General Information

The MediKan program provides assistance to persons who have physical or mental disabilities. Persons may only receive MediKan for 12 months. If you apply for MediKan benefits, you must also apply for Social Security disability benefits. If you are determined eligible for the MediKan program you will be sent a MediKan card that can be used to pay part or all your medical bills. You must have very low income and resources to be eligible for MediKan.

MediKan definition of disability: a severe impairment which significantly limits physical or mental ability to do basic work activity that is expected to last 12 months or result in death.

Eligibility

To be eligible for MediKan:

- Must be ages 18-64.
- You must have filed for disability through the Social Security Administration or be actively appealing a determination.
  - When applying you must submit documentation of your disability application and/or appeal.
- You can only receive MediKan benefits for 12 months.
  - Once eligible, services will continue for 12 months regardless of excess income/resources, moves out of state, or marries non-disabled person.
Program is designed for those meeting Social Security Administration disability criteria, and who do not currently meet Medicaid eligibility requirements.

- You must have a very low income and resources to be eligible for the program.
- For a married couple living together, both spouses must meet the disability criteria.
  - If one spouse is Tier II and the other is not disabled at all, no MediKan eligibility for either spouse
- When a person is not eligible for MediKan:
  - Returning to live with non-eligible spouse
  - Going directly to nursing facility (unless otherwise specified)
  - Those eligible for SSI upon discharge/in suspended status not yet receiving benefits

**Benefits of MediKan**

Healthcare benefits:
- Health benefits include the provision of medical care in acute situations and during catastrophic illness.
  - Overall, the scope of services covered by MediKan is like that covered by Medicaid, but some restrictions and limitation apply.
- Services DO include prescription drugs, however there may be a few that are excluded.
- Note: MediKan consumers are not assigned an MCO.
Non-covered MediKan Program Areas:
- Adult Day Treatment
- Behavioral Management
- Chiropractic
- Dental
- HCBS
- Long Term Care
- Intermediate/day treatment for alcohol and drug addiction treatment facility services
- Nonemergency and non-ambulance medical transportation
- Podiatry
- Vision Services

Time Limit
- MediKan services are limited to a fixed 12-month coverage period beginning on the day the consumer applies.
- Once established, the coverage period continues to run even if the individual becomes otherwise ineligible
  - This includes excess income or resources, moved out of state, marry a non-disabled person.
  - There is no MediKan eligibility after the expiration of this period.

This fact sheet was created in partnership with the AmeriCorps VISTA and Department for Health and Environment, Health Care Finance.