



Just the Facts:

PASSPORT Eligibility Requirements

What are PASSPORT home care services?

PASSPORT home care is a waiver program that allows Medicaid long-term care funds to be used for home and community-based services.

Who is eligible for PASSPORT home care?

To be eligible, the consumer must be over the age of 60 and must meet the same eligibility requirements as Medicaid consumers seeking nursing facility care. For example, the consumer must meet strict standard-of-care needs based on inability to dress, bathe, toilet, or prepare meals. Care plan costs may not exceed 60% of the cost of nursing home care. The older adult must also meet Medicaid's financial guidelines.

What are the financial eligibility guidelines for PASSPORT?

PASSPORT consumers must meet the same financial need standards as Medicaid consumers seeking nursing facility care. The older adult cannot have a monthly income greater than the private pay daily rate for nursing facility care, approximately, \$1,809 per month for one person in 2006. The consumer also may not have countable assets valued at more than \$1,500.

Are the financial resources of the consumer's spouse considered in determining eligibility?

Yes. In 2006, a married consumer and spouse could not have countable resources exceeding \$21,408, including the \$1,500 in countable assets the applicant may retain.

What are countable assets?

Countable assets include cash, checking and savings accounts, certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, cars and real property that are not exempt, certain property transferred or put in a trust, and any personal property that the applicant could sell to pay for long-term care.

What resources are not considered countable assets?

The following resources are not considered countable assets for PASSPORT eligibility:

- The consumer's home
- One automobile of any value
- The cash value of life insurance policies that do not exceed \$1,500
- An irrevocable pre-need burial contract for the consumer and immediate family, and
- Certain trusts, including special needs trusts, pooled trusts, qualifying income trusts, and supplemental services trusts.

If PASSPORT provides home care services, what additional expenses do consumers have?

Older adults with PASSPORT home care must continue to pay for food, utilities, some transportation expenses, and either rent or the costs associated with home ownership. These home ownership costs may include maintenance and repair, property taxes, insurance, etc.