

Cardinal Care Fact Sheet: SSDI Disregard for DD Waiver Recipients

As of December 2024, certain Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) is not counted when determining the Medicaid eligibility of individuals Developmental Disability (DD) Waiver recipients.

DAC (Disabled Adult Child) payments are a form of SSDI.

- SSI**
- The SSDI amount over the maximum Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit level is disregarded (not counted).
 - The SSDI disregard only applies to when determining Medicaid eligibility of individuals offered a DD Waiver slot or currently enrolled in a DD Waiver.
 - The disregard does **not** apply when determining Medicaid eligibility of individuals on the DD Waiver waitlist.
 - The disregard does **not** apply when a DD Waiver recipient is no longer eligible for the waiver, for example if they no longer meeting the level of care (LOC) requirement, and their eligibility is being redetermined as a non-waiver recipient.
 - The disregard does **not** apply when determining a DD Waiver recipient's patient pay obligation. Patient pay is the amount that a member is required to pay directly to their long-term services and supports (LTSS) provider.

Other forms of income will be counted or disregarded based on the rules for the covered group in which the person is enrolled. Additional detail under *Financial Eligibility Rules*.

Eligibility Rules

Non-Financial Eligibility Rules

In order to qualify for a DD Waiver, an individual must:

- Meet all Medicaid non-financial requirements, such as being a resident of Virginia and a U.S. citizen or qualified noncitizen.
- Meet DD Waiver medical requirements.
 - Have a diagnosis of an Intellectual Disability and/or Developmental Disability.
 - The diagnosis must originate from a medical doctor, occupational therapist, physical therapist, speech and language therapist, psychologist, or other professional acting within their scope of practice.
- Meet DD Waiver function requirements.
 - Be determined to meet the 'level of care' (LOC) needs through a screening conducted by the local Community Services Board (CSB) using the Virginia Individual Developmental Disabilities Eligibility Survey (VIDES) screening tool used.

Financial Eligibility Rules

An individual must be eligible for one of the Medicaid covered groups identified in Virginia's approved DD Waiver documents:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients
- Individuals with income less than 300% SSI
- Aged Blind and Disabled (ABD) with income less than 80% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Low-Income Families with Children (LIFC)
- Medicaid for Pregnant Women
- Medicaid for Children under 19
- Medicaid Expansion

Financial eligibility varies between Medicaid covered groups. For example, the SSI recipient and ABD income under 300% SSI and income under 80% FPL covered groups have a resource limit of \$2,000 for an individual, while others do not.

Application & Ongoing Eligibility Reviews

Medicaid applications can be submitted:

- Online at www.commonhelp.virginia.gov.
- Over the phone with the Cover Virginia Call Center Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 1-855-242-8282 (TDD: 1-888-221-1590).
- By mail to:
Cardinal Care Correspondence Center
P.O. Box 1820
Richmond, VA 23218
- By fax or in-person to your local Department of Social Services (LDSS).
 - Application forms can be downloaded from www.coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/apply/applications/ or requested at the LDSS.

DD Waiver applicants must also separately request a DD Waiver screening at their local Community Services Board, www.vacsb.org/csb-bha-directory/.

Medicaid eligibility is reviewed on a regular basis. A renewal form will be sent to you if additional information is needed to confirm your continued eligibility. If you do not return complete your renewal by the due date, your Medicaid coverage may be terminated. DD waiver recipients must also continue to meet waiver medical and functional requirements.

Have More Questions?

For questions, additional help, or language assistance services or large-print, Medicaid and FAMIS members are encouraged to call Cover Virginia at 1-833-5CALLVA (TDD: 1-888-221-1590).