

441—76.1 (249A) Application. Each person wishing to do so shall have the opportunity to apply for assistance without delay.

76.1(1) Application forms. The applicant shall immediately be given an application form to complete. When the applicant requests that the form be mailed, the department shall send the necessary form in the next outgoing mail.

a. An application for family medical assistance-related Medicaid programs shall be submitted on the Health and Financial Support Application, Form 470-0462 or Form 470-0466 (Spanish); the Health Services Application, Form 470-2927 or Form 470-2927(S); the HAWK-I Application, Comm. 156; or the HAWK-I Electronic Application Summary and Signature Page, Form 470-4016.

b. An application for SSI-related Medicaid shall be submitted on the Health Services Application, Form 470-2927 or Form 470-2927(S), or the Health and Financial Support Application, Form 470-0462 or Form 470-0466 (Spanish).

c. A person who is a recipient of supplemental security income (SSI) benefits shall not be required to complete a separate Medicaid application. If the department does not have all information necessary to establish that an SSI recipient meets all Medicaid eligibility requirements, the SSI recipient may be required to complete Form 470-2304, 470-2304(S), 470-0364, or 470-0364(S), SSI Medicaid Information, and may be required to attend an interview to clarify information on this form.

d. An application for Medicaid for persons in foster care shall be submitted on Form 470-2927 or Form 470-2927(S), Health Services Application.

e. The department shall initiate a medical assistance application for a person whose application data is received from the federal Social Security Administration pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1320b-14(c)(3).

(1) The Social Security Administration transmits data from Form SSA 1020B-OCR-SM, Application for Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs, to the department. The date that the Social Security Administration transmits its application data to the department shall be treated as the date of application for medical assistance.

(2) The department shall mail Form 470-4846, Medicare Savings Program and Food Assistance Application, to the person whose data was transmitted to gather the rest of the information needed to determine eligibility.

f. An application for presumptive eligibility for children shall be submitted on Form 470-4855 or 470-4855(S), Application: Presumptive Health Care Coverage for Children.

76.1(2) Place of filing. An application may be filed over the Internet or in any local office of the department or in any disproportionate share hospital, federally qualified health center or other facility in which outstationing activities are provided. The hospital, health center, or facility shall forward the application to the department office responsible for completing the eligibility determination.

a. The Health Services Application, Form 470-2927 or Form 470-2927(S), may also be filed at the office of a qualified provider of presumptive Medicaid eligibility, a WIC office, a maternal health clinic, or a well child clinic. The office or clinic shall forward the application within two working days to the department office responsible for completing the eligibility determination.

b. The HAWK-I Application, Comm. 156, and the HAWK-I Electronic Application Summary and Signature Page, Form 470-4016, shall be filed with the third-party administrator as provided at 441—subrule 86.3(3). If it appears that the family is Medicaid-eligible, the third-party administrator shall forward the application to the department office responsible for determining Medicaid eligibility.

c. Those persons eligible for supplemental security income and those who would be eligible if living outside a medical institution may make application at the social security district office.

d. Women applying for medical assistance for family planning services under 441—subrule 75.1(41) or 441—Chapter 87 may also apply at any family planning agency as defined in rule 441—87.1(82GA,ch1187).

e. Persons applying for presumptive eligibility for children shall submit the application to a qualified entity as described under 441—subrule 75.1(44).

76.1(3) *Date and method of filing application.* An application is considered filed on the date an identifiable application, Form 470-0462, 470-0466 (Spanish), 470-2927, or 470-2927(S), is received and date-stamped in any place of filing specified in subrule 76.1(2).

a. When an application is delivered to a closed office, it will be considered received on the first day that is not a weekend or state holiday following the day that the office was last open.

b. An identifiable application, Form 470-2927 or 470-2927(S), which is filed to apply for FMAP or FMAP-related Medicaid at a WIC office, well child health clinic, maternal health clinic, or the office of a qualified provider for presumptive eligibility, shall be considered filed on the date received and date-stamped in one of these offices.

c. When a HAWK-I Application, Comm. 156, or HAWK-I Electronic Application Summary and Signature Page, Form 470-4016, is filed with the third-party administrator and subsequently referred to the department for a Medicaid eligibility determination, the date the application is received and date-stamped by the third-party administrator shall be the filing date.

d. A copy of an application received by fax or electronically at one of the places described above shall have the same effect as an original application.

e. An identifiable application is an application containing a legible name, address, and signature.

f. If an authorized representative signed the application on behalf of an applicant, the signature of the applicant or the responsible person must be on the application before the application can be approved. For FMAP and FMAP-related Medicaid, the signature of a parent or stepparent in the home must be on the application before the application can be approved.

76.1(4) *Applicant cooperation.* An applicant must cooperate with the department in the application process, which may include providing information or verification, attending a scheduled face-to-face interview, or signing documents. Failure to cooperate in the application process shall serve as a basis for rejection of an application.

