

Minnesota Health Care Programs Asset Assessment Fact Sheet

What are assets?

Assets are things like cars, checking and savings accounts, your home and financial investments. To be eligible for Medical Assistance for Long-Term-Care Services (MA-LTC), you and your spouse must have assets within the MA-LTC limits.

What is an asset assessment?

An asset assessment is a list of all assets owned by a married couple on the date one spouse applies for MA-LTC. People can request an asset assessment before they apply for MA-LTC. This may help them plan which assets the spouse who will not be applying for MA-LTC (the "community spouse") may keep.

Do I need to complete an asset assessment?

You must complete an asset assessment if you ask for MA-LTC and all the following are true:

- " You received or expect to receive 30 uninterrupted days of LTC services.
- " You are married.
- " Your spouse does not live in an LTC facility, such as a nursing home.
- " Your spouse is not getting services at home through any of these home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver programs:
 - Brain Injury (BI)
 - Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI)
 - Community Alternative Care (CAC)
 - Developmental Disabilities (DD)
 - Elderly Waiver (EW)

To complete the asset assessment and apply for MA-LTC, you must complete a Minnesota Health Care Programs Application for Medical Assistance for Long-Term-Care Services (MA-LTC) (form DHS-3531).

To request an asset assessment but not apply for MA, you can complete an Asset Assessment for MA-LTC (form DHS-3340) and submit it to your county or tribal agency.

It is best to complete an asset assessment as soon as possible. The results can help you decide when to apply for MA.

The amount of assets that your spouse can keep is known as the community spouse asset allowance (CSAA). The CSAA is the maximum amount allowed under federal law. This amount usually changes in January of each year. The amount for 2016 is \$119,220.

How do I get an asset assessment form?

Contact your county or tribal agency and ask for an asset assessment form. You can also get the form from the Department of Human Services website at http://mn.gov/dhs/general-public/publications-forms-resources/edocs/. Search for form DHS-3340.

What happens after I complete the asset assessment form?

Give the completed form to your county or tribal agency. You will receive a different form with the results of the asset assessment. The form will provide information about the assets you and your spouse may need to spend or how you and your spouse may need to divide assets if you ask for MA-LTC.

What if my spouse doesn't have enough income to meet his or her monthly maintenance needs?

If your spouse has gross income that is less than \$2,005 per month, the amount of assets your spouse can keep may be higher than the CSAA. The extra assets must produce income to raise your spouse's monthly income. You will need to provide proof of your spouse's shelter and utility costs and income. Contact your worker if you want more information about this.

Questions?

If you have questions, contact your local county or tribal agency. If you are 60 years old or older, you can also call the Senior Link Age Line® at 800-333-2433. If you have a disability, you can also call the Disability Linkage Line® at 866-333-2466.

651-431-2670 or 800-657-3739

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