

3475.00.00 1619 MEDICAID BUDGETING (MED 1)

The policies stated in this section apply to the MA A, MA B, and MA D categories of assistance. Section 1619 of the Social Security Act provides an incentive to the blind or disabled SSI recipient to continue work when his earned income reaches levels that would otherwise jeopardize eligibility. Individuals in 1619(a) status receive reduced SSI benefits, while individuals in 1619(b) status receive no SSI benefits.

Blind or disabled SSI recipients who are in 1619(a) or 1619(b) status for SSI purposes can be eligible for continued Medicaid coverage without regard to any Medicaid eligibility requirements, except residency. Special 1619 Medicaid coverage is granted if the recipient was on Medicaid in the month immediately preceding the month in which the individual's 1619 status last began.ⁱ

There is no requirement to meet a spend-down in the month prior to entering 1619 status. Special 1619 Medicaid coverage continues if the recipient's 1619 SSI status is in effect. If the residency requirement is met, all other Medicaid eligibility requirements, including income and resources, are suspended while the individual remains in 1619. However, the special exclusion of income applies only in the eligibility step, not to the post-eligibility budget of recipients in Medicaid facilities.

SSI payments made to recipients who are in 1619 status and who enter public institutions and Medicaid certified facilities (hospital, ICF, SNF, ICF/~~MR~~IID, or CRF) are not reduced to the \$30 cap for the first two full months of institutionalization. These SSI payments are disregarded as income in the Medicaid eligibility determination and are disregarded as income in the post-eligibility budget of the individual only in the first two full months of institutionalization.ⁱⁱ If a progress report is due for a disabled person who has 1619 status, the Medicaid Medical Review Team (MMRT) should be notified of the recipient's 1619 status. If 1619 status is subsequently lost, a progress report must be submitted immediately to the MMRT. If a re-examination of eyesight is required for a blind recipient in 1619 status, notification to the MMRT is unnecessary. However, an eye report is required immediately upon termination of 1619 status.

A recipient's 1619 status is verified through data exchange. IEDSS (Indiana Eligibility Determination Services System) automatically updates an individual's SSI status on the AEIDC screen and notifies the worker of the update through an alert.

ⁱ SSA 1619(b)(3)

ⁱⁱ SSA 1611(e)(1)(E)