



sassa

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY

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

Disability Grant





Disability Grant

Qualification requirements

- You must be a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee;
- You must live in South Africa;
- You must be between 18 and 59 years of age;
- You must submit a medical / assessment report confirming your disability;
- The medical assessment must not be older than 3 months at date of application
- You and your spouse must meet the requirements of the means test;
- You must not be maintained in a State institution; and
- You must not receive another social grant for yourself.

How to apply for a disability grant?

A disability grant requires that you be assessed and diagnosed by a medical practitioner recognized by SASSA. The medical practitioner will assess you and make a recommendation to SASSA as to whether your impairment is severe enough to qualify for a disability grant. SASSA makes the final decision to award the grant or not, not the medical practitioner. After the medical assessment has been done, the application process can begin.

During the process, a SASSA official will assist you to complete the application forms.

A disability grant will be awarded if you meet the legislated requirements and where the medical assessment confirms that you are unable to work because of your condition or disability. Whether the grant is provided as a temporary grant or a permanent grant is determined from the medical assessment. The assessment also indicates whether a medical review will be required in the future.

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, 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 given the reasons in writing;
- 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 informed by the outcome of your application, and must be lodged with SASSA 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.

If your application for a grant is unsuccessful

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

Method of payment

You can receive your grant through one of the following methods:

- Cash payment at designated pay points
- Bank including Post bank
- Institutions

NB: If you are unable to collect the grants yourself you may nominate a procurator to collect it on your behalf.

Suspension of a grant

The following may result in the suspension of a grant:

- Changes in circumstances (financial or medical);
- Outcome of a review;
- Failure to co-operate when a grant is reviewed;
- Furnishing SASSA with false information (fraud or misrepresentation); or
- If the grant was approved in error.

Restoration of a grant

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

The lapsing of a grant

Main reasons for the lapsing of a grant:

- Death of a beneficiary;
- Admission to a state funded institution;
- If the grant is not claimed for 3 consecutive months;
- When the period of temporary disability has expired;

- You are absent from the Republic;
- If you cease to be a refugee

Grant reviews

You must declare any income and assets at the time of application. If you fail to provide necessary documentation during the review your grant will be suspended.


Reviews verify that a beneficiary complies with conditions for continuation of the grant. A review is conducted to check that your circumstances have not changed since you applied for the grant or were last reviewed, and in some cases that you are still alive (completion of a Life Certificate).

SASSA must notify you at least three months before the date of the review in writing indicating where and when the review will take place and what may happen as a result of it. Home visits are conducted for bed-ridden beneficiaries. When the process is completed you must be given a receipt of compliance.

SASSA will review the grant of the refugee when his or her refugee status expires.

Responsibility of the beneficiaries

It is your responsibility to keep SASSA informed of changes in your their circumstances and means. This includes information on your changes of either physical or postal addresses. SASSA's



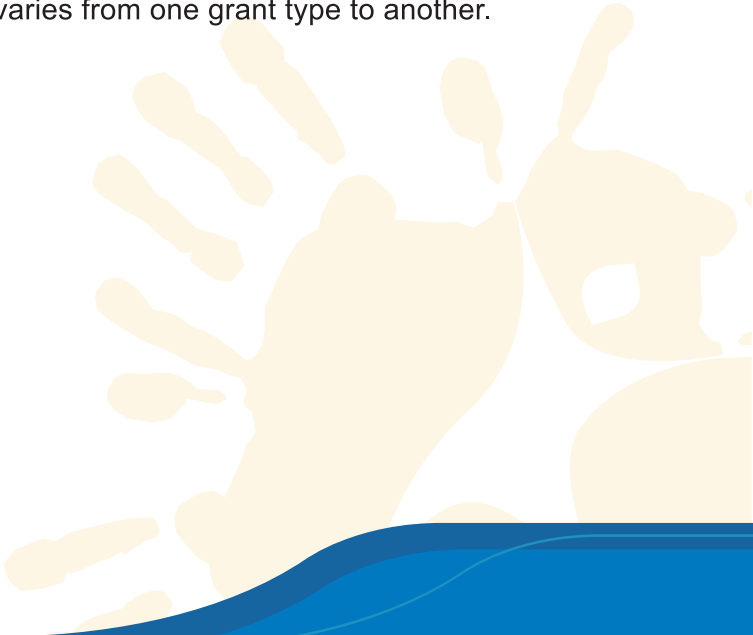
privacy communicating with you is through registered mail. Failure to respond to notice sent by SASSA may result in the suspension of your grant.

Fraud

SASSA exercises zero tolerance to fraudulent activities.

What is a means test?

Means testing implies that SASSA will evaluate 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 applied varies from one grant type to another.



CONTACT DETAILS

HEAD OFFICE

SASSA HOUSE

501 Prodinsa Building, Cnr Beatrix and Pretorius streets, Pretoria
Private Bag X55662, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083
0800 60 10 11 or 012 400 2322

GrantsEnquiries@sassa.gov.za Web: www.sassa.gov.za

EASTERN CAPE

1st Floor
Waverley Office Park
3-33 Phillip Frame Road

Private Bag X9001
Chiselhurst
East London, 5200

Tel: 043 707 6335
Fax: 043 707 6487

GrantsEnquiriesEC@sassa.gov.za
ECCustomerCare@sassa.gov.za

FREE STATE

African Life Building
75 St Andrew Street
Bloemfontein

Private Bag X20553
Bloemfontein
9300

Tel: 051 410 8339
Fax: 051 409 0862

GrantsEnquiriesFS@sassa.gov.za

GAUTENG

28 Harrison Street
Johannesburg
2000

Private Bag X120
Marshalltown
2107

Tel: 011 241 8320
Fax: 011 241 8305

GrantsEnquiriesGP@sassa.gov.za

KWAZULU-NATAL

1 Bank Street
Pietermaritzburg
3201

Private Bag X 9146
Pietermaritzburg
3201

Tel: 033 846 3400
Fax: 033 846 9595

GrantsEnquiriesKZN@sassa.gov.za

LIMPOPO

43 Landros Mare Street
Polokwane
0699

Private Bag X9677
Polokwane
0700

Tel: 015 291 7509
Fax: 015 291 7416

GrantsEnquiriesLIM@sassa.gov.za
CustomerCareLim@sassa.gov.za

MPUMALANGA

18 Ferreira Street
Nelspruit

Private Bag X11230
Nelspruit
1200

Tel: 013 754 9446
Fax: 013 754 9501

GrantsEnquiriesMP@sassa.gov.za

NORTH WEST

SASSA House
University Drive
Mmabatho
2735

Private Bag X44
Mmabatho

Tel: 018 388 4006
Fax: 086 611 9740

GrantsEnquiriesnw@sassa.gov.za
sasanwqueries@net1.com

NORTHERN CAPE

95-97 Du Toitspan Road
Kimberley
8300

Private Bag X6011
Kimberley
8300

Tel: 053 802 4919
Fax: 053 832 5225

GrantsEnquiriesNC@sassa.gov.za

WESTERN CAPE

Golden Acre
Adderley Street
Cape Town
8000

Private Bag X9189
Cape Town
8000

Tel: 021 469 0235
Fax: 021 469 0260

GrantsEnquiriesWC@sassa.gov.za

www.sassa.gov.za

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