



# sassa

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY

## You and Your Grants 2013/14



*paying the right social grant, to the right person,  
at the right time and place. NJALO!*

[www.sassa.gov.za](http://www.sassa.gov.za) 0800 60 10 11

# Contents

- Introduction
- Types of grants
- What do you need to apply
- Where do you apply for a grant
- Date of approval
- Unsuccessful application
- Methods of payment
- Suspension of grants
- Restoration of grants
- Main reasons for lapsing grants
- Reviews
- Social Relief of Distress
- Amount of Grants
- Address List



## Introduction

Social Assistance is an income transfer in the form of grants provided by government. A social grant refers to a grant paid by the South African Social Security Agency that is, disability grant; grant for older persons; war veteran's grant; foster child grant; care dependency grant; child support grant and grant-in-aid.

As from 01 April 2006, the responsibility for the management, administration and payment of social assistance grants was transferred to the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA).

SASSA is a section 3A public entity, the focused institution responsible to ensure that government pays the right grant, to the right person, at a location which is most convenient to that person.

## Types of grants

Social Assistance is provided in the form of:

- grant for older persons;
- disability grant;
- war veterans grant;
- care dependency grant;
- foster child grant;
- child support grant;
- grant-in-aid;
- Social Relief of Distress.

# Qualifying Requirements

## Social Grants

### Grant for Older Persons

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen;  permanent resident or refugee
- must be resident in South Africa;
- Must be 60 years or older
- and spouse must comply with the  means test;
- must not be maintained or cared for in  a State Institution;
- must not be in receipt of another  social grant for him/ herself;
- must submit a 13 digit bar coded  identity document.

### Disability Grant

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen;  permanent resident or refugee;
- must be resident in South Africa;
- must be 18 to 59 years of age;
- must submit a medical / assessment  report confirming disability;
- Medical assessment must not be older  than 3 months at date of application.
- and spouse meet the requirements of  the means test;
- must not be maintained or cared for in  a State Institution;
- must not be in receipt of another social  grant in respect of him or herself.

## War Veteran's Grant

The applicant:

- must be a South African citizen or  permanent resident
- must be resident in South Africa;
- must be 60 years and over or must  be disabled;
- must have fought in the Second World  War or the Korean War;
- and spouse must meet the requirements  of the means test;
- must not be maintained or cared for in  a State Institution; and
- must not be in receipt of another  social grant in respect of himself or  herself;

## Child Grants

### Foster Child Grant

- the applicant and child must be resident  in South Africa;
- court order indicating foster care status;
- the foster parent must be a South African  citizen, permanent resident or refugee.
- Child must remain in the care of the  foster parent (s)



### Care Dependency Grant

- The applicant must be a South African  citizen, permanent resident or refugee;
- the applicant and child must be resident  in South Africa;
- child must be under the age of 18 years;
- must submit a medical / assessment  report confirming the child's permanent,  severe disability;
- applicant and spouse must meet  requirements of the means test  (except for foster parents);
- the care-dependant child/children  must not be permanently cared for in a  State Institution;

Note: the income of foster parent will not be taken into consideration

### Child Support Grant

- the primary care giver must be a South  African citizen, permanent resident or  refugee;
- both the applicant and the child must  reside in South Africa;
- applicant must be the primary care giver  of the child/children concerned;
- the child/children must have been born  after 31 December 1993;
- the applicant and spouse must meet the  requirements of the means test;
- cannot apply for more than six non  biological children
- Child can not be cared for in State  institution.
  - Child aged between 7 and 18 years,
    - must attend school

### Grant-in-aid

- the applicant must be in receipt of a grant  for Older Persons, Disability grant or a  War Veterans's grant, and require full  time attendandance by another person  owing to his/her physical or mental  disabilities;
- must not be cared for in an institution  that receives subsidy from the State for  the care/housing of such beneficiary;

### Proof of identity

Applicants who do not have a 13 digit  bar coded Identity Book, or birth  certificate for children involved in the  application can still apply for a grant.  Please obtain information from your  nearest SASSA office on the alternative  documents which are accepted for grant  applications.

