

Medical Assistance Overview

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Community Medical Assistance

- For all non Medicare recipients under the age of 65, they must apply through the Maryland Health connection
- If they are a Medicare recipient they could be eligible for QMB/SLMB or a spend down. Apply through the local DSS

Community MA Income Limits

Maryland Health Connection

Medicare Recipients

Household size	Maximum Yearly income
1	\$16,643
2	\$22,411
3	\$25,180
4	\$33,948
5	\$39,716
6	\$45,485
7	\$51,253
8	\$57,022

	Single	Married Couple
QMB	\$1,025	\$1,374
SLMB	\$1,026- \$1,226	\$1375-1644
Spend down	\$350	\$392

Long Term Care Medical Assistance

- Long Term Care (LTC) Medical Assistance is for people in nursing homes or intending to enter a nursing home

How income is treated for LTC

- Total gross income
- Deductions
 - Applicant receives a personal needs allowance of \$77 per month
 - Deduction given to pay supplemental health insurance actual costs (must provide proof)
 - Spousal allowance if applicable
- Total gross income minus applicable deductions gives monthly cost of care

Asset limit \$2,500

- This includes all checking, savings, IRA, life insurance cash values, Stocks, Bonds, CD, etc.
- We verify the balance as of the 1st moment of the first day of the month of application

Documents needed for LTC

- Customer needs to provide the last 5 years of all account statements for all open and closed accounts for themselves and their spouse
- If a customer has had any community benefit (food stamps, MA, housing, cash assistance) then only the **last 3 months** of financial history for self and spouse will be needed

Check List of Items Needed for Your Long-Term Care / Waiver Application

(Please keep this page for your records)

SEND PROOF If you do not already receive Long-Term Care Medical Assistance, we need the items listed below to process your application. Please send as many items as you can with this application. Please send copies, **do not send originals**. In some cases, we may need to request additional documents not listed below. If so, we will give you time to supply the additional documents.

DO NOT WAIT TO APPLY

If you do not have copies of all the documents listed, send in all the copies you do have when you apply. It is important to apply as soon as possible. We will give you more time to send additional documents needed.

If you or your spouse sold, traded, gifted, or disposed of any property, motor vehicles, stocks, bonds, cash or other assets in the past 5 years you will have to provide the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Type of asset | <input type="checkbox"/> Reason for transfer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Value of asset | <input type="checkbox"/> Who received the asset |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amount received for the asset | |

If you want to find out if your spouse can keep some of your monthly income, please provide:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse's gross monthly income | <input type="checkbox"/> Property tax bill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condo fees | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric bill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lot Rent | |

The following items are needed from you and your spouse to determine if you are eligible for Long-Term Care Medical Assistance:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Tax Returns for the current year and the preceding four years (please include all forms and schedules). A Record of Account can be obtained from the IRS free of charge by calling 1-800-908-9946 if your Federal tax returns cannot be located. | <input type="checkbox"/> Current gross monthly income from all sources including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> VA Pensions<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Retirement<input type="checkbox"/> Pensions<input type="checkbox"/> Annuities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bank and Financial statements on all accounts owned and co-owned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Current Month (month of application)<input type="checkbox"/> Previous Month (month prior to application)<input type="checkbox"/> The last five years of the anniversary month of the application | <input type="checkbox"/> Face and cash value of Life Insurance policies (current annual statement) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current statement of retirement accounts | <input type="checkbox"/> Current statement for burial accounts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current statement of IRA or Keogh Accounts | <input type="checkbox"/> Burial Plot Deeds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current statements of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Stocks<input type="checkbox"/> Bonds<input type="checkbox"/> Money Market Funds<input type="checkbox"/> Mutual Funds, Treasury, or Other Notes<input type="checkbox"/> Certificates | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Estate Deeds |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Promissory Notes |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage Notes and Mortgage Deeds |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Trusts (including appendices, schedules, annual accountings, and amendments for the past five years) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Health Insurance Cards including Medicare (copy of both sides) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Insurance premium amounts |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney or Legal Guardianship Documents (if any) |

Is the community home an asset?

