## How to apply

Call or visit the nearest Department of Social Services office for an application. Complete the form and return it. You must provide proof of your assets, income and other eligibility factors.

We will usually process your application within 45 to 60 days. No application can be granted, however, until all necessary information is received by your worker.

## You should know that...

If your application is denied, you will receive a notice explaining why. You may appeal through a **Fair Hearing.**

If your assets, income or living situation changes, you must tell your worker immediately.

We may verify the information you give us through employers or landlords, or computer matches with banks, the Department of Labor or Motor

Vehicles, the Social Security Administration and the Internal Revenue Services.

If you receive Medicaid when you are 65 years old or older, after your death, the State may pursue reimbursement from your estate for the assistance you received

The Department of Social Services' programs are available to all applicants and recipients without regard to race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, disabilities, learning disabilities, national origin, ancestry or language barriers. The Department of Social Services is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

# *DSS Regional Offices*

### *Northern Region*

***Hartford*** - (860) 723-1000
***Manchester*** - (860) 647-1441
***New Britain*** - (860) 612-3400
***Willimantic*** - (860) 465-3500

### *Southern Region*

***Middletown*** - (860) 704-3100
***New Haven*** - (203) 974-8000
***Norwich*** - (860) 823-5000

### *Western Region*

***Bridgeport*** - (203) 551-2700
***Danbury -*** (203) 207-8900
***Stamford*** -(203) 251-9300
***Torrington*** - (860) 496-6900
***Waterbury*** - (203) 597-4000

**This information is available in alternate format. Phone (800) 842-1508 or TDD/TTY (800) 842-4524**

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# Facts About Medicaid...

(Title 19)
a medical assistance program

Connecticut Department of Social Services
*Caring for Connecticut*

Medicaid, also known as Title XIX, can pay for health care for low income Connecticut residents who are: receiving AFDC or State Supplement benefits; disabled or legally blind; 65 years old or more; under 21 years of age; or pregnant.

Medicaid pays for many medical services, such as doctor visits, rescription drugs, inpatient and outpatient hospital care, laboratory services, home health care, nursing home care, transportation necessary to receive medical care and various other services. Some services may need prior approval from the Department.

If you qualify, you will receive a Medicaid card. Show the card to your doctor or other health care provider when you need medical care. If your doctor or health care provider participates in Medicaid, your bill will be paid by the State, minus any other health insurance you may have.

## How to qualify

To qualify, you must meet **Medicaid** income and asset limits. **Income limits** vary, depending on the size of your family and where you live. For pregnant women or infants, the income limit is 185% of the federal poverty level. **If you are over the income limits, however, you may be able to qualify if you have high medical bills. The asset limit** for an aged, blind or disabled person is $1,600. For families with children or persons under 21 years of age, the asset limit is slightly higher. There is no asset limit for pregnant women or infants whose incomes are less than 185% of the poverty level. There are special eligibility criteria for persons needing long term care.

## Income

If you work, part of your earnings will not be counted to make up for work-related expenses.

If you have unearned income and you are aged, blind or disabled, some of your unearned income will not be counted. Unearned income includes Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security benefits, Veterans benefits and pensions. After the appropriate deduction is subtracted from your gross income, your countable income must be less than the **Medicaid** income limit for your family size and area of the state. However, if you have high medical bills, you may still qualify.

## Assets

You must tell us about all assets, either owned solely by you or owned jointly with someone else. Assets include, but are not limited to, bank accounts, certificates of deposit, stocks and bonds, cash surrender value of life insurance policies, and non-home property. Your home is **not** counted as an asset while you own and live in it as your primary residence.

If you enter a nursing home, however, your home will be counted as an asset unless:

• you are reasonably expected to return home after a short stay;

• your spouse, your blind or disabled child, your child who is less than 21 years old or your sibling or other children under certain conditions will continue to use the home as his or her primary residence.

Some assets are not counted at all: Certain personal and essential household items, one burial plot per person and certain burial funds.

Transfers of assets will be examined and may cause penalties based on when the transfer occurred, to whom the asset was transferred and how much you received for the asset.