



# NCPPDSA

**The National Council for Persons with  
Physical Disabilities in South Africa**



## **Biometric SASSA Payments, Disability Grants and Care Dependency Grants**

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## **New SASSA Biometric Grant System**

If you receive your social grant from a pay point or from a bank, you must re-register on the new biometric-based payment system.

This was announced by Social Development Minister, Bathabile Dlamini at a media briefing on 17 February. According to the Minister, the South African Social Service Agency (SASSA) will start with the process of verifying and re-registering beneficiaries in March.

**The enrolment / re-registration process will unfold in two phases.**

### **Phase One** *(For those that receive their grants in cash at cash points!)*

#### **Duration:**

- From 1 March 2012 to end of May 2012:
- During this period, particularly from 1 April 2012 you should continue to collect your grants at your respective pay points including banks. It is business as usual, but you will be issued with a new CPS Smart Master Card.
- As a new beneficiary, you will be enrolled on to the new biometric-based payment system as from 1 March 2012 at SASSA local office.

#### **Enrolment cut off**

- There will be a cut-off date for enrolment after the interim period.
- If you do not enrol by the cut-off date, you will not receive payment as the system will not be able to recognise you.





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## Phase Two, Bulk enrolment

### **Duration:**

- From 1 June to 31 December 2012:
- If you are an existing eligible beneficiary, including a bank beneficiary and a child, you will be enrolled on the new biometric-based payment system at SASSA pay points, local offices and designated sites
- SASSA will conduct home visits for beneficiaries over 75 years of age and bedridden beneficiaries at their homes and institutions such as hospitals.
- You will be issued with a SASSA branded smart-card

### **Benefits of the new system are:**

- As a beneficiary, you will be able to use your SASSA branded card anywhere in the country.
- The system will allow you, as the right person, to be paid the right amount.
- To allow your life certification monthly
- The system will provide a service of R16.44 (inclusive of VAT) which translates into R2 billion per annum – a saving of R800 million per annum from the previous contracts.
- The improved biometric-based payment system will minimise fraud and corruption
- Beneficiaries will be enrolled within close proximity of the communities where they live

### **Review process**

Beneficiaries of the following grants will be reassessed in terms of the eligibility criteria, for the grants they are receiving.





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## Reviews are required from beneficiaries who:

- ❖ Declared means
- ❖ Are receiving a disability grant and the doctor has indicated the circumstances may improve
- ❖ Receive foster child grant, on expiry of the court order
- ❖ Are in receipt of a grant under a refugee ID
- ❖ Any time that information is required from the beneficiary
- ❖ If possible fraud is suspected

## Disability grant

If you have a physical or mental disability which makes you unfit to work, for a period of longer than six months, then you can apply for a disability grant.

You get a permanent disability grant if your disability will continue for more than a year and a temporary disability grant if your disability will continue for a continuous period of not less than six months and not more than twelve months. A permanent disability grant does not mean you will receive the grant for life, but just that it will continue for longer than 12 months.

## To qualify, you must:

- be a South African citizen or permanent resident or refugee and living in South Africa at the time of application
- be between 18 and 59 years if you are female or 18 and 60 years if you are male
- not be cared for in a state institution
- have a 13-digit, bar-coded identity document (ID)





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## A means test will be conducted.

This means that you may not **earn** more than:

- ❖ R47 400 per year (R3 950 per month) if you are single or
- ❖ R94 800 per year (R7 900 per month) if you are married.

Your **assets** must not be worth more than:

- ❖ R792 000 if you are single or
- ❖ R1 584 000 if you are married.

## Things to remember:

- You will undergo a medical examination where a doctor appointed by the state will assess the degree of your disability.
- Bring along any previous medical records and reports, when you make the application and when the assessment is done.
- The doctor will complete a medical report and will forward the report to South African Social Security Agency (SASSA).
- The report is valid for three months from the date you are assessed.

***Note: If you are under 18 and need permanent care due to your disability, your primary caregiver can apply for the Care Dependency Grant.***

If you don't have an ID, you will be required to complete an affidavit and provide proof of having applied for the document from Home Affairs. If you have not applied for the document, you will be required to lodge an application with Home Affairs within three months of applying for the grant.





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## The total value of the Disability Grant:

The maximum grant from April 2012 is **R1 200 per month**.

## How will you be paid?

Your money will be paid into the new Biometric SASSA card.

## When may your grant be suspended?

The following may result in the suspension of your grant:

- when your circumstances change
- the outcome of a review
- if you fail to co-operate when your grant is reviewed
- when you commit fraud or misrepresent yourself
- If there was a mistake when your grant was approved.

## When may your grant lapse?

The grant will lapse when you:

- pass away
- are admitted to a state institution
- do not claim for three consecutive months
- Are absent from the country.





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***Please note: If a beneficiary is admitted to an institution that has a contract with the state to care for and maintain such beneficiary, the social grant is reduced to 25% (R285) of the maximum amount of the social grant with effect from the 4th month following the beneficiary's admission to that institution. The reduced grant is re-instated immediately from the date the beneficiary is discharged from the institution.***

## How do you apply for a Disability Grant?

Complete a disability grant application form at your nearest South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) office in the presence of a SASSA officer.

## You need to submit the following:

- Your 13-digit bar-coded identity document (ID).

