

## 12.6 APPLICATION PROCEDURES WHEN SSA DETERMINATION OF DISABILITY IS INVOLVED

At application, if the client is otherwise eligible, the Worker determines if the client has applied for SSI and/or RSDI based on his disability. Procedures then depend on the status of a current application for SSI/RSDI or the results of a former application as follows:

### A. APPLICANT IS CURRENTLY RECEIVING RSDI BASED ON HIS OWN DISABILITY

In this situation, it is not necessary to obtain medical reports or to refer the case to MRT. Disability is established.

### B. SSA DECISION PENDING

When the applicant has applied for RSDI and/or SSI based on his disability and has not yet been notified of the result, or his application for RSDI and/or SSI has been denied due to lack of disability and he has appealed the decision, the Worker:

- Follows-up to determine the results of the application and/or appeal
- Processes the Medicaid application
- If a MRT decision that the client is disabled or blind is made prior to final SSA decision becoming known to the Department, the application is approved.
- If SSA's decision on the individual's disability becomes known to the Worker before the Medicaid application is approved, takes one of the following actions:
  - If the individual is found eligible for SSI, an SSI Medicaid case is opened for him.
  - If the individual is found eligible for RSDI based on his disability and is not found eligible for SSI, the Worker approves the application based on disability or adds him to the **AG**.

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**Determining Disability, Incapacity and Blindness**

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- If the final SSA decision is that the client does not meet the definition of disability for SSI or RSDI, except for disabled widow's benefits, the application is denied or the individual **is** excluded from the **AG**. The application continues to be processed if only disabled widow's benefits have been denied by SSA.
- If the medical reports and social summary are at MRT at the same time the above action is taken, the Worker notifies MRT using form **DFA-RT-2**. If the case was referred for a blindness decision, the **DFA-RT-2** must indicate whether or not a decision about blindness is still needed.

C. PROCEDURE WHEN DISABILITY IS DISALLOWED BY SSA PRIOR TO MEDICAID APPLICATION

When the Worker learns that the applicant has previously applied for SSI and/or RSDI and that his claim was denied by SSA on the basis that the client was not disabled, the procedures are as follows:

- If the client states that there has been no deterioration in his condition since the SSA decision, and social information supports his statement, the application cannot be approved based on disability.
- If the client's statement and/or social information indicates that there has been a deterioration in his condition, the Worker:
  - Begins the process of obtaining medical reports, completing the social summary, if required, etc. It is important that the social summary include a clear explanation of the reason the client and/or the Worker believe that there has been a deterioration in his physical and/or mental condition.
  - Makes a referral to SSA for **re-evaluation** of his eligibility for RSDI, if his former claim was disallowed because he was found not to be disabled.
  - Makes a referral to SSA for reconsideration of his SSI claim, if it was disallowed because he was found not to be disabled within 12 months of the date of his Medicaid application.
  - Makes a referral to SSA for **re-evaluation** of eligibility for SSI, if his former claim for SSI was disallowed because he was found not to be disabled and if the client wishes to be referred in any instance other than a denial within the previous 12 months.

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- Refers to SSA according to Chapter 5.
- Approves the application if a referral to SSA for **re-evaluation** is not required, and the client is found to be disabled or blind by MRT.
- Follows the procedures used when a claim is pending a final SSA decision, if a referral is made to SSA for **re-evaluation**.