New Hampshire Bureau of Family Assistance (BFA) Program Fact Sheet

This fact sheet gives basic information about eligibility, income, and resource requirements for each of the following programs: Financial Assistance to Needy Families, the State Supplement Programs which include Old Age Assistance, Aid to the Permanently & Totally Disabled, and Aid to the Needy Blind, Medicaid [Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) and non-MAGI categories], the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Nursing Facility Care, Child Support Services, NH Child Care Scholarship, Children's Medicaid, Pregnant Women Medical Assistance, Qualified Medical Care Beneficiaries, Specified Low Income Beneficiaries, Medicaid for Employed Adults with Disabilities, Parent/Caretaker Relatives medical assistance, NH Health Protection Program, and Family Planning medical assistance.

By policy, different types of income and resources are either counted or not counted to determine eligibility. This varies from program to program. In addition, there are amounts that can be subtracted from income. These also vary by program and are shown below as "disregards and deductions." Examples of income are wages, rental income, and most benefit income including Social Security and SSI. Examples of resources are cash on hand, bank accounts, stocks/bonds, and unoccupied real property. Applicants must verify income, resources, disregards and deductions, identity, citizenship or alien status, social security numbers, residency, and all other eligibility factors required by the specific programs of assistance.

If you think a family or individual may be eligible for one of our programs, please have them visit www.nhageasy.nh.gov or www.darts.nh.gov/faf/dfa, or contact the DHHS District Office nearest them for more details.

Program Title

Financial Assistance to Needy Families (FANF)

State Supplement Program (SSP)

Medicaid Assistance Program (Medicaid)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Nursing Facility Care (NF)

Description

- Financial Assistance to Needy Families offers financial assistance to eligible families with dependent children and certain relatives who need help caring for related children.
- Most able-bodied adults receiving financial assistance are expected to work and participate in required employment activities.
- One or both parents in the family must be disabled, deceased, or absent from the home.
- The State Supplement program provides financial assistance and/or medical assistance to needy individuals who meet the definition of one of the following categories:
  1. Old Age Assistance (OAA) - 65 years of age or older, or
  2. Aid to the Permanently & Totally Disabled (APTD) - physically or mentally disabled and between the ages of 18 & 64, or
  3. Aid to Needy Blind (ANB) - blind (no age limit)
- Eligibility depends on income, resources and living arrangement.
- Certain individuals meeting these requirements have higher gross income limits. If all members of the household receive SSI, FANF and/or SNAP, there are no income or resource limits.
- Most recipients must look for and keep a job. Able-bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) must also meet special ABAWD work requirements.
- The Medicaid program pays for certain health care costs (doctor and hospital bills, prescriptions, dental care for children, etc.) for individuals who meet the technical and categorical requirements of the program.
- Certain Medicaid programs have eligibility determinations using modified adjusted gross income (MAGI), which uses IRS-defined concepts of income and household. The MAGI groups are explained on the back of this page. Medicaid is also offered to the elderly, disabled, and individuals requiring long-term care (LTC) assistance. These are the non-MAGI groups, although MAGI categories may also receive LTC assistance.
- If an individual meets all program requirements except is over the income limit, partial coverage can be provided under the In & Out program.

Resource Limits

- $1,000 for applicants, and $2,000 for recipients.
- Non-MAGI groups only:
  One person: $2,500
  Two persons: $4,000
  Three or more: $4,000 plus $100 for each additional person in the assistance group above two

Disregards & Deductions

- 20% of earned income for applicants
- Child/Dependent Care Costs
- Court-Ordered Child/Spousal Support
- Self-Employment Expenses

- $13 standard disregard
  For working individuals:
  - up to $50 (APTD or OAA) or $85 (ANB), and
  - $18 or actual employment expenses (APTD or OAA) or $60 of remaining earned income (ANB)

Dedications may apply for the Non-MAGI Medical Assistance programs.

