent resident for 5 years⁸</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ 8 USC § 1611.
³ 8 USC § 1611.
⁴ 8 USC §§ 1612 and 1613.
⁵ 8 USC § 1611.
⁶ 8 USC §§ 1612 and 1613.
⁷ 8 USC § 1611.
⁸ 8 USC §§ 1612 and 1613.