



Applications

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Emergency Assistance

South Carolina

Applications

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Filing and Processing Applications

All persons have a right to file an application for cash assistance.

Right provided for in statute

The same application for cash assistance is used throughout the state.

The statewide application is a joint application for:

Food Stamps
Medicaid

State policy sets standards of timeliness for processing applications:

Applications must be acted upon within 30 days.

The agency is required to issue a written decision on applications.

Pre-Application Requirements

The state does not impose requirements that must be met before a family can submit an application for cash assistance.

Pending Application Requirements

The state imposes pending application requirements that a family must meet while its cash assistance application is pending. Failure to meet these requirements results in denial of the application.

The pending application requirement is:

Conduct job search

The following applicants are exempt from the pending application requirement:

Disabled or caring for disabled person; individual with no child care or transportation; non-parent caretaker whose household includes a child who would have been in foster care

Personal Responsibility Contracts

Applicants and/or recipients are required to sign a personal responsibility contract.

Applicants must sign a personal responsibility contract:
After eligibility is determined

The personal responsibility contract is:

A standard form listing obligations

The contract identifies specific employment activities.

The following people must sign the contract:

Head of household
Both parents in "two-parent" families

The following applicants and recipients are exempt from developing and signing a contract:

Individual exempt from work requirements
Individual with a child under 12 months
Disabled caretaker
Non-parent caretaker not receiving assistance

The following obligations can be included in the contract:

Agreement to participate in work activities
Participation in specific work activities
Child school attendance requirements
Minor parent school attendance requirements
Immunization or preventative health requirements
Cooperation with child support enforcement
Participation in life skills or parenting classes
Drug or alcohol provisions
Teen parent living arrangement
Agreement to reach self-sufficiency within a set period of time

The contract includes a state or county agreement to provide services, and lists the services.

A sanction is imposed if an applicant or recipient refuses to sign a contract. The sanction is the same as the sanction for non-compliance with work requirements.

Employability Plans

Applicants and recipients are not required to sign an employability plan, i.e. a plan that covers only work requirements.

Formal Diversion Programs

The state does not operate a formal cash diversion program.

Emergency Assistance

The state does not have an emergency assistance program.

Note: Information on exemptions from work requirements and sanctions for noncompliance with work requirements will be available in the Work and Sanction Provisions sections later this year.