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**PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

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I certify that the attached copies are true, full and correct copies of the PERMANENT Rule(s) adopted on Upon filing, by the  
Department of Human Services, Self-Sufficiency Programs 461  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency and Division Administrative Rules Chapter Number  
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To become effective Upon filing. Rulemaking Notice was published in the February 2016 Oregon Bulletin.

**RULE CAPTION**

Expanding pilot project to provide assistance with Social Security disability benefits to eligible clients

Not more than 15 words that reasonably identifies the subject matter of the agency's intended action.

**RULEMAKING ACTION**

Secure approval of new rule numbers with the Administrative Rules Unit prior to filing.

**ADOPT:**

**AMEND:**

461-125-0370

**REPEAL:**

**RENUMBER:**

**AMEND AND RENUMBER:**

**Statutory Authority:**

ORS 409.050, 410.070, 411.060, 411.070, 411.121, 411.404, 411.706, 411.816, 413.085, 414.685

**Other Authority:**

None.

**Statutes Implemented:**

ORS 409.010, 409.050, 410.010, 410.020, 410.050, 410.090, 411.060, 411.070, 411.121, 411.404, 411.704, 411.706, 411.816, 413.085, 414.685

**RULE SUMMARY**

OAR 461-125-0370 about disability as the basis of need is being amended to expand a pilot program (started by temporary rule on October 5, 2015 and expanded by temporary rule on March 1, 2016 and again by permanent rule on April 1, 2016) to include AAA (Area Agency on Aging) and APD (Aging and People with Disabilities) offices in Corvallis and Washington County. The pilot project offers free assistance with Social Security disability applications and administrative appeals to clients who meet the following requirements:

- Have a disability under OAR 461-125-0370(1)(c);
- Receive benefits from one of the OCCS Medical Programs (see OAR 461-001-0000);
- Receive SNAP benefits; and
- Are served by an AAA or APD office in Albany, Baker City, Bend, Brookings, Burns, Canby, Coos Bay, Corvallis, Cottage Grove, Enterprise, Estacada, Eugene, Florence, Gold Beach, Hermiston, John Day, La Grande, La Pine, Madras, Milwaukie, North Bend, Ontario, Oregon City, Pendleton, Prineville, Redmond, Reedsport, Roseburg, The Dalles, or Toledo, Oregon or Washington County.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Rules Coordinator Name Email Address

## Disability as the Basis of Need

- (1) In the OSIP and OSIPM programs (except OSIP-EPD and OSIPM-EPD), an individual meets the eligibility requirement to have a disability if the requirements of one of the following subsections are met:
  - (a) The individual is receiving Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) based on disability. Eligibility continues as long as the individual remains eligible for SSDI or SSI.
  - (b) The individual was eligible for and received Aid to the Disabled benefits in Oregon in December 1973. These grandfathered cases continue to be eligible as long as they are continuously disabled as defined by Oregon requirements that were in effect in 1973.
  - (c) The Department has determined the individual meets the listing of impairments found in 20 C.F.R. Part 404, Subpart P, Appendix 1; meets the medical vocational guidelines found in 20 C.F.R. Part 404, Subpart P, Appendix 2 for SSI; or meets the definition of disability in 20 C.F.R. §§ 404.1505 or 416.905.
  - (d) The Social Security Administration (SSA) has determined the individual meets the listing of impairments found in 20 C.F.R. Part 404, Subpart P, Appendix 1; meets the medical vocational guidelines found in 20 C.F.R. Part 404, Subpart P, Appendix 2; or meets the definition of disability in 20 C.F.R. §§ 404.1505 or 416.905.
- (2) If the Department finds the individual eligible for OSIPM in the absence of a disability determination by SSA, the individual remains eligible, provided that the individual continues to meet the disability criteria for eligibility for OSIPM, until SSA denies the disability claim in a final administrative decision.
- (3) For OSIP and OSIPM, a disability determination made by SSA that is unfavorable to an individual is binding on the Department unless the requirements of at least one of the following subsections are met (see 42 C.F.R. § 435.541(c)(1) and (c)(4)):
  - (a) SSA made the determination for a reason other than disability.
  - (b) The individual alleges a disabling condition different from, or in addition to, that considered by SSA in making its determination.
  - (c) More than 12 months after the most recent SSA determination denying disability, the individual alleges that his or her condition has changed or deteriorated since that SSA determination, and the individual has not made application to SSA based on these allegations.

