



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ELDERLY and DISABLED IMMIGRANTS IN ILLINOIS

*I am not a citizen.
I am 65 years old or disabled
I do not receive Social Security retirement benefits.
Can I receive cash assistance?*

You may be eligible to receive SSI and/or AABD financial assistance if you:

- are 65 years of age or older (“elderly”); *or*
- are disabled.

Do I qualify for SSI?

You qualify for **SSI financial assistance** if you

- were receiving SSI or had an application pending on August 22, 1996; *or*
- are a Qualified Immigrant* who was lawfully residing in the US on August 22, 1996 AND are disabled or blind; *or*
- are a veteran or active duty member of the Armed Forces or the spouse or child of one; a trafficking victim; or a member of certain Native American nations born outside the US; AND you are disabled, blind, or elderly; *or*
- are a Lawful Permanent Resident with credit for 40 quarters of work (and, if you legally entered after August 22, 1996, have been a Qualified Immigrant* for at least 5 years), and AND disabled, blind or elderly; *or*
- are a refugee, asylee, Cuban/Haitian entrant, Amerasian, or person granted withholding of removal/deportation, AND are disabled, blind or elderly, BUT only during first 7 years after getting status; afterwards, you qualify only if eligible under another category.

**You are a Qualified Immigrant for SSI if you are a lawful permanent resident; refugee, asylee, Haitian/Cuban entrant, granted withholding of removal/deportation; a battered spouse or child in certain circumstances; paroled for at least one year or granted conditional entry prior to 4/1/80.*

Do I qualify for AABD?

You qualify for **AABD financial assistance** if you:

- receive SSI; *or*
- are a Qualified Immigrant* who legally resided in the U.S. on August 22, 1996, are 65 or older, and have been denied SSI due to a finding of "not disabled."

Also, if you live in the City of Chicago, you can receive **Transitional Assistance (TA)** while you wait for your SSI application to be processed.

**You are a Qualified Immigrant for AABD if you are a lawful permanent resident; refugee, asylee, Amerasian, Haitian/Cuban entrant, trafficking victim, Hmong/ Highland Laotian, member of certain Native American nations, or granted withholding of removal/deportation; a battered spouse or child in certain circumstances; paroled for at least one year or granted conditional entry prior to 4/1/80.*

Will receiving SSI or AABD hurt my application for citizenship?

DON'T WORRY!

Receiving public assistance of any kind should not endanger an application for citizenship, as long as you have properly received the assistance.

For more information, call the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights at (312) 332-7360; fax: (312) 332-7044; email: info@icirr.org