A Guide to Applying for



Eligibility Guidelines

Am I able to get AABD Cash?

You are eligible to apply for AABD Cash if you:

- are a citizen or meet certain non-citizen requirements
- live in Illinois
- receive SSI or have been rejected from SSI because of your income
- are 65+, blind, or disabled
- have less than \$2,000 (household of 1) or \$3000 (household of 2) in assets

To apply for AABD Cash, visit **abe.illinois.gov** for an online application, or visit the local Department of Human Services (DHS) for in-person applications. It is recommended that you apply in-person, but if you cannot, someone can help you by phone at **800.843.6154**. The award amount changes depending on how many people are in your household. For example, for a household of one, the monthly cash award is between \$1 and \$70.

Application Process

How do I apply for AABD Cash?





Helpful Paperwork

What documents should I have ready?

You must provide proof of the following:

- SSI Award
- · Identity (Social Security Card, ID, or Birth Certificate)
- Housing Expenses (rent, room costs, utilities, etc.)
- Assets (checking/savings accounts, life insurance, and other assets).
 One home and one vehicle are not counted toward the asset limit.

DHS will review your application and give you a Notice of Decision within 60 days. If you are approved, the cash award is calculated based on your monthly expenses (rent, utilities, etc.) and income. If your income is less than your expenses, you will receive the amount of your expenses minus your income, up to a limit set by DHS.

Expected Timeline

How long does it take to get a decision?





Appeal Process

What should I do if my application is denied? proof of your eligibility.

File an appeal within 10 days of your application denial or AABD cash benefit ending. You can file an appeal through your ABE account, by calling **800.435.0774**, by emailing **DHS.BAH@illinois.gov**, or by faxing **312.793.3387**. DHS will schedule a hearing, where you can provide proof of your eligibility.

Your eligibility for AABD Cash will be reevaluated every six months. It is important to complete any redetermination forms that are mailed to you and report any changes in income or assets within 10 days to avoid overpayment.



For more information, visit **dhs.state.il.us** or call **1.800.435.0774**.

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