
NONFINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY FACTORS

STATE RESIDENCE

**B. DURATIONAL
REQUIREMENTS
PROHIBITED**

Medicaid eligibility may not be denied because an individual has not resided in Mississippi for a specified period or because the individual did not establish residence in Mississippi before entering an institution. An individual determined to be a resident of Mississippi as set forth in one of the residency rules established above must have eligibility determined as a Mississippi resident.

**1. Temporary
Absence**

A resident of Mississippi does not lose residency due to temporary absence from the State. Medicaid eligibility may not be denied or terminated because of an individual's temporary absence from the State if the person intends to return when the purpose of the absence has been accomplished, unless another state has determined that the individual is a resident there for purposes of Medicaid.

A Medicaid recipient is responsible for reporting his absence from Mississippi and for giving information as to his purpose, plans, dates of departure, and return.

For the recipient who does not notify the agency of his departure, an attempt will be made to determine the address in the other state so that information can be secured from the recipient regarding whether his absence is temporary in nature, its purpose, and date of return.

No limit is placed on the length of an out-of-state visit, but the recipient's eligibility must be reviewed every three (3) months to determine the recipient's intent of residence and necessary action taken on the case as a result of the eligibility determination.

The recipient who leaves the State with no declared intent to return is determined to have given up his Mississippi residency and his case is closed after advance notice. (If a recipient's whereabouts are unknown, advance notice is not required as specified in Section C, "Exceptions to Advance Notice.")

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**2. Homeless
Eligibility**

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-509) specified that states are prohibited from posing any residence requirements which excludes from Medicaid any qualified individual who resides in the State, regardless of whether the residence is maintained permanently or at a fixed address. In other words, a "homeless" individual or one who frequently moves from one address to another can qualify for Medicaid if otherwise eligible.

In addition, Medicaid cards must be made available to individuals with no fixed home or mailing address. This can be accomplished by having the card mailed to a specific shelter or similar facility or to the Regional Medicaid Office or county Human Services Office. Whatever method works best for the Medicaid recipient and is agreeable to the agency or group receiving the card is permissible. The recipient should be advised of the time and place that the card will be available.

**C. DISPUTED
RESIDENCY**

Where two or more states cannot resolve which state is the state of residence, the state where the individual is physically located is the state of residence.