

# ALASKA ADULT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MANUAL

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### 430 RESOURCES

To be eligible for assistance, an individual or couple must have countable resources that do not exceed the resource limits of the APA program. This chapter explains the resource requirements of the APA program. Certain resources of ineligible spouses and/or alien sponsors are considered available (deemed) to meet the needs of an individual or couple in determining eligibility for APA. Refer to [chapter 460](#) for the policy on the deeming of resources of ineligible spouses and/or alien sponsors.

#### 430-1 RESOURCES DEFINED

Resources are any assets, including cash or any other real or personal property, that an individual (or the individual's spouse or alien sponsor, if any) owns and can convert to cash to be used for his or her support and maintenance.

Any cash or other property received from the sale, exchange, or other disposition of a resource retains the character of a resource. Such resource conversions are not considered to produce income.

Resources may be either liquid or nonliquid. This distinction is important for purposes of determining whether a resource may be excluded as non-business property essential for self-support, and whether the individual or couple whose resources exceed the resource limits might qualify for conditional benefit payments.

**Liquid resources.** Liquid resources include cash and any other resource that can be converted to cash within 20 working days. (Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays do not count as working days.) Examples are cash, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, promissory notes, personal and real property contracts or mortgages, and financial accounts (including joint accounts).

**Non-liquid resources.** Nonliquid resources are all resources that cannot be converted to cash within 20 working days. Nonliquid resources include:

- 1) Personal property such as vehicles, machinery, livestock, household goods, and personal effects.
- 2) Real Property such as land, buildings, or other objects that are attached permanently to the land.

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### 430-1 Continued

Some kinds of resources may be either liquid or nonliquid depending on whether they can actually be converted to cash within 20 working days.

### 430-2 RESOURCE LIMITS

To be eligible for assistance, countable resources may not exceed:

1. \$2000 for an individual; or
2. \$3000 for an individual living with a spouse, whether or not the spouse is eligible for assistance.

### 430-3 WHEN RESOURCE VALUES ARE MEASURED

Resources are measured as of the first moment of the month. Anyone whose countable resources exceed the resource limit as of the first moment of the month is ineligible for the entire month, even if some of the assets are disposed of later in the month. Similarly, anyone whose resources do not exceed the resource limit as of the first moment of the month is resource-eligible for the entire month, even if the assets exceed the resource limit later in the month.

### 430-4 ASSETS THAT ARE NOT RESOURCES

#### A. SOME ASSETS ARE NOT RESOURCES

Not all of an individual's assets are resources for APA purposes. Assets are not resources if the individual does not have:

1. Any ownership interest; and
2. The legal right, authority, or power to liquidate them; or
3. The legal right to use the assets for his or her own support and maintenance.

430-4 Continued

**B. AN ASSET THAT IS NOT A RESOURCE MAY PRODUCE INCOME**

Any money that a person receives from a nonresource is counted as income in the month received, unless it is otherwise excluded. For example, if an individual is the beneficiary of a trust which is not his or her resource, and the trust pays the individual a monthly allowance, the allowance is income to the individual.

**C. ASSETS THAT ARE NOT RESOURCES MAY BECOME RESOURCES**

In certain situations, an asset that is not a resource may become one at a later date or vice versa. The distinction must be made because an asset that is not a resource does not count against the resource limit while an asset that is a resource does count against the resource limit.

***Example:***

*At the time of his divorce in 1998, Mr. Thomas, an APA recipient, was the sole owner of the house in which his ex-wife and their two children are living. Under terms of the divorce decree, Mr. Thomas must pay the property taxes on the property and maintain it as a home for his ex-wife and their two children until the youngest child reaches age 18 in 2004. The decree also specifies that he is free to sell the property after the youngest child's eighteenth birthday.*

*Although Mr. Thomas clearly owns the property, he is legally barred from selling it until 2004. Therefore, it is not a resource until the month after his youngest child reaches age 18.*

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