- If there is no intent to return home, the full equity value is considered an asset
- If the customer has the intent to return home, it is still an asset but instead of being countable, a lien could be imposed
- A lien will not be imposed if a physician declares that the customer will return home within 6 months or less

Can a spouse, disabled child or Caregiver continue to live in the community home?

- A spouse can remain in the home
- For a child to remain in the home, the child must be deemed disabled by the Social Security Administration or the State Review Team (SRT)
- A caregiver must have been living with the customer for the last 2 years to provide care to keep them from entering the nursing home. This must be documented by a physician and must be approved by the Department of health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)

How does life insurance affect LTC eligibility?

- Term life insurance policies that do not have a cash value are excludable resources
- Whole life insurance policies the entire cash value is countable towards the **\$2500** resource limit
- If the total face values for all whole life policies are less than \$1500, then they are excluded resources

Can a life insurance policy be signed over to a funeral home?

- If it is assigned to a funeral home and made **irrevocable** then it is no longer a countable resource
- If it is revocable then anything over \$1,500 is countable

Spousal Impoverishment

- A. Total of assets the month of institutionalization. Take 50% of section A or The maximum spousal share (\$120,900), which ever is the least
- B. Total of assets the month of application
- C. Subtract A from B or the minimum spousal share (\$23,844) which ever is greater. This is the amount of resources attributed to the applicant
- D. Eligibility
 1. If this number is below \$2,500, then the applicant would be eligible
 2. If this number is above the \$2,500, then the applicant would be ineligible

Example

- Bob entered the facility on 1/16/2017. He is married to Sally. Total resources for Bob and Sally on 1/1/2017 were \$186,000. Sally submitted an application for LTC ma on Bob's behalf on 5/1/2017. They had been privately paying for nursing home care and their assets as of 5/1/2017 are now \$97,000.
- A. 50% of 186,000 is \$93,000
- B. 97,000
- C. 4,000 attributed to the applicant
- D. Bob is not eligible since C is greater than \$2,500

Spouses income

- If a spouse is not requesting a spousal allowance then the spouses income is not looked at
- If a spousal allowance is being requested, spouses income is looked at along with all community home shelter expenses.

Spousal Allowance example

A. Total Shelter expenses	916	
B. Minus Excess Shelter Standard	<u>-601</u>	This number is found on Schedule MA-8
C. Excess Shelter Standard	315	
D. Basic Maintenance & shelter	<u>2003</u>	This number is found on Schedule MA-8
E. Total of lines C & D	2318	
F. Maximum Maintenance & Shelter	2981	This number is found on Schedule MA-8
Lesser of Lines E & F		2318
Total Monthly income for spouse		<u>1100</u>
Spousal Allowance		\$1,218

Trusts

- Trusts are always reviewed by a special unit downtown

Assignment of Support Rights

- In the event the applicant's spouse is uncooperative and refuses to do the following, the "Assignment of Support Rights" along with the "Notary Certificate" can be completed:
 - The spouse's whereabouts are unknown
 - The spouse refuses to provide verifications pertaining to financial documents that are in their name only
 - The spouse refuses to pay for any of the applicant's medical/nursing home care.
- This allows the State to bring criminal action for nonsupport against the applicant's spouse.

Transfer of Assets for Less than Fair Market Value

- All expenses in the five year look-back period, needed to be used for the applicant, spouse, and/or dependent children.
- Any money that was spent for purposes other than the applicant, spouse, dependent child(ren) has the potential to be considered as a transfer of assets for less than fair market value.
- This can result in the imposition of a penalty period (based on dollar value of amount transferred and current standards from MA Schedule 6) that the State will not pay for room and board portion of the nursing home.

Reminders

- An elder care attorney is not always needed
- Submit a completed application and the local DSS will inform what documents are needed
- Contact your local department if you have questions
- The district office that handles an LTC application is determined by where the applicant lived prior to entering the facility
- Upper Chesapeake and Harford Memorial has an outpost Long Term Care worker-Alex Pearson. If you have a patient currently in the hospital, you can apply for LTC MA with her.



**ASSET
LIMIT IS**

\$2500