

Health Care Finance and Administration	Section: General Administrative Procedures and Compliance
Policy Manual Number: 200.020	Chapter: Prohibition Against Concurrent Receipt of Benefits

PROHIBITION AGAINST CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF BENEFITS

Legal Authority: 42 CFR 435.403

1. Policy Statement

An individual is prohibited from receiving Medicaid benefits from two or more programs, or from two or more Medicaid categories in the same state. An individual is prohibited from receiving Medicaid benefits from another state concurrent with TennCare Medicaid or CoverKids eligibility.

2. At-Home Individuals

An individual living at home is prohibited from receiving Medicaid from two or more state programs and from two or more Tennessee Medicaid categories simultaneously, except for those individuals who are eligible for a Medicare Savings Program (MSP) and Medicaid. An individual living at home who is a recipient of Medicaid or SSI from another state is prohibited from receiving TennCare Medicaid, CoverKids and MSP coverage.

NOTE: Tennessee does not reimburse medical expenses using an individual's Medicaid card from another state. TennCare Medicaid or CoverKids reimburses only on a TennCare Medicaid or CoverKids Identification number.

3. Institutionalized Individuals

Out-of-state Medicaid and/or SSI benefits must be closed or transferred before an individual is approved for Medicaid in Tennessee.

An institutionalized individual is prohibited from receiving Medicaid benefits from two or more states, or from two or more TennCare Medicaid categories simultaneously, except for those individuals who are eligible for MSP coverage and TennCare Medicaid.

4. Recipients of Out-Of-State Medicaid

Inform the recipient and his or her responsible party that the Medicaid benefits received in another state should be terminated if they are a Tennessee resident seeking Medicaid benefits in Tennessee. Deny or hold the application in a pending status due to receipt of Medicaid in another state until documentation of Medicaid closure is received from the other state or applicant, then process the application as usual. The earliest day for TennCare Medicaid eligibility will be the day after Medicaid ends in the other state. Example: Robert recently moved to Tennessee from Alabama and is still enrolled in Alabama Medicaid. Robert sends a letter to the Alabama Medicaid Agency requesting they terminate his coverage on March 18, 2015 and submits the same letter to TNHC to document the closure of his Medicaid in Alabama. Robert's eligibility will begin on March 19, 2015.

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5. Recipients of Out-of-State SSI Benefits:

Refer the recipient and his or her responsible party to the SSA to effect transfer of their SSI and Medicaid benefits to Tennessee. Inform the recipient and his or her responsible party that the SSA must change the client’s address to the new Tennessee address. The eligibility effective date will be the date the individual receives SSI in Tennessee.

6. Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS)

Tennessee participates in PARIS, which is an information exchange system between states designed to identify individuals who may be receiving benefits or have unreported income in more than one state. Other states may request information to assist in resolving matches concerning individuals who appear to be receiving benefits in more than one state. HCFA may also take steps to terminate coverage in Tennessee if concurrent benefits in another state are confirmed through a PARIS match.