



INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN APPLYING FOR ASSISTANCE

WHAT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS CAN I APPLY FOR?

Food Stamp Program - Food assistance for low-income individuals and families.

Temporary Assistance - Cash assistance for low-income families with children.

Medicaid - Medical assistance for low-income families, and individuals who are pregnant, under age 21, age 65 or older, disabled, or blind.

Adult Public Assistance - Cash assistance for individuals who are age 65 or older, disabled, or blind.

Chronic & Acute Medical Assistance - Medical assistance primarily for individuals over 21 and under 65 who do not qualify for Medicaid benefits, have very little income, and have inadequate or no health insurance. Coverage is limited to prescription medication for certain chronic illnesses.

General Relief Assistance - Emergency assistance for low-income individuals who are homeless, facing eviction, or received a utility cut-off notice. Limited assistance for the costs of burial is also available.

You may apply for one or several program benefits with the same application. Temporary Assistance time limits and other requirements do not affect the Food Stamp or Medicaid programs. So you may still be eligible for food stamps if your Temporary Assistance case is closed. Getting food stamp benefits does not affect your Temporary Assistance time limit.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE?

You need to complete an application form, attend an interview with a Public Assistance case worker or Fee Agent, and provide proof of your income, expenses, and other circumstances.

WHEN CAN I APPLY?

You may file an application immediately by completing and submitting a "Request for Service" with your name, address and signature. You must submit a complete application form and come in for an interview within 30 days before eligibility can be determined. If eligible, Temporary Assistance, Food Stamps, and Medicaid start the date we receive your "Request for Service." Adult Public Assistance benefits may start later.

DO I NEED TO HAVE AN INTERVIEW?

A personal interview is required before your case worker can determine if you are eligible for assistance. You may schedule an interview at the nearest Public Assistance office or with your local Fee Agent. If you cannot attend an interview in person for any reason, contact the Public Assistance office so other arrangements can be made.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO MY INTERVIEW?

To avoid delays bring these items to your interview. Please attend your interview even if you do not have all the items. Your caseworker may be able to assist you if you need help getting any of these items.

Identification, such as a driver's license or State of Alaska ID card

Proof of where you live, such as a rental agreement or current bill showing your residence address

Proof of lawful immigration status, such as alien registration card

Proof of money in the bank, such as recent bank statements for checking, savings and credit union accounts for all household members

Proof of income received by all members of your household. This includes proof of income from a job, like your last three or four most recent pay stubs or a work statement from your employer; if self-employed, bring in your income and expense records; proof of unearned income like unemployment benefits, SSI, social security, veterans benefits, child support, worker's compensation, school grants or loans, and rental income

Proof of housing costs, such as receipts or documents that show your housing costs, including rent, space rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, property tax, and house insurance

Proof of medical expenses incurred by an elderly or disabled household member

Proof of child care costs incurred so that a family member can work, look for work, attend training or school, or participate in a required work activity

Proof of child support paid by a household member. You will need to provide proof of the legal obligation to pay child support, the amount of the monthly obligation, and the amount you currently pay

IF ELIGIBLE, WHEN CAN I START GETTING MY BENEFITS?

Your case worker will make a decision on your application within 30 days. A notice will be mailed telling you if you are eligible and, if eligible, the amount of your benefits.

If you are applying for food stamps, your case worker will make a decision on your application within 7 days if:

- Your household's monthly gross income is less than \$150 and your liquid assets (cash and money in bank) is \$100 or less; or,
- Your household's monthly rent/mortgage and utility payments are more than your combined monthly gross income and liquid assets.