

Policy Clarifications - Medicaid - General Assistance PMG16124304

Submitted: 03/12/12

Agency: CAOs

Citations:

Subject: Retroactive GA-related MA and Bench Warrants

How are CAOs to process applications when an individual applies for MA and retroactive MA and meets the criteria for GA-related MA but has an outstanding bench warrant that has not been satisfied for the retroactive period?

Response By: Division of Health Services

Date:03/19/12

62 P.S 481.1 establishes a requirement that an individual who fails as a defendant to appear at a criminal court proceeding when issued a summons or bench warrant is ineligible for receipt of GA-related MA.

Anyone having an outstanding bench warrant (for any criminal conviction) is ineligible for GA-related MA. Refer to MAHB 304.42 and 304 Appendix C for the criminal history requirements. The client is disqualified from receiving assistance "until such a time as that person complies with the summons".

Retroactive GA-related MA cannot be authorized as eligibility starts with the verified date of compliance with the bench warrant.

There may be instances when retroactive GA-related MA could be authorized without the warrant being satisfied, for example, death of the applicant. Narrate your decision in these instances in detail.

This guidance replaces clarifications MA-5723-304 and MA-5758-304 (originally issued in April 1996 via a paper process in place prior to the OIM Intranet and OIM Web).