

2210 - APPLICATION FOR OTHER BENEFITS

POLICY STATEMENT	An Applicant/Recipient (A/R) for Medicaid must apply for and accept all other monetary benefits, payments or allotments to which s/he or any member of the Assistance Unit (AU) or Budget Group (BG) may be entitled in order to be eligible for Medicaid.
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	<p>Application for other benefits must be made prior to the approval of the Medicaid application.</p> <p>EXCEPTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application for other benefits is not required for the following COAs:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Newborn Medicaid- TMA- RSM PgW- Q Track• A pregnant woman applying for or receiving benefits under any COA other than RSM PgW who is in the second trimester of pregnancy is not required to apply for UCB.• Family Medicaid COAs do not require application for SSI.• Applications for other benefits that would result in an overall reduction of current income are not required. <p>NOTE: Advise the applicant of potential benefits, even if application is not required.</p> <p>Failure or refusal to apply for and accept other benefits results in ineligibility for ABD Medicaid COAs.</p> <p>Failure or refusal to apply for and accept other benefits results in the following actions for Family Medicaid COAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the potential benefit is for a parent, exclude the parent and everyone for whom s/he is financially responsible.• If the potential benefit is for a child, exclude only the child. <p>An individual in a Family Medicaid COA who fails to apply for other benefits may be eligible for another Family Medicaid COA in which the application for other benefits is not required. Complete a CMD prior to denial or termination of Medicaid and document the results of the CMD.</p>

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)**

The A/R must apply for the highest possible benefit for which s/he is eligible. The A/R must also accept a benefit for the earliest month it is available.

AU members are required to apply for UCB only if Clearinghouse indicates potential eligibility.

Application for VA Compensation or VA Pension must be made by individuals who may be eligible for either benefit. VA Pension applicants may choose either to project estimated medical expenses (prospective) or claim medical expenses for the past year (retrospective).

EXCEPTION: A/Rs who are currently receiving a VA Pension do not have to file a special application for the New Improved Pension.

Benefits and income are not synonymous terms. Benefits include, but are not limited to the following:

- UCB
- annuities
- disability payments, including RSDI, SSI and Worker's Compensation
- pensions
- unprobated estates

Benefits do **NOT** include the following:

- alimony
- child support
- Medicare
- payments on loans or promissory notes
- rent

The A/R is **NOT** required to apply for the following benefits:

- TANF
- benefits from a trust over which the A/R has no control
- Earned Income Credit (EIC)
- non-receipt of court ordered child support/alimony
- Prouty (Special Age 72) RSDI benefits
- Veterans Aid and Attendance
- Veterans Household Allowance
- Widow(er)'s Year's Support

NOTE: Refer to Section 2400, Income, for more detailed information about specific types of income.

PROCEDURES

Determine those benefits to which the A/R may be entitled by asking the A/R about employment history, military service, etc., of the applicant, AU members and any person through whom the applicant or AU members may be entitled (i.e., spouse or parent).

Advise the A/R or PR of other benefits to which the AU may be entitled and refer the A/R to the appropriate agency to apply. Do not refer A/R to apply for SSI if you know s/he will not be eligible (example: Katie Beckett child whose parents' income/resources exceed the SSI limit or aliens who don't meet the criteria for SSI eligibility).

Assign a reasonable deadline for the A/R to apply for the other benefits and to provide verification that the application was made.

Verify with one of the following:

- approval or denial letter
- documentation verifying proof of application
- contact with the agency where the application was filed.

If the applicant is eligible on all other points of eligibility, do not delay approval of an application awaiting the approval/denial of the application for other benefits.

Schedule an interim review to verify the status of the application for other benefits if the application is still pending at time of approval.

Exclude an adult and anyone for whom s/he is responsible if the adult fails or refuses to apply for other benefits. If the other benefits are for a child, exclude only that child.

NOTE: For Family Medicaid COAs, the A/R's verbal or written statement that s/he will apply or has applied for other benefits is sufficient to meet this requirement at application. If the A/R's statement is that s/he will apply or the A/R's statement that s/he has applied is accepted, follow-up is required in the third month following the month of approval. Verification of the application for other benefits must be obtained at this time.

Document that an A/R must apply for other benefits, the deadline by which this must be done, verification, if required, and the effect on the eligibility. Document the reason why the AU was not required to apply for any potential other benefits; the type of benefit (e.g. UCB) and why application was not required.