## Where Do You Apply For A Grant?

- You apply at the SASSA 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  SASSA;
- 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  SASSA, you must be informed in writing  as to why your application was  unsuccessful;
- You have the right to request SASSA to  reconsider its decision, if you are  unhappy with the decision made. If the  reconsidered decision is still  unfavourable, you have the right to  appeal to the Minister of Social  Development. The request for SASSA  to reconsider its decision must be made  within 90 days of you being informed of  the outcome of your application.

## Date Of Award Of Grants

If your grant is approved, you will be paid from the date on which you applied. unless you have applied for a foster child grant. Foster child grants are paid from the date of court placement.

## If Your Application For A Grant Is Unsuccessful

You must be informed in writing of the reasons for the refusal of the grant application, your right to request the decision to be reconsidered, and your right to appeal within 90 days of notification.

## Methods Of Payment

You will receive your grant through a SASSA card. If you wish to use alternative methods of payment such as

- Banks including Postbank, or
  - Institutions, you must contact your  nearest SASSA office
- Note: If you are unable to collect the  grant yourself you may nominate a  procurator to collect it on your behalf.

## Suspension Of Grants

The following may result in the suspension of a grant:

- changes in circumstances (financial and  / or medical);
- outcome of a review;
- failure to co-operate when a grant  is reviewed;
- committing a fraudulent activity or  misrepresentation
- Where grant was approved in error

## 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 period of longer than 90 days
- If you cease to be a refugee.
- If the child for whom the grant is received turns 18

## Reviews

You must declare any income at the time of application. This will form the basis on which SASSA 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.

## Social Relief Of Distress

Social relief of distress is the temporary provision of assistance intended for persons in such dire need that they are unable to meet their or their families' most basic needs. Social Relief of Distress is paid to South African citizens; permanent residents or refugees, who have insufficient means and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- the applicant is awaiting payment of an approved social grant;
- the applicant has been found medically unfit to undertake remunerative work for

a period of less than 6 months;

- no maintenance is received from a parent, child or spouse obliged in law to pay maintenance, and proof is furnished that efforts made to obtain maintenance have been unsuccessful;
- the bread winner is deceased and application is made within three months of the date of death;
- the bread winner of that person's family has been admitted to an institution funded by the state ( prison, psychiatric hospital, state home for older persons, treatment centre for substance abuse or child and youth care centre).
- the applicant has been affected by a disaster as defined in the Disaster Management Act or the Fund Raising Act, 1978
- the person is not receiving assistance from any other organization or
- refusal of the application for social relief of distress will cause undue hardship.

## Period Of Social Relief Of Distress

Social Relief of Distress is issued monthly for a maximum period of 3 months. An extension for a further 3 months may be granted in exceptional cases.

**Note:** No person who is in receipt of a social grant may receive the grant and social relief of distress simultaneously. Any person who received both social relief and a grant at the same time must repay the value of the social relief of distress received. This will be recovered from any social grant payment, including an arrear payment. However, where the person who is in receipt of a social grant received social relief of distress as a result of a disaster, that amount will not be recovered.

## Responsibility of the Beneficiaries

It is the responsibility of beneficiaries to keep SASSA informed of changes in their circumstances and means, and to respond to any correspondence received.

## Fraud

SASSA exercises zero tolerance to fraudulent activities

## What Is A Means Test

In South Africa Social Assistance is subject

to means testing which implies that SASSA evaluates the income and assets of the person applying for social assistance in order to determine whether the person's means are below a stipulated amount. This means test is a way of determining whether a person qualifies to receive a grant as grants are indeed meant for those who have insufficient means to support themselves. The means test varies from one grant one to another.

