

SSI & Section 1619(b) Medicaid

In New York State, SSI Recipients Automatically Qualify for Medicaid (if SSI payment as little as \$1).

Under Section 1619(b), Former SSI Recipients Can Still Keep Medicaid:

- If SSI payment was stopped due to earned income or a combination of earned and unearned income
 - Living alone, 2016 – will lose SSI if gross monthly earnings are \$1,725 or higher (if no unearned income)
 - Living with others - will lose SSI if gross earnings are \$1,597 or higher (if no unearned income)
 - The person's disability must continue

Additional Section 1619(b) Criteria (Non-Financial):

- Prior month requirement: must have received an SSI check or been eligible for 1619(b) in at least one month of the previous 12 months
- Medicaid use test:
 - used Medicaid within past 12 months; or
 - expects to use Medicaid in next 12 months; or
 - would be unable to pay unexpected medical bill in next 12 months without Medicaid

Section 1619(b)'s Financial Criteria:

- Unearned income must be within SSI's limits
- Resources must be within SSI's limits
- Annual income must be under the 1619(b) threshold, or it must be under an "individualized threshold"

Section 1619(b)'s Earned Income Threshold:

- For calendar year 2016, New York's earned income threshold is \$43,583 per year
- If annual wages are below \$43,583 and the other criteria is met, Medicaid will continue

Section 1619(b)'s Individualized Threshold:

- If gross earnings are more than general threshold, eligibility may be established by adding up:
 - base amount of \$18,612 in 2016
 - New York Medicaid amount from threshold chart (\$24,971 in 2016), or actual Medicaid expenses if higher
 - impairment related work expenses and/or blind work expenses
 - publicly funded attendant care costs
- The total of these items establishes the individualized threshold.
- If annual gross earnings are below this threshold, and other criteria are met, Medicaid will continue.

At-A-Glance Series

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