



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

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TOLL FREE NO. 0800 60 10 11



CHILD GRANTS 2004

WHAT IS A GRANT?

According to the constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996) everyone has a right to have access to social security if they are unable to support themselves.

A grant is a cash transfer from the state to people who are unable to provide for themselves. It is paid to the poor people to provide for basic necessities, and have a basic quality of life in sustaining a minimum livelihood. Grants are provided in support of the mission of the Department which is to empower the poor and to secure a better life for those in need.

When a person applies for a social assistance his or her financial and assets of the applicant and spouse or the concerned are assessed to see if that person really deserves government grant. This is called a means test. The process of receiving the grant since submitting an application should not take more than two days.

The three types of Child grants

- Foster Child Grant (R 530.00)
- Child Support Grant (R 170.00)
- Care Dependency Grant (R 740.00)

The grants are paid monthly to beneficiaries.

WHERE DO YOU APPLY FOR A GRANT

- You apply at the Welfare Office nearest to where you live;
- If you are too old or sick to travel to the office to apply for a grant, then a family member or friend can apply on your behalf;
- Your application form will be completed in the presence of an officer from the Department;
- 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 the Welfare Office, you must be informed in writing as to why your application was unsuccessful;
- You have the right to appeal to the Minister for Welfare in your Province in writing, explaining why you disagree with the decision. This appeal must be lodged within 90 days of notification of the outcome of your application.

FOSTER CHILD GRANT

The grant is paid to foster parent/s in respect of a foster child who has been placed in their custody in terms of the Child Care Act.



Requirements :

- the applicant / child must be resident in South Africa at the time of application;
- 13 digit bar-coded ID document (applicant)
- court order indicating foster care status;
- must have valid RSA / non RSA 13 digit I.D number
- foster child must pass the means test which is R12 720 per annum.

Date of award of Grants

If your grant is approved, you will be paid from the day you applied.

If your application for a grant is unsuccessful

The applicant must be informed in writing of the reasons for the refusal of the grant, and his/her right to appeal within 90 days of notification.

Methods of payment

You can receive your grant by the following methods:

- Cash payments
- Banks
- Post office
- Institution

If you are unable to collect the grant yourself you may nominate a procurator to regularly collect it for you.

Suspension of Grants

The following may result in the suspension of a grant:

- changes in circumstances;
- outcome of a review;
- failure to co-operate when a grant is reviewed;

Restoration of Grants

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

Main reasons for lapsing of grants

- death;
- admission to a State Institution;
- if the grant is not claimed for 3 consecutive months;
- when the period of temporary disability has lapsed;
- you are absent from the Republic for a continuous period longer than six months.

Reviews

You must declare any income at the time of application. This will form the basis on which the Department will decide whether your grant must be reviewed. You will be notified 3 months in advance of the date of the review or the date on which the life certificate is due.



CHILD SUPPORT GRANT

The grant is extended to children under the age of eleven, who are under the care of a primary care-giver. This grant will be extended progressively over the three years to cover children under the age of 14 ie.

2004/2005 below 11 years
2005/2006 below 14 years

Child Support Grant is payable to primary caregiver in respect of a child under the age of nine. The caregiver is any person who takes primary responsibility for the daily needs of the child and who may or may not be related to the child or children.



Requirements:

- The applicant and spouse must meet the requirements of the means test : R9 600 per annum in urban area and R13 200 in rural area.
- The child and primary caregiver must be a South African citizen and resident in South Africa
- The applicant must be the primary care giver of the child/ children concerned
- The child /children must be under the age of 11 years
- A 13 digit bar coded ID document (of the care giver) and 13 digit birth certificate (of the child)
- The care giver cannot apply for more than six non biological children

The child will not receive the grant if:

- When the primary caregiver are not South African citizens
- When the primary caregiver receives remuneration to take care of the child or children concerned
- When the child is over 11 years old
- When primary care giver is already in receipt of a grant for the child
- When the applicant is not a primary care giver
- When the institution receives remuneration to take care of the child or children

CARE DEPENDENCY GRANTS

The grant is payable to the parents, foster guardians or custodians in respect of a child between the ages of 1 and 18 years in their care, who due to their severe mental and/or physical disability, need full-time care.

- must be South African Citizens except for foster parents;
- the applicant and child must be resident in South Africa;
- age of child must be from 1 to 18 years;
- must submit a medical / assessment report confirming disability;
- applicant, spouse and child must meet the requirements of the means test;
- the care-dependant child/children must not be permanently cared for in a State Institution;
- 13 digit bar coded ID document (applicant)
- 13 digit birth certificate (child)

CONTACT DETAILS

Eastern Cape Province

Private Bag X0039
Bisho 5605
Tel: (040) 609 3400
Fax: (040) 639 1928

Northern Cape Province

Private Bag X5042
Kimberley 8300
Tel: (053) 839 5104
Fax: (053) 831 4917

Kwa-Zulu Natal Province

Private Bag X27
Ulundi 3838
Tel: (035) 874 3703
Fax: (035) 874 3710

Mpumalanga Province

Private Bag X11213
Nelspruit 1200
Tel: (013) 766 3031
Fax: (013) 766 3463

Western Cape Province

Private Bag X9180
Cape Town 8000
Tel: (021) 483 3083
Fax: (021) 483 4783

Northwest Province

Private Bag X6
Mmabatho 2735
Tel: (018) 387 5282
Fax: (018) 387 5402

Gauteng Province

Private Bag X35
Johannesburg 2000
Tel: (011) 355 7878
Fax: (011) 836 6533

Limpopo Province

Private Bag X9302
Polokwane 0700
Tel: (015) 290 9262
Fax: (015) 291 3355

Free State Province

Private Bag X4424
Bloemfontein 9300
Tel: (051) 405 4821/4444
Fax: (051) 403 3578

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Minister Zola Skweyiya
National Dept. of Social Development
Private Bag X901
PRETORIA 0001
Tel: (012) 312 7636
Fax: (012) 325 7071