## Asset And Income Threshold

Asset threshold:	01 April 2012	01 April 2013	01 October 2013
<b>(Grants for older persons, disabled and war veterans only)</b>			
Single person	R 792 000	☐R 831 600	
Married person	R 1 584 000	☐R 1663 200	
<b>Income threshold: (Annual amounts)</b>			
Single person	R 47 400	☐R 49 920	
Married person☐	R 94 800	☐R 99 840	
<b>Child Support Grants:</b>			
Single person☐	R 33 600	☐ R34 800	R 36 000
Married person☐	R 67 200	☐ R69 600	R 72 000
<b>Care Dependency Grants:</b>			
Single person☐	R 144 000	☐R 151 200	
Married person☐	R 288 00	☐R 302 400	

## Amounts Of Grants As At 01 April 2013

Grant Type	Amount payable as from 1 April 2012	Amount payable as from 1 April 2013	Amount payable as from 1 October 2013
Older Persons Grant (Old age pension)☐	R 1 200.00☐	R 1 260.00	
Older Persons Grant (Old age pension): Beneficiary older than 75 years	☐ R 1220.00☐	R 1 280.00	
Disability grant☐	R 1 200.00☐	R 1 260.00	
War veterans' grant☐	R 1 220.00☐	R 1 280.00	
Grant-in-aid☐	R 280.00☐	R 290.00☐	R 300.00
Child support grant☐	R 280.00☐	R 290.00☐	R 300.00
Foster child grant☐	R 770.00☐	R 800.00	
Care-dependency grant☐	R 1 200.00	R 1 260.00	

# Contact Details

## SASSA HEAD OFFICE

SASSA HOUSE  
501 Prodirsa Building  
Cnr Steve Biko and Pretorius  
Street  
Pretoria

Private Bag X55662  
Arcadia, Pretoria  
0083

Tel: 012 400 2000 (Switchboard)  
Website: [www.sassa.gov.za](http://www.sassa.gov.za)

## EASTERN CAPE

SASSA Office  
BKB Building  
Cnr Fitzpatrick & Merino  
Road Quigney  
East London

Private Bag X9001  
Chiselhurst  
East London  
5200

Tel: 043 707 6300  
Fax: 043 707 6481

## CPS Call Centre

072 306 3471  
072 316 2050  
072 311 3028

## FREE STATE

African Life Building  
75 St. Andrews Street  
Bloemfontein

Private Bag X20553  
Bloemfontein  
9300

Tel: 051 410 8304/5  
Fax: 051 409 0862

## CPS Call centre

071 771 12 58  
072 286 7972  
082 259 8727

## GAUTENG

28 Harrison Street  
Johannesburg  
2000  
Private Bag X120  
Marshalltown  
2107

Tel: 011 241 8300  
Fax: 011 241 8305

## CPS Call Centre

078 731 5908  
083 518 3152  
072 311 3028

## KWAZULU NATAL

1 Bank Street  
Pietermaritzburg  
3201

Private Bag X 9146  
Pietermaritzburg  
3201

Tel: 033 846 3300  
Fax: 033 846 9595

## CPS Call Centre

079 780 9040  
079 780 9040  
079 730 2499

## LIMPOPO

43 Landros Mare Street  
Polokwane  
0699

Private Bag X9677  
Polokwane  
0700

Tel: 015 291 7400  
Fax: 015 291 7996

## CPS Call Centre

072 201 3930  
072 204 3637  
072 208 9522

## MPUMALANGA

18 Ferreira Street  
Nelspruit

Private Bag X11230  
Nelspruit  
1200

Tel: 013 754 9380  
Fax: 013 754 9501

## CPS Call Centre

082 701 5493  
082 364 0614  
082 967 2264

## NORTH WEST

SASSA House  
University Drive  
Mmabatho  
2735

Private Bag X44  
Mmabatho

Tel: 018 389 4000

## CPS Call Centre

082 344 0493  
071 100 6483  
076 710 0862

## NORTHERN CAPE

95-97 Du Toit Span Road  
Kimberley  
8300

Private Bag X6011  
Kimberley  
8300

Tel: 053 802 4900  
Fax: 053 832 5225

## CPS Call Centre

076 030 9929  
076 662 1545  
072 186 8095  
071 416 6324

## WESTERN CAPE

Golden Acre  
Adderley Street  
Cape Town  
8001

Private Bag X9189  
Cape Town  
8000

Tel: 021 469 0200  
Fax: 021 469 0260

## CPS Call Centre

072 268 4678  
072 456 7506  
072 453 7858

