



sassa

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY

You and Your Grants 2013/14



*paying the right social grant, to the right person,
at the right time and place. NJALO!*

www.sassa.gov.za 0800 60 10 11

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Introduction

Social Assistance is an income transfer in the form of grants provided by government. A social grant refers to a grant paid by the South African Social Security Agency that is, disability grant; grant for older persons; war veteran's grant; foster child grant; care dependency grant; child support grant and grant-in-aid.

As from 01 April 2006, the responsibility for the management, administration and payment of social assistance grants was transferred to the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA).

SASSA is a section 3A public entity, the focused institution responsible to ensure that government pays the right grant, to the right person, at a location which is most convenient to that person.

Types of grants

Social Assistance is provided in the form of:

- grant for older persons;
- disability grant;
- war veterans grant;
- care dependency grant;
- foster child grant;
- child support grant;
- grant-in-aid;
- Social Relief of Distress.

Qualifying Requirements

Social Grants

Grant for Older Persons

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen; permanent resident or refugee
- must be resident in South Africa;
- Must be 60 years or older
- and spouse must comply with the means test;
- must not be maintained or cared for in a State Institution;
- must not be in receipt of another social grant for him/ herself;
- must submit a 13 digit bar coded identity document.

Disability Grant

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen; permanent resident or refugee;
- must be resident in South Africa;
- must be 18 to 59 years of age;
- must submit a medical / assessment report confirming disability;
- Medical assessment must not be older than 3 months at date of application.
- and spouse meet the requirements of the means test;
- must not be maintained or cared for in a State Institution;
- must not be in receipt of another social grant in respect of him or herself.

War Veteran's Grant

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen or permanent resident
- must be resident in South Africa;
- must be 60 years and over or must be disabled;
- must have fought in the Second World War or the Korean War;
- and spouse must meet the requirements of the means test;
- must not be maintained or cared for in a State Institution; and
- must not be in receipt of another social grant in respect of himself or herself;

Child Grants

Foster Child Grant

- the applicant and child must be resident in South Africa;
- court order indicating foster care status;
- the foster parent must be a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee.
- Child must remain in the care of the foster parent (s)



Care Dependency Grant

- The applicant must be a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee;
- the applicant and child must be resident in South Africa;
- child must be under the age of 18 years;
- must submit a medical / assessment report confirming the child's permanent, severe disability;
- applicant and spouse must meet requirements of the means test (except for foster parents);
- the care-dependant child/children must not be permanently cared for in a State Institution;

Note: the income of foster parent will not be taken into consideration

Child Support Grant

- the primary care giver must be a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee;
- both the applicant and the child must reside in South Africa;
- applicant must be the primary care giver of the child/children concerned;
- the child/children must have been born after 31 December 1993;
- the applicant and spouse must meet the requirements of the means test;
- cannot apply for more than six non biological children
- Child can not be cared for in State institution.
 - Child aged between 7 and 18 years,
 - must attend school

Grant-in-aid

- the applicant must be in receipt of a grant for Older Persons, Disability grant or a War Veterans's grant, and require full time attendandance by another person owing to his/her physical or mental disabilities;
- must not be cared for in an institution that receives subsidy from the State for the care/housing of such beneficiary;

Proof of identity

Applicants who do not have a 13 digit bar coded Identity Book, or birth certificate for children involved in the application can still apply for a grant. Please obtain information from your nearest SASSA office on the alternative documents which are accepted for grant applications.

Where Do You Apply For A Grant?

- You apply at the SASSA Office nearest to where you live;
- If you are too old or sick to travel to the office to apply for a grant, then a family member or friend can apply on your behalf;
- Your application form will be completed in the presence of an officer from SASSA;
- When your application is completed you will be given a receipt;
- Keep this receipt - it is your only proof of application;
- You do not have to pay any money to apply;
- If your application is not approved by SASSA, you must be informed in writing as to why your application was unsuccessful;
- You have the right to request SASSA to reconsider its decision, if you are unhappy with the decision made. If the reconsidered decision is still unfavourable, you have the right to appeal to the Minister of Social Development. The request for SASSA to reconsider its decision must be made within 90 days of you being informed of the outcome of your application.

