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BLR
MEDICAL SERVICES POLICY MANUAL, SECTION B

B-300 Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled (AABD) Eligibility Groups

B-330 Workers with Disabilities

MS Manual ~~01/01/22~~[03/22/25](#)

This group consists of individuals who:

- Have a disability;
- Are working at the time of application (~~r~~Refer to Glossary for definition of working-);
- Are at least sixteen (16) years of age, but less than sixty-five (65) years of age; and
- Except for earned income, would be income eligible to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

If an individual was not an SSI or SSA disability recipient, a disability determination must be made by the DHS Medical Review Team (MRT). Refer to [MS F-122](#).

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) is not considered for the disability determination. In addition, the individual's total unearned income (minus the ~~twenty-dollar~~[twenty-dollar](#) (\$20) general exclusion) must be under the SSI payment amount for one (1) person to qualify for this group.

Recipients will be able to access services through [Community Employment Support \(CES\) or ARChoices Waiver](#), provided [that](#) the medical criteria for ARChoices [or CES](#) have been met as well as the financial criteria of the Workers with Disabilities group. Refer to [MS C-240](#) for guidance ~~and procedures~~ regarding the medical assessment process.

~~If a~~[Applicants](#)~~applicants~~ ~~will be advised by their eligibility worker that if they~~ accept services from ARChoices ~~Waiver or CES Wavier~~ providers while their applications are pending and are subsequently denied for ARChoices ~~Waiver or CES Waiver~~, they will be responsible for paying the provider.

Recipients of Health Care in the Workers with Disabilities category will be eligible for the full range of Health Care services.

MEDICAL SERVICES POLICY MANUAL, SECTION I

~~I-500 Categorical Changes~~

~~I-50070 W Categorical Changes workers with Disabilities Eligible to Receive ARChoices~~

I-570 Workers with Disabilities Eligible to Receive ARChoices and CES Waiver Services

Refer to Health Care Procedures Manual for more information.

MS Manual ~~07/01/20~~[03/22/25](#)

The ARChoices and Community Employment Support (CES) Waivers ~~has been amended to~~ include the Workers with Disabilities category as a group that is eligible for services within the Waivers. In order to be eligible for ~~the~~ ARChoices or CES Waiver services and the Workers with Disabilities category, applicants must meet both the functional need criteria of the ARChoices and CES Waiver program ([MS F-155](#) and [MS B-317](#)) and the financial criteria of the Workers with Disabilities category ([MS B-330](#)).

Recipients will be able to access services through ARChoices or CES Waivers, provided that the medical criteria for ARChoices or CES have been met as well as the financial criteria of the Workers with Disabilities group. Refer to MS C-240 for guidance and procedures regarding the medical assessment process.

Referral for Assessment

~~When an applicant or recipient of the Workers with Disabilities category applies for the services available within the ARChoices category, the DHS RN will be notified to coordinate an assessment of medical necessity (functional need) and develop a service plan. For a recipient of the Workers with Disabilities category, completion of a new application is not necessary unless it is time for the annual reevaluation of the Workers with Disabilities category.~~

County Office Eligibility Determination

~~The eligibility worker will determine if the applicant meets the eligibility requirements of the Workers with Disabilities category. Refer to [MS B-330](#) and [E-110](#).~~

~~For Workers with Disabilities/ARChoices cases, disability will be determined using the Workers with Disabilities criterion which allows an individual to earn over the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) level at the time of application. [MS F-120](#) provides guidance on when to refer to MRT for a disability decision. A referral to MRT is not necessary for an applicant who received SSI or SSA disability within the last year and lost entitlement solely due to employment or when an applicant is still considered as an active SSI or SSA disability recipient whose cash benefits were suspended due to earnings. However, to be eligible for ARChoices Waiver, the disability must be determined as physical.~~

~~The applicant or recipient may be eligible for retroactive eligibility, if needed, for the Workers-~~

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I-500 Categorical Changes

~~I-50070 W Categorical Changes workers with Disabilities Eligible to Receive ARChoices~~

~~with Disabilities category (MS A-200). However, the individual will not be eligible for the ARChoices Waiver until the day of the month in which the Waiver eligibility is finalized by the eligibility worker (MS A-200) unless a retroactive eligibility date is established by the DHS RN. Refer to MS C-247.~~

ARChoices and CES Transition to the Workers with Disabilities Category

ARChoices and CES recipients may also request to transition to the Workers with Disabilities category. Once the eligibility worker determines eligibility for the Workers with Disabilities category, the ARChoices or CES category will be closed, and the Workers with Disabilities category will be approved effective with the day after closure.

Note: An ARChoices applicant or recipient may still be eligible for ARChoices when employed, as long as the individual's his/her total income (earned and unearned) does not exceed the Waiver income limit. Also, an individual can remain categorically eligible for the ARChoices Waiver when they are SSI eligible but no longer in payment status. Social Security Disability rules allow beneficiaries to earn over the SGA limit during their Trial Work Periods and Extended Periods of Eligibility. In this case, verification of income and resources is not required; however, medical necessity must be met as well as verification that a physical disability exists.