
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RETIREES

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**STATE FUNDED MEDICAL PROGRAM
LOUISIANA STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RETIREES**

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X-100 GENERAL INFORMATION

Effective July 1, 1980, Louisiana state law provides state funded medical coverage for persons who:

- lost eligibility for SSI and Medicaid because of cost of living increases in Louisiana state or local government retirement benefits, and
- are not eligible for any regular Medicaid program.

Medical benefits are:

- state funded, and
- the same as those available through Title 19.

X-110 Category

Category H(14) is used to identify Louisiana state and local government retirees whose medical benefits are entirely state-funded.

X-120 Outside Inquiry

If an individual inquires, but an SDX record has not been received:

- explain the program criteria, and
- initiate an application if the individual is potentially eligible.

X-200 ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION PROCESS

Determine eligibility by applying the following criteria. The elements have been listed in the most logical order, but work on all steps simultaneously.

X-210 Determine Assistance/Benefit Unit

The assistance/benefit unit consists of the applicant(s)/recipient(s).

Both members of a couple (legal and non-legal) could be included if both meet the eligibility criteria.

X-220 Establish Categorical Requirement

- Verify receipt and amount of Louisiana state or local government retirement benefits, and
- that loss of SSI eligibility is due to a cost of living (COLA) increase in Louisiana state or local government retirement benefits.

Sources include, but are not limited to:

- SSA records, correspondence, or forms, or
- retirement records, correspondence, or forms indicating receipt of benefits.

Document the case record.

File a copy of the proof in the case record.

X-230 Establish Non-Financial Eligibility

Verify eligibility for the applicant/recipient with regard to the following factors:

- Assignment of Third Party Rights I-100
- Citizenship/Alien Status I-300
- Enumeration I-600
- Residence I-1900

X-240 Establish Need

Determine composition of the income/resource unit. The income/resource unit consists of the:

- applicant/recipient, and
- legal or non-legal spouse living in the home.

Determine need:

1. Determine total countable resources of the applicant/recipient. Refer to **Need–Resources, SSI-Related Programs, I-1630**.
2. Compare countable resources to the SSI resource limit. Refer to **Charts, Z-0000**.

If countable resources exceed the resource limit, the applicant/recipient is ineligible.

If countable resources are equal to or less than the resource limit, the applicant/recipient is resource eligible.

X-240 **Continued**

3. Refer to **Need–Income, SSI-Related Programs, I-1530**, to determine gross monthly income:
 - Disregard all percentage increases in state, local, and parish government retirement benefits. Disregard the increases which caused SSI ineligibility and all subsequent COLAs after the loss of SSI.
 - Add any income deemed from the spouse.
 - Deduct the \$20.00 SSI standard deduction.
 - Deduct the earned income exemption:
 - Subtract \$65.00 from earned income.
 - Subtract 1/2 of the remainder.
 - Subtract the balance of the \$20.00 SSI standard deduction, if any.
 - Compare countable income to the appropriate current FBR:
 - If countable income is equal to or less than the FBR, the applicant/recipient is income eligible.
 - If countable income is greater than the FBR, the applicant/recipient is ineligible.

X-250 **Eligibility Decision**

Evaluate all eligibility requirements and verification received to make the eligibility decision to either close the SSI Type Case 78 certification or certify for state funded coverage.

X-260 Certification Period

The certification period cannot exceed 12 months.

X-270 Notice of Decision

If eligibility is not established, provide advance notice of the SSI closure using BHSF Form 19**G**. If eligibility is established, send BHSF Form 18SFMA to the recipient.

X-300 Renewals

A *renewal* is required annually for State and Local Government Retirees. Refer to **Renewals–K-0000**.