

Medical Assistance (MA) [Chapter 500 Non-Financial Conditions of Eligibility](#) >> 526 Potential Benefits

526 Potential Benefits

Policy

Definitions

Proof

Legal Authority

Policy

To qualify for MA, a person must take all actions needed to get any potential cash benefits. This includes:

- Turning in an application for the benefits to the company or organization that is the source of the benefit;
- Providing the benefit source with all information needed to see if the person qualifies for the benefit;
- Asking for and accepting the maximum amount of benefits for which he or she qualifies.
- If there is a choice, having the benefits paid monthly or periodically rather than in a lump sum.

NOTE Only people who are applying for MA must apply for potential benefits. A person's spouse, parent or children cannot be required to apply for potential cash benefits, unless they also are applying for MA.

If there is proof that the person does not qualify for a benefit, the person does not have to take any further action for that benefit. For example, there is a letter in the file showing the person was denied for long-term disability benefits a month ago, or a military record showing a less than honorable discharge.

Exception:

A person does not have to apply for cash benefits that are based on the person's need. These types of benefits include:

- Cash Assistance benefits;
- SSI Cash;

Definitions

Term	Definition
Potential cash benefits	<p data-bbox="557 258 683 289">Includes:</p> <ul data-bbox="557 338 1130 688" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="557 338 954 369">● Social Security benefits; <li data-bbox="557 390 906 422">● Railroad Retirement; <li data-bbox="557 443 963 474">● Worker's Compensation; <li data-bbox="557 495 1130 527">● Short or long term disability benefits; <li data-bbox="557 548 878 579">● Veteran's benefits; <li data-bbox="557 600 1073 632">● Pension or retirement funds; and <li data-bbox="557 653 1097 684">● Unemployment Insurance benefits. <p data-bbox="557 705 1442 772">NOTE Indian gaming monies are not considered a potential benefit.</p>

Proof

Proof of application for potential benefits includes:

- DE-134, DE-135, DE-136 signed by agency source representative verifying that applicant applied;
- Letter from income source signed by representative verifying that customer applied;
- Phone call to the benefit source to confirm that the customer has applied;
- Copy of the confirmation number issued by SSA at end of the online application process;
- Copy of the email confirmation that the customer has applied for VA online; or

Legal Authority

Program	Legal Authorities
All programs, except KidsCare	42 CFR 435.608



Effective Until 03/10/2016