

OTHER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**SOCIAL SECURITY ENUMERATION****Policy:**

With certain exceptions, all applicants must tell the local social services district what their Social Security Number (SSN) is or apply for an initial Social Security card.

NOTE: There are three exceptions to this policy:

- An undocumented alien, applying for Medicaid coverage of care and services necessary for the treatment of an emergency medical condition, is not required to apply for or provide an SSN.
- A pregnant woman is not required to apply for or provide an SSN. Districts cannot require a pregnant woman to provide an SSN until the end of the month in which the sixtieth (60th) day following the end of her pregnancy occurs (See **CATEGORICAL FACTORS MEDICAID EXTENSIONS/CONTINUATIONS**). However, some pregnant women may want to provide a SSN and may do so.
- An SSN is not required for a child, born to a woman eligible for and receiving Medicaid, at the time of the child's birth for up to one year (See **CATEGORICAL FACTORS MEDICAID EXTENSIONS/CONTINUATIONS**).

References:

Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997

SSL Sect. 131-c

Dept. Regs. 369.2(b) (1)
370.2(c)(3)

ADMs OMM/ADM 97-2
97 ADM-23
93 ADM-4
90 ADM-9
89 ADM-12
88 ADM-47
88 ADM-4
87 ADM-25
83 ADM-29

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	80 ADM-75
	80 ADM-42
INFs	08 OHIP/INF-1 90 INF-14
GIS	00 TA/DC-008 03 MA/008 98 TA/DC-014 07 MA/010

Interpretation:

With some exceptions, all Medicaid applicants regardless of age, who fail, or in the case of a child under age 21 whose parent or caretaker relative fails, to tell the local social services district what their SSN is, or apply for an initial SSN, are ineligible for Medicaid. A Medicaid application for benefits must not be denied or delayed pending issuance of a social security number. Local district staff must follow up with the recipient if the SSN has not been provided within four months after the SSN application is filed.

See **NOTE** above for the three exceptions.

- The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 requires the SSN of each parent to be on the application for an original SSN for a child under age 18.
- Effective June 30, 2000, all applications for original SSNs and replacement cards must be made directly to the applicant's local SSA Office. The local SSA office will issue a SSA-5028 (Receipt for Application for a Social Security Number) if the applicant requests verification that s/he has applied for an SSN.
- Except for S/CC, a non-applying legally responsible relative (spouse or parent) of an A/R is not required to furnish a Social Security number. The local district may request the non-applying spouse or parent to provide an SSN, but the individual is informed that the disclosure is voluntary and how the number will be used.

For S/CC, the non-applying legally responsible relative living with an A/R is required to furnish a social security; number. If the

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legally responsible relative does not comply, the S/CC A/R is ineligible for Medicaid. There are two exceptions: (a) when the legally responsible relative is a pregnant woman, she is not required to supply an SSN, and, (b) when the legally responsible relative is an alien, s/he may not have to provide an SSN, depending on his/her alien status.

Aliens with work authorization are required to apply for a Social Security Number and card.

NOTE: If the alien with work authorization has an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) from the Internal Revenue Service, the ITIN is considered a tax processing number and is not an equivalent to an SSN. In such situations, the alien with work authorization must provide or apply for an SSN.

Aliens without work authorization who appear to meet all eligibility requirements for federal or State funded Medicaid/Family Health Plus, except for the SSN requirement, must be provided with a letter addressed to the Social Security Administration. This letter must be provided by the district to each immigrant who lacks work authorization and is otherwise eligible for benefits. The applicant is directed to submit the letter to the Social Security Administration along with the social security number application (SS5). The district must assist the immigrant with the social security number application if necessary. The required letter formats are found in 08 OHIP/INF-2.

Verification:

Districts must continue to confirm that the SSN provided is correct. The Welfare Management System (WMS) uses two processes; verification and validation that help districts confirm the SSN.

Verification: Verification is the process in which an individual's SSN and demographics are matched to information contained in WMS. Verification is done when a case is in application status. Districts are alerted of any problems through the Resource File Integration (RFI) process.

Validation: Validation is the process in which WMS sends a SSN and certain other individual data to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for comparison. If the SSN and demographic data associated with an individual on WMS match the information on file with the SSA, that individual's SSN is

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validated as correct on WMS. Validation occurs after the case is opened or whenever a change in demographics occurs.

Medicaid A/Rs no longer have to provide documentation of their SSN, except in those cases where either the verification or the validation process fails to confirm the SSN. A copy of the A/R's Social Security card is always acceptable. The district may accept a printed pay stub indicating the SSN, or W-2 Form as documentation.

If the SSN does not validate through this process, the A/R must provide documentation of the SSN. If the A/R cannot document the SSN, benefits may be discontinued or denied.

Form SSA-2853 (Message from Social Security), verification that an application was made through the Enumeration at Birth (EAB) process, or a copy of the birth certificate indicating enumeration at birth are the primary evidence that a newborn has applied for an SSN. An SSN is not required for a child born to a woman eligible for, and receiving Medicaid, at the time of the child's birth for up to one year.