76.1(5) *Application not required.* For family medical assistance-related programs, a new application is not required when an eligible person is added to an existing Medicaid eligible group or when a responsible relative becomes a member of a Medicaid eligible household. This person is considered to be included in the application that established the existing eligible group. However, in these instances the date of application to add a person is the date the change is reported. When it is reported that a person is anticipated to enter the home, the date of application to add the person shall be no earlier than the date of entry or the date of report, whichever is later.

a. In those instances where a person previously ineligible for Medicaid for failure to cooperate in obtaining medical support or establishing paternity as described at 441—subrule 75.14(2) is to be granted Medicaid benefits, the person shall be granted Medicaid benefits effective the first of the month in which the person becomes eligible by cooperating in obtaining medical support or establishing paternity.

b. In those instances where a person previously ineligible for Medicaid for failure to provide a social security number or proof of application for a social security number as described at rule 441—75.7(249A) is to be granted Medicaid benefits, the person shall be granted Medicaid benefits effective the first of the month in which the person becomes eligible by providing a social security number or proof of application for a social security number.

c. In those instances where a person who has been voluntarily excluded from the eligible group in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—75.59(249A) is being added to the eligible group, the person shall be added effective the first of the month after the month in which the household requests that the person no longer be voluntarily excluded.

76.1(6) *Right to withdraw the application.* After an application has been filed, the applicant may withdraw the application at any time before the eligibility determination. The applicant may request that the application be withdrawn entirely or may, before the date the application is processed, request withdrawal for any month covered by the application process except as provided in the medically needy program in accordance with the provisions of 441—subrule 75.1(35). Requests for voluntary withdrawal of the application shall be documented in the case record and a Notice of Decision, Form 470-0485, 470-0486, 470-0486(S), or 470-0490, shall be sent to the applicant confirming the request.

76.1(7) *Responsible persons and authorized representatives.*

a. Responsible person. If the applicant or member is unable to act on the applicant's or member's behalf because the applicant or member is incompetent, physically incapacitated, or deceased, a responsible person may act responsibly for the applicant or member. The responsible person shall be a family member, friend or other person who has knowledge of the applicant's or member's financial affairs and circumstances and a personal interest in the applicant's or member's welfare or a legal representative such as a conservator, guardian, executor or someone with power of attorney. The responsible person shall assume the applicant's or member's position and responsibilities during the application process or for ongoing eligibility. The responsible person may designate an authorized representative as provided for in paragraph 76.1(7) "b" to represent the incompetent, physically incapacitated, or deceased applicant's or member's position and responsibilities during the application process or for ongoing eligibility. This authorization does not relieve the responsible person from assuming the incompetent, physically incapacitated, or deceased applicant's or member's position and responsibilities during the application process or for ongoing eligibility.

(1) When there is no person as described above to act on the incompetent, physically incapacitated, or deceased applicant's or member's behalf, any individual or organization shall be allowed to act as the responsible person if the individual or organization conducts a diligent search and completes Form 470-3356, Inability to Find a Responsible Person, attesting to the inability to find a responsible person to act on behalf of the incompetent, physically incapacitated, or deceased applicant or member.

(2) The department may require verification of incompetence or death and the person's relationship to the applicant or member or the legal representative status.

(3) Copies of all department correspondence that would normally be provided to the applicant or member shall be provided to the responsible person and the representative if one has been authorized by the responsible person.

b. Authorized representative. A competent applicant or member or a responsible person as described in paragraph 76.1(7) "a" may authorize any individual or organization to represent the applicant or member in the application process or for ongoing eligibility.

(1) The authorization must be in writing, and signed and dated by the applicant or member or a responsible person before the department shall recognize the authorized representative.

(2) If the authorization indicates the time period or dates of medical services it is to cover, this stated period or dates of medical services shall be honored and may include subsequent applications, if necessary, that relate to the time period or dates of medical services indicated on the authorization. If the authorization does not indicate the time period or dates of medical services it is to cover, the authorization shall be valid for any applications filed within 120 days from the date the authorization was signed and all subsequent actions pertaining to the applications filed within the 120-day period.

(3) Anytime an applicant or member or a responsible person notifies the department in writing that the applicant or member or a responsible person no longer wants an authorized representative to act on the applicant's or member's behalf, the department shall no longer recognize that person or organization as the applicant's or member's representative.

(4) Designation of an authorized representative does not relieve a competent applicant or member or a responsible person as defined in 76.1(7) "a" of the primary responsibility to cooperate with the department in the determination of initial and ongoing eligibility, which may include providing information or verification, attending a scheduled face-to-face interview, or signing documents on which the authorized representative's signature would be inadequate.

(5) Copies of all departmental correspondence shall be provided to the client and the representative if one has been authorized by the applicant or member.