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 $3,000 (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.

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.

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.

For more information, visit dhs.state.il.us or call 1.800.435.0774.
Source: www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=45317