



Developmental Disabilities Resource Center

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Social Security Terms, Acronyms & Meanings

SSA – Social Security Administration Programs. Term is used for retirement benefits.

SSI – Supplemental Security Income. A Federal income supplement program designed to help the disabled, blind, or those age 65 or older with limited income and resources under \$2,000. Individuals must apply through their local SSA office. Applicants are screened and must meet SSA medical/disability requirements. SSI receipts can also qualify for Medicaid benefits by virtue of being an SSI recipient.

SSDI – Social Security Disability Insurance: A Federal income supplement program designed to help individuals unable to work due to a notable disability as defined by the Social Security Administration. SSDI is based on a person's work history and Social Security tax pay-in, and is not based on income or resource levels. SSDI is available to eligible workers, a worker's widow, surviving divorced spouse, or adult aged child with disabilities (DAC). Requirements for surviving children with disabilities to be eligible are: be unmarried, age 18 or over, and be disabled prior to age 22.

DAC – Social Security Disabled Adult Child. A adult with disabilities can receive SSDI benefits based on their parents' contributions to Social Security. Requirements for DAC include: must be 18 yrs or over, unmarried, and be disabled prior to age 22. Additionally an individual's parent(s) must have paid taxes into the Social Security System and parent(s) must be disabled per SSA definition, retired or deceased. Those eligible for DAC benefits will have a "C" attached to their Social Security Number and/or will be issued a new SS card upon becoming eligible for DAC benefits.

Title 1634C –Social Security regulation that protects DAC who begin receiving SSDI benefits based on parent(s) contributions to the Social Security system from losing Medicaid eligibility.
Exempts DAC SSDI benefit payments from income and resource considerations.

Pickle Amendment – 1977 amendment to the Social Security Act & Federal law that provides continued Medicaid eligibility to individuals as long as their income and resources, less SSA COLA adjustments, do not exceed current SSI standards. Exempts COLA adjustments in income and resource calculations for individuals found benefit eligible persons after 1977 if such adjustments are the cause of over resource determination.

Medicaid – Insurance-type benefits for the needy low-income individuals who have either no means to buy medical insurance or have inadequate Medical insurance. Persons must meet have income and resource levels under \$2,000. This program is funded by Federal and State governments. Medicaid is often paired with SSI benefits for identified target populations (see SSI definition).

Medicare – Health insurance Program for people over 65, people receiving SSDI benefits, or persons with end-stage renal disease. There are 4 parts to Medicare:

- Part A - Hospital Insurance. Individual receives this by contributions to Social Security taxes.
- Part B – Medical Insurance that helps pay outpatient medical care. A portion of Part B is paid by monthly premium. Will pay 80% of allowed benefit/services. Low income subsidy available to help with premium costs.
- Part C – Supplement insurance an individual person may purchase to pay 20% of benefits/services covered by the Part B. Cost per month is variable.
- Part D – Drug Benefit Program funded by the Federal Government. Medicare eligible individuals must enroll in Part D program in order to have prescription medications filled at a discounted price.

Useful Websites and Phone Numbers:

www.ssa.gov

www.colorado.gov

www.colorado.gov/hcpf

www.medicare.gov

USA SSA Call Center: 800.772.1213

Medicare: 800.Medicare (800.633.4227)