### **If you don't have an ID:**

- ❖ *You must complete an affidavit on a standard SASSA format in the presence of a Commissioner of Oaths **who is not** a SASSA official.*
- ❖ *you must bring a sworn statement signed by a reputable person (like a councillor, traditional leader, social worker, minister of religion or school principal) who can verify your name and age*
- ❖ *The SASSA official will take your fingerprints.*
- ❖ *You will be referred to the Department of Home Affairs to apply for the ID even as your application is processed. If you don't get an ID, your grant will be suspended.*





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- a medical report and functional assessment report confirming your disability
- proof of marital status (if applicable)
- proof of residence
- proof of income, dividends (if any)
- proof of assets, including the municipal value of your property
- proof of private pension (if any)
- your three months bank statements
- refugee status permit and 13-digit refugee ID
- Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) ('blue book') or discharge certificate from your previous employer if you were employed
- A copy of the will and the first and final liquidation and distribution accounts, if your spouse died within the last five years.

***After submitting your application you will be given a receipt to keep as proof of application.***

## **What if your application is not approved?**

- The social security office will inform you in writing whether or not your application was successful.
- If your grant is not approved, the social security office will state the reasons why your application was unsuccessful and you can appeal to the Minister of Social Development in writing, explaining why you disagree.
- Appeal within 90 days of receiving notification about the outcome of your application.

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





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**How much does the application cost?**

***The service is free!!!!!!***

**Forms to complete**

Application forms are not available online, but you can get them from your nearest social security (SASSA) office.

## **Care dependency grant**

**About the care dependency grant**

Get a grant to take care of a child who has a severe disability and is in need of full-time and special care.

***The care dependency grant covers disabled children from birth until they turn 18.***





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## How do you know if you qualify?

You must:

- be a parent, primary caregiver or a foster parent appointed by the court
- be a South African citizen or permanent resident
- **Not earn** more than **R144 000 per year (R12 000 per month) if you are single.**  
Your combined income should not be above **R288 000 per year (R24 000 per month) if you are married.**

***Note: This income limit does not apply to foster parents.***

## The child must:

- Be younger than 18 years
- Not be cared for permanently in a state institution
- Have a severe disability and need full-time and special care.
- Both you and the child must live in South Africa.

***Note: A state medical officer must assess the child before the grant will be approved.***

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## How much money will you get?

The amount that you will get from April 2012 is **R1 200 per month**.

## How will you be paid?

The South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) will pay the grant to you into the biometric SASSA card.

## When may the child's grant be reviewed?

SASSA can decide if your grant must be reviewed. Your income as declared when you apply for the grant will form the basis for this decision. You will be notified three months in advance of the date the review will take place or the date on which the life certificate is due.

## When may the child's grant be suspended?

The following may result in the suspension of the grant:

- When the child's circumstances change
- The outcome of a review
- If you fail to co-operate when the child's grant is reviewed
- When you commit fraud or misrepresent the child
- If there was a mistake when the child's grant was approved.





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## When will your grant lapse?

The grant will lapse when:

- The child passes away
- The child is admitted to a state institution
- The beneficiary who is the caregiver does not claim the grant for three consecutive months
- The child is absent from the country.

## What you should do if the grant lapses

- Go to the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) office nearest to where you live and bring the following:
  - Your 13-digit bar-coded identity document (ID)
  - and birth certificate.
- If you don't have an ID or birth certificate:
  - + You must complete an affidavit on a standard SASSA format in the presence of a Commissioner of Oaths **who is not** a SASSA official
  - + you must bring a sworn statement signed by a reputable person (like a councillor, traditional leader, social worker, minister of religion or school principal) who can verify your name and age
  - + The SASSA official will take your fingerprints.
  - + You will be referred to the Department of Home Affairs to apply for the ID even as your application is processed.
  - + **If you don't get an ID, your grant will be suspended.**





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- proof that you have applied for an ID and/or birth certificate at the Department of Home Affairs
- a temporary ID issued by the Department of Home Affairs (if applicable)
- baptismal certificate if available
- road to health clinic card if available
- school report if available
- a medical/assessment report that confirms the child's disability
- proof of your marital status
- your salary slip, bank statements for three months, or pension slips, and any other proof of income

***(Note: this does not apply to refugee foster parents).***

- If you are not the child's parent,
  - proof that you are the child's primary caregiver through an affidavit from a police official, a social worker's report, an affidavit from the biological parent or a letter from the school principal from the school attended by the child
  - the biological parent of the child and the sole provider and caregiver, proof that you have tried to get the other parent to pay maintenance
  - unemployed, proof from the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) or a discharge certificate from your previous employer
  - a refugee foster parent, refugee status permit and refugee ID
  - The child's foster parent, the court order placing the child in your care.

***Please note: If you are too old or sick to travel to the office to apply, a family member or friend can apply on your behalf. The person should take a letter from you and/or a doctor's note saying why you cannot visit the office.***





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The child will now be referred by SASSA for a state medical officer's assessment before the application is made. Now you need to:

- Complete an application form in the presence of the SASSA officer (note that only you as the applicant or a SASSA official can complete the application form).

***You will be given a receipt. Keep it as proof that you applied.***

## **What if your application is not approved?**

If your application is not approved, SASSA will inform you in writing why your application was unsuccessful.

## **If you disagree with the decision,**

You can appeal to the Minister of Social Development at the national office of the Department of Social Development, explaining why you disagree. You must appeal within 90 days of being notified that your application was unsuccessful.

***If your grant is approved, you will be paid from the date on which you applied***