- Shelter
- Child/Dependent Care
- Utilities
- Paid Child Support
- Self-Employment Expenses
- Medical for seniors and disabled
- Standard household deduction

Other Eligibility Criteria

- Receipt of FANF cash benefits is limited to 60 months over a lifetime. In most cases, parents must cooperate with Child Support Services in establishing paternity, if unknown, and establishing medical and financial child support. Some parents may also have to assign all rights to child support to DHHS while receiving financial assistance.
- Cash applicants must apply for SSI, and must agree to a lien on all real estate owned by the assistance group. If living together, a spouse's income, resources, and needs are considered when determining eligibility.
- SSI is not counted as income.
- In most cases, Medicaid applicants and recipients must cooperate with the Bureau of Child Support Services to obtain and enforce legal orders for medical support and to establish paternity for all children if unknown.
INCOME LIMITS

**DESCRIPTION**

**RESOURCE PROGRAMS**

**LIMITS**

eligibility. Assistance to Needy Families must also be denied. Legal order for support. Passports may be suspended, licensing board or agency suspend, credential interception of Unemployment Interception of NH lottery prizes, CSS collects, tracks, and disburses in another state or country. CSS provides services to only applicants/recipients

Bureau, and can request that a licensing board or agency suspend, revoke, or deny an obligor’s license if he or she is not in compliance with a legal order for support. Passports may also be denied. In addition, BCSS provides services to families that are not receiving public assistance. BCSS can charge a $35.00 annual fee to obligees who have never received public assistance, after the first $550.00 in support has been collected beginning October 1st of each year. Certain Medicaid programs have eligibility determined using MAGI, which uses IRS-defined concepts of income and household. Most income limits are based on federally set poverty levels (FPL). The MA categories that use MAGI are:

- **Children’s Medicaid (CM):** Children under age 19 with income no higher than 186% of the FPL. Children with severe disabilities (CSD) are also covered under this category.
- **Expanded CM:** Children under age 19 with income higher than 196% FPL, but no higher than 318% of the FPL.
- **Pregnant Women (PW):** Income can be no higher than 196% of the FPL.
- **Parents/Caretaker Relatives (PCR):** Adults must be a parent/caretaker relative of a dependent child, defined as a child under age 18, or under age 19 and a full time student in secondary school (or equivalent). The child must meet FAFN deprivation requirements. Net income must be less than or equal to a set income limit which is based on the FANF payment standard, not the FPL.
- **Granite Advantage Health Care Program (Granite Advantage):** Adults must be at least age 19 but younger than age 65 and income can be no higher than 133% of the FPL. Women cannot be pregnant, and the adult cannot be entitled to or enrolled in Part A or B Medicare benefits or otherwise eligible for enrolment in any mandatory Medicaid coverage.
- **Family Planning Program (FPP):** Limited coverage for non-pregnant adults who are not already a Medicaid recipient and whose income is no higher than 196% FPL.

**Child Support Services (CSS):**

 eligibility for up to one year.

- **Medicaid for Employed Adults with Disabilities (MEAD):**
  - be employed or self employed for pay:
  - contribute to FICA:
  - be pregnant, and the adult cannot be entitled to or enrolled in Part A or B Medicare benefits or otherwise eligible for enrolment in any mandatory Medicaid coverage.
- **Individuals with income between 100% and 120% of the federal poverty level may be eligible for payment of their monthly Medicare Part B premiums and may also be eligible for other programs, including Medicaids.
- **Individuals with income between 120% and 135% of federal poverty levels may be eligible for payment of the Medicare Part B premium, but cannot also be eligible for other Medicaid programs in the same month.

**NH CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP**

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Certain Medicaid beneficiaries entitled to Medicare Part B but with higher incomes may be eligible for payment of all or part of the Medicare Part B premium. Some of these individuals may also be eligible for other programs, including Medicaid.

**Medicaid for Employed Adults with Disabilities (MEAD):**

- be employed or self employed for pay:
- contribute to FICA:
- be pregnant, and the adult cannot be entitled to or enrolled in Part A or B Medicare benefits or otherwise eligible for enrolment in any mandatory Medicaid coverage.
- enroll in cost-free health insurance if their employer offers it.

Individuals and couples with income less than 150% of the federal poverty level are not required to pay a premium. Premiums are reduced by the cost of other health insurance.

**QUALIFIED MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

An applicant must also meet the general nonfinancial requirements/conditions of eligibility for Medicaid, such as filing an application, obtaining a Social Security number, etc.

SSI is not counted as income.

- be 18 through 64 years old:
- be employed or self employed for pay:
- contribute to FICA:
- meet ANS or APTD medical criteria; or
- have a documented medical impairment that is included in the Social Security Administration’s Listing of Impairments and that is expected to last 48 months or longer; and
- enroll in cost-free health insurance if their employer offers it.

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**MEDICAID FOR EMPLOYED ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES (MEAD)**

Medicaid for Employed Adults with Disabilities (MEAD) provides medical coverage to disabled working adults. MEAD has higher income and resource limits than other Medicaid programs and allows eligible recipients to return to work or increase their earnings. Some individuals who are eligible for MEAD may be required to pay a health insurance premium.

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