- (d) The individual alleges less than 12 months after the most recent SSA determination denying disability that the condition which SSA evaluated has changed or deteriorated since that SSA determination; and one or both of the following apply:
  - (A) The individual has requested reconsideration or reopening of the most recent SSA determination denying disability and SSA has declined to consider the new allegations.
  - (B) It is clear that the individual no longer meets SSI eligibility requirements unrelated to disability status but may satisfy comparable Medicaid eligibility requirements.
- (4) If a binding SSA disability determination is not in place, the determination of disability to qualify for OSIPM is made by the Presumptive Medicaid Disability Determination Team (PMDDT), composed of a medical or psychological consultant and another individual who is qualified to interpret and evaluate medical reports, other evidence relating to the individual's physical or mental impairments, and (as necessary) to determine the capacities of the individual to perform substantial gainful activity, as specified in 20 C.F.R. Part 416, Subpart J (see 42 C.F.R. § 435.541(f)(2)).
- (5) The Presumptive Medicaid Disability Determination Team (PMDDT) obtains and reviews medical reports and other non-medical evidence pertaining to the individual and the claimed disability. The medical report and non-medical evidence must include diagnosis and other information in accordance with the requirements for evidence applicable to disability determinations under the SSI program specified in 20 CFR Part 416, Subpart I. The PMDDT then makes a decision about medical eligibility and whether and when a redetermination will be made (see 42 C.F.R. § 435.541(f)(1) and (3)).
- (6) In the OSIP-EPD and OSIPM-EPD programs, an individual is *disabled* (see OAR 461-001-0035) or *has a disability* (see OAR 461-001-0035) if the individual has a physical or mental impairment, or a combination of these impairments, that meets the definition of disability used by SSA when determining eligibility for SSI or SSDI under 20 C.F.R. Part 404. The determination is made as follows:
  - (a) A determination by SSA that the individual is *disabled* or *has a disability* is accepted by the Department.
  - (b) If the individual was determined to have a disability by SSA and lost their SSDI eligibility due to their own income, the SSA determination remains effective for one year from the date that the individual loses eligibility for SSDI.
  - (c) If there is no currently effective SSA determination finding the individual *has a disability*, the case is referred to the Department's central office for a *disability determination* (see OAR 461-001-0035) using the standards of 20 C.F.R. Parts 404 and 416 and considering all relevant medical and vocational information.

- (d) For OSIPM-EPD, an individual is engaging in *substantial gainful activity* (SGA, see OAR 461-001-0035) if the earnings of the individual are at or above the EPD Income Standard.
  - (e) For OSIPM-EPD, any work activity engaged in during the OSIPM-EPD application process or certification period is not evaluated as *past relevant work* (PRW, see OAR 461-001-0035).
- (7) An individual who is served by a *branch office* (see OAR 461-001-0000) and who has been determined by the Presumptive Medicaid Disability Determination Team (PMDDT) to have a disability (see section (1) of this rule) may receive free assistance from the Department with applications and administrative appeals for Social Security benefits based on a disability for purposes including, but not limited to, meeting the requirement to pursue assets under OAR 461-120-0330.
- (8) An individual may receive free assistance from the Department with applications and administrative appeals for Social Security benefits based on a disability for purposes including, but not limited to, meeting the requirement to pursue assets under OAR 410-200-0220 if the individual:
- (a) Is determined to have a disability under subsection (1)(c) of this rule;
  - (b) Receives benefits from one of the *OCCS Medical Programs* (see OAR 461-001-0000);
  - (c) Receives SNAP benefits; and
  - (d) Is served by the AAA (Area Agency on Aging) or APD (Aging and People with Disabilities) office in Albany, Baker City, Bend, Brookings, Burns, Canby, Coos Bay, Corvallis, Cottage Grove, Enterprise, Estacada, Eugene, Florence, Gold Beach, Hermiston, John Day, La Grande, La Pine, Madras, Milwaukie, North Bend, Ontario, Oregon City, Pendleton, Prineville, Redmond, Reedsport, Roseburg, The Dalles, or Toledo, Oregon or Washington County.

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Stats. Implemented: ORS 409.010, 409.050, 410.010, 410.020, 410.070, 411.060, 411.070, 411.121, 411.404, 411.704, 411.706, 411.816, 413.085, 414.685