Date Of Award Of Grants

If your grant is approved, you will be paid from the date on which you applied. unless you have applied for a foster child grant. Foster child grants are paid from the date of court placement.

If Your Application For A Grant Is Unsuccessful

You must be informed in writing of the reasons for the refusal of the grant application, your right to request the decision to be reconsidered, and your right to appeal within 90 days of notification.

Methods Of Payment

You will receive your grant through a SASSA card. If you wish to use alternative methods of payment such as

- Banks including Postbank, or
 - Institutions, you must contact your nearest SASSA office
- Note: If you are unable to collect the grant yourself you may nominate a procurator to collect it on your behalf.

Suspension Of Grants

The following may result in the suspension of a grant:

- changes in circumstances (financial and / or medical);
- outcome of a review;
- failure to co-operate when a grant is reviewed;
- committing a fraudulent activity or misrepresentation
- Where grant was approved in error

Restoration Of Grants

An application must be made for restoration of a grant within 90 days of the suspension.



Main Reasons For Lapsing Of Grants

- death;
- admission to a State Institution;
- if the grant is not claimed for 3 consecutive months;
- when the period of temporary disability has lapsed;
- you are absent from the Republic for a period of longer than 90 days
- If you cease to be a refugee.
- If the child for whom the grant is received turns 18

Reviews

You must declare any income at the time of application. This will form the basis on which SASSA will decide whether your grant must be reviewed. You will be notified 3 months in advance of the date of the review or the date on which the life certificate is due.

Social Relief Of Distress

Social relief of distress is the temporary provision of assistance intended for persons in such dire need that they are unable to meet their or their families' most basic needs. Social Relief of Distress is paid to South African citizens; permanent residents or refugees, who have insufficient means and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- the applicant is awaiting payment of an approved social grant;
- the applicant has been found medically unfit to undertake remunerative work for

a period of less than 6 months;

- no maintenance is received from a parent, child or spouse obliged in law to pay maintenance, and proof is furnished that efforts made to obtain maintenance have been unsuccessful;
- the bread winner is deceased and application is made within three months of the date of death;
- the bread winner of that person's family has been admitted to an institution funded by the state (prison, psychiatric hospital, state home for older persons, treatment centre for substance abuse or child and youth care centre).
- the applicant has been affected by a disaster as defined in the Disaster Management Act or the Fund Raising Act, 1978
- the person is not receiving assistance from any other organization or
- refusal of the application for social relief of distress will cause undue hardship.

Period Of Social Relief Of Distress

Social Relief of Distress is issued monthly for a maximum period of 3 months. An extension for a further 3 months may be granted in exceptional cases.

Note: No person who is in receipt of a social grant may receive the grant and social relief of distress simultaneously. Any person who received both social relief and a grant at the same time must repay the value of the social relief of distress received. This will be recovered from any social grant payment, including an arrear payment. However, where the person who is in receipt of a social grant received social relief of distress as a result of a disaster, that amount will not be recovered.

Responsibility of the Beneficiaries

It is the responsibility of beneficiaries to keep SASSA informed of changes in their circumstances and means, and to respond to any correspondence received.

Fraud

SASSA exercises zero tolerance to fraudulent activities

What Is A Means Test

In South Africa Social Assistance is subject

to means testing which implies that SASSA evaluates the income and assets of the person applying for social assistance in order to determine whether the person's means are below a stipulated amount. This means test is a way of determining whether a person qualifies to receive a grant as grants are indeed meant for those who have insufficient means to support themselves. The means test varies from one grant one to another.

