

than the day of discharge or the 90th full day of confinement, whichever is earlier.

(2) We will determine the date of submission of the evidence required in paragraphs (b)(1) (iii) and (iv) of this section to be the date we receive it or, if mailed, the date of the postmark.

(c) *Prohibition against using benefits for current maintenance.* If the recipient is a resident in an institution, the recipient or his or her representative payee will not be permitted to pay the institution any portion of benefits payable under section 1611(e)(1)(G) excepting nominal sums for reimbursement of the institution for any outlay for the recipient's personal needs (e.g., personal hygiene items, snacks, candy). If the institution is the representative payee, it will not be permitted to retain any portion of these benefits for the cost of the recipient's current maintenance excepting nominal sums for reimbursement for outlays for the recipient's personal needs.

[61 FR 10277, Mar. 13, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 1055, Jan. 8, 1997]

**§416.213 You do not accept vocational rehabilitation services.**

If you are disabled or blind, you must accept any appropriate vocational rehabilitation services offered to you by the State agency to which we refer you. If you refuse these services, you are not eligible for benefits unless you have a good reason for not accepting them. The rules on vocational rehabilitation services are in subpart Q.

[47 FR 3103, Jan. 22, 1982. Redesignated at 61 FR 10277, Mar. 13, 1996]

**§416.214 You are disabled and drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the determination of disability.**

(a) *If you do not comply with treatment requirements.* If you receive benefits because you are disabled and drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the determination of disability (see §416.935), you must avail yourself of any appropriate treatment for your drug addiction or alcoholism at an approved institution or facility when this treatment is available and make progress in your treatment. You are not eligible for SSI benefits begin-

ning with the month after the month you are notified in writing that we determined that you have failed to comply with the treatment requirements. If your benefits are suspended because you failed to comply with treatment requirements, you will not be eligible to receive benefits until you have demonstrated compliance with treatment for a period of time, as specified in §416.1326. The rules regarding treatment for drug addiction and alcoholism are in subpart I of this part.

(b) *If you previously received 36 months of SSI or Social Security benefits.* You are not eligible for SSI benefits by reason of disability on the basis of drug addiction or alcoholism as described in §416.935 if—

(1) You previously received a total of 36 months of SSI benefits on the basis of disability and drug addiction or alcoholism was a contributing factor material to the determination of disability for months beginning March 1995, as described in §416.935. Not included in these 36 months are months before March 1995 and months for which your benefits were suspended for any reason. The 36-month limit is no longer effective for months beginning after September 2004; or

(2) You previously received a total of 36 months of Social Security benefits counted in accordance with the