

Medical Assistance (MA) Eligibility

Eligibility Requirements

MA is available to children under age 21, parents and caretakers of dependent children, pregnant women, people age 65 or over, persons who are blind or have disabilities, and adults without children, who meet the program's income and, if applicable, asset standards.

To be eligible for MA, an individual must meet the following criteria:

- be a citizen of the United States or a lawfully present noncitizen who meets specified criteria
- be a resident of Minnesota
- provide a Social Security number, unless an exception is met
- meet program income and any applicable asset limits
- meet other program rules, for example, to qualify a disability basis, you must have a disability determination from the Social Security Administration or the DHS State Medical Review Team.

Financial Eligibility

See the Minnesota Health Care Programs Income and Asset Guidelines document for current MA income and asset limits.

Income

To qualify, an individual's income must not exceed program income limits for their applicable family size. Different income limits apply to different groups of people. For example, the income limit for children is higher than the income limit for parents. Most income is counted (wages, salary, self-employment, unemployment benefits, Social Security benefits, pensions, etc.)

Assets

- There is no MA asset limit for children under age 21, parents and caretakers, pregnant women and adults without children.

- People age 65 or older and people age 21 and older who are blind or have a disability have an asset limit of \$3,000 for a single person and \$6,000 for a household of two.

Assets that count toward the limit include bank accounts, financial investments, real property (other than the home they live in), etc.

Verifications

Eligibility Factors		When is this checked?
Financial	Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Annual Renewal • When changes occur • Electronic data checks between renewals
	Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Annual Renewal • When changes occur
Non-Financial	Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • When changes occur (For example, a noncitizen person becomes a naturalized citizen)
	Immigration Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • When changes occur
	Social Security Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • When changes occur (For example, a person who applied for a number gets their number)
	Disability status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Annual Renewal • When changes occur

Administration

DHS is responsible for the operation of the MA program at the state level and for supervising administration of the program by county and Tribal agencies. County human services agencies, and Tribal governments choosing to participate, are responsible for determining if individuals are eligible for MA and provide ongoing case maintenance, supported by DHS eligibility IT systems.

Depending on their eligibility group and what type of coverage they need, individuals apply for MA by:

- submitting an application online through the MNsure website; or
- filing a paper application with a county or Tribal human services agency.