Asset And Income Threshold

Asset threshold:	01 April 2012	01 April 2013	01 October 2013
(Grants for older persons, disabled and war veterans only)			
Single person	R 792 000	□R 831 600	
Married person	R 1 584 000	□R 1663 200	
Income threshold: (Annual amounts)			
Single person	R 47 400	□R 49 920	
Married person □	R 94 800	□R 99 840	
Child Support Grants:			
Single person □	R 33 600	□ R34 800	R 36 000
Married person □	R 67 200	□ R69 600	R 72 000
Care Dependency Grants:			
Single person □	R 144 000	□R 151 200	
Married person □	R 288 00	□R 302 400	

Amounts Of Grants As At 01 April 2013

Grant Type	Amount payable as from 1 April 2012	Amount payable as from 1 April 2013	Amount payable as from 1 October 2013
Older Persons Grant (Old age pension) □	R 1 200.00 □	R 1 260.00	
Older Persons Grant (Old age pension): Beneficiary older than 75 years □	R 1220.00 □	R 1 280.00	
Disability grant □	R 1 200.00 □	R 1 260.00	
War veterans' grant □	R 1 220.00 □	R 1 280.00	
Grant-in-aid □	R 280.00 □	R 290.00 □	R 300.00
Child support grant □	R 280.00 □	R 290.00 □	R 300.00
Foster child grant □	R 770.00 □	R 800.00	
Care-dependency grant □	R 1 200.00	R 1 260.00	

Contact Details

SASSA HEAD OFFICE

SASSA HOUSE
501 Prodira Building
Cnr Steve Biko and Pretorius
Street
Pretoria

Private Bag X55662
Arcadia, Pretoria
0083

Tel: 012 400 2000 (Switchboard)
Website: www.sassa.gov.za

EASTERN CAPE

SASSA Office
BKB Building
Cnr Fitzpatrick & Merino
Road Quigney
East London

Private Bag X9001
Chiselhurst
East London
5200

Tel: 043 707 6300
Fax: 043 707 6481

CPS Call Centre

072 306 3471
072 316 2050
072 311 3028

FREE STATE

African Life Building
75 St. Andrews Street
Bloemfontein

Private Bag X20553
Bloemfontein
9300

Tel: 051 410 8304/5
Fax: 051 409 0862

CPS Call centre

071 771 12 58
072 286 7972
082 259 8727

GAUTENG

28 Harrison Street
Johannesburg
2000
Private Bag X120
Marshalltown
2107

Tel: 011 241 8300
Fax: 011 241 8305

CPS Call Centre

078 731 5908
083 518 3152
072 311 3028

KWAZULU NATAL

1 Bank Street
Pietermaritzburg
3201

Private Bag X 9146
Pietermaritzburg
3201

Tel: 033 846 3300
Fax: 033 846 9595

CPS Call Centre

079 780 9040
079 780 9040
079 730 2499

LIMPOPO

43 Landros Mare Street
Polokwane
0699

Private Bag X9677
Polokwane
0700

Tel: 015 291 7400
Fax: 015 291 7996

CPS Call Centre

072 201 3930
072 204 3637
072 208 9522

MPUMALANGA

18 Ferreira Street
Nelspruit

Private Bag X11230
Nelspruit
1200

Tel: 013 754 9380
Fax: 013 754 9501

CPS Call Centre

082 701 5493
082 364 0614
082 967 2264

NORTH WEST

SASSA House
University Drive
Mmabatho
2735

Private Bag X44
Mmabatho

Tel: 018 389 4000

CPS Call Centre

082 344 0493
071 100 6483
076 710 0862

NORTHERN CAPE

95-97 Du Toit Span Road
Kimberley
8300

Private Bag X6011
Kimberley
8300

Tel: 053 802 4900
Fax: 053 832 5225

CPS Call Centre

076 030 9929
076 662 1545
072 186 8095
071 416 6324

WESTERN CAPE

Golden Acre
Adderley Street
Cape Town
8001

Private Bag X9189
Cape Town
8000

Tel: 021 469 0200
Fax: 021 469 0260

CPS Call Centre

072 268 4678
072 456 7506
072 453 7858

