

Medical Assistance for Individuals Receiving SSI

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits are administered by the Social Security Administration. People who receive SSI are a covered group under Medicaid. In some states, individuals are automatically enrolled in Medicaid when they are approved for SSI. However, in Virginia, not all SSI recipients are eligible for Medicaid. Virginia has chosen to use real property eligibility requirements that are more restrictive than SSI real property eligibility requirements. **SSI recipients who live in Virginia must apply separately for Medicaid at their local department of social services.** This includes newly-approved SSI recipients, as well as SSI recipients who have moved to Virginia

When an SSI recipient has any of the real property listed below, all of the recipient's resources must be verified, evaluated, and counted together to determine if the SSI recipient meets the Medicaid resource requirements.

- 1) equity in non-exempt property contiguous to the person's home which exceeds \$5,000 and cannot be excluded under any other exclusions.
 - 2) an interest in undivided heir property when the property is legally available and the equity value of the person's share when added to all other countable resources exceeds the appropriate Medicaid resource limit. If a partition suit is necessary to sell the interest, costs of partition and attorneys' fees may be deducted.
 - 3) ownership (equity value) of the person's former residence if the SSI recipient has been in an institution for longer than 6 months.
 - 4) equity value in property owned jointly with another person, to whom the SSI recipient is not married, as tenants in common or joint tenants with the right of survivorship at common law.
 - 5) other real property that cannot be excluded under any other exclusions.
- [More information about SSI, including the eligibility requirements and how to apply.](#)