

SSI & Section 1619(b) Medicaid

In New York State, SSI Recipients Automatically Qualify for Medicaid:

- ◆ If a person gets as little as \$1 in SSI benefits, Medicaid is automatic

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

- ◆ If the person's SSI payment was stopped due to earned income or a combination of earned and unearned income
 - Person living alone in 2009 – SSI payment will stop if gross monthly earnings are \$1607 or higher (if no unearned income)
 - Person living with others in 2009 will lose SSI if gross monthly earnings are \$1479 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 for at least one previous month on current SSI record
- ◆ Medicaid use test:
 - used Medicaid within past 12 months
 - expects to use Medicaid in next 12 months
 - 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 New York State's section 1619(b) threshold, or it must be under an "individualized threshold"

Section 1619(b)'s Earned Income Threshold:

- ◆ For calendar year 2009, New York's earned income threshold is \$43,421 per year
- ◆ If annual wages are below \$43,421 and the other criteria is met, Medicaid will continue

Section 1619(b)'s Individualized Threshold:

- ◆ If gross earnings are more than the general threshold, eligibility may be established by adding up the following:
 - base amount of \$19,284 in 2009
 - New York Medicaid amount from threshold chart (\$24,137 in 2009), or actual Medicaid expenses if higher
 - impairment related work expenses
 - 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.