

# Disabled Adult Child (DAC) Medical Assistance Benefits



## A Guide to Eligibility

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### Overview

People who get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are automatically approved for Medicaid (called “Medical Assistance”) in Pennsylvania. There are special circumstances that allow people to keep getting Medicaid after their SSI benefits end.

One of those special circumstances applies to people who are considered a “disabled adult child” and therefore collect Social Security benefits from a parent’s record when that parent becomes disabled, retires, or passes away. If someone loses their SSI because they start to collect these Social Security Disabled Adult Child (DAC) benefits, or they of an increase in DAC benefits, special Medicaid eligibility rules apply. Under these special rules, the person with a disability is often able to keep their Medicaid coverage.

### Eligibility

To qualify for continued Medicaid as a Disabled Adult Child (DAC), you must:

1. Have been disabled or blind before age 22;
2. Lost SSI due to receipt of (or an increase in) Social Security DAC benefits based on the earning record of a retired, disabled, or deceased parent;
3. Remain under the SSI resource limit of \$2,000 for a single person and \$3,000 for a couple; and
4. Continue to meet the financial eligibility criteria for SSI *not including* your Social Security DAC benefits.

### For More Information & Help

Please contact the Pennsylvania Health Law Project’s Helpline at 1-800-274-3258 for specific advice about Medicaid Disabled Adult Child (DAC) eligibility.

This publication is intended to provide general legal information, not legal advice. Each person’s situation is different. If you have questions about how the law applies to your particular situation, please consult a lawyer or call the Helpline at 1-800-274-3258.

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