

## CATEGORICAL FACTORS

### DISABILITY

- More favorable budgeting that would enable a single adult or member of a childless couple (SCC) to obtain Medicaid or Family Health Plus if he/she does not meet the public assistance standard of need;
- Budgeting that would enable an A/R who is otherwise financially ineligible to obtain full Medicaid benefits, with or without a spenddown;
- Exclusion of an asset from a transfer penalty if the A/R has transferred the asset to an adult child who is determined to be disabled;
- Exclusion of funds deposited in a pooled trust.

An example of a financial benefit to the Medicaid program is the placement of an SCC A/R into a federally participating category which assists in meeting the cost neutrality provisions of the 1115 Managed Care Waiver.

Disability determinations are completed for all A/Rs under the age of 65 who are citizens or qualified aliens not in the federal five year ban, and who appear to meet the Social Security Administration disability criteria. The A/R is given an informed choice between SSI-related budgeting and any other appropriate category when s/he is eligible under more than one category.

Disability determinations are completed for Aliessa aliens (qualified aliens in the five year ban and PRUCOL aliens) only if a determination of disability will provide a Medicaid benefit for the A/R. There is no financial benefit to the Medicaid program, as federal financial participation cannot be obtained for these A/Rs, nor are they included in the federal 1115 waiver. Thus, if an Aliessa alien A/R is eligible for full Medicaid coverage without a disability determination, there is no requirement to perform a Medicaid disability review for the A/R.

When a non-SSI-related Medicaid recipient dies, his/her case, medical condition and expenditures are reviewed for referral to the Medicaid Disability Review Team.

The disability review process takes into consideration the severity and extent of the individual's medical condition and resulting functional limitations. It may also take into account the individual's