

NURSING HOME CARE -- MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

Medicaid. Medicaid is a joint federal/state program that pays basic nursing home costs for persons who are eligible.

Medicaid Eligibility for Nursing Home To be eligible for Medicaid for payment for nursing home care in Alabama, an applicant must:

- Be living in Alabama;
- Be a U.S. citizen or be in this country legally. Proof can be established through:
 - Driver's license
 - Passport
 - Birth certificate
 - Certificate of Naturalization
 - Certificate of U.S. Citizenship
 - Other documentation approved by Medicaid
- Be at an approved facility;
- Meet medical criteria, i.e. treating physician must show that applicant requires full time nursing care in a nursing home;
- Have a *gross monthly income* at or below **\$2,022.00** (for an individual in 2009); and
- Have countable *resources* (assets) at or below \$2,000.00 (for a couple depends upon situation).

An elder law attorney can advise you on how to manage excess income, resources and other assets in order to become eligible.