

# **Policy Clarifications - Medicaid - All PMA15088319**

**Submitted:01/15/10**

**Agency:CAOs**

**Citations:**

**Subject: Eligibility for Healthy Horizons and Applying for Potential Social Security Income**

At application, an individual returns medical documentation that indicates a permanent disability or a temporary disability lasting 12 months or more. The individual does not receive Social Security benefits. If otherwise eligible for Healthy Horizons, can presumptive eligibility be authorized without proof the individual applied for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)?

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**Response By: Division of Health Services**

**Date:01/15/10**

No. A Healthy Horizons applicant is required to apply for or obtain any potential source of income available to him or her, as a condition of eligibility. This includes SSI or SSDI. The individual who fails, without good cause, to cooperate in an effort to establish eligibility for potential benefits is ineligible for Healthy Horizons, including presumptive eligibility, until he or she complies.

The only exception is when the individual signs the PA 731 (DAP Referral Form). The individual should be encouraged to sign the PA 731, but a signature is not required. By signing the PA 731, the individual is indicating intent to cooperate with both the CAO and the Social Security Administration (SSA) in seeking SSI/SSDI benefits. Therefore, the individual who has signed the PA 731 does not have to apply for benefits with SSA before the CAO authorizes Medical Assistance (MA). The SSI/SSDI application may occur after MA is authorized.

If the individual does not sign the PA 731, he or she must verify application for SSI/SSDI before the CAO authorizes MA.

This information is included in the Supplemental Handbook 820.5 and Medical Assistance Eligibility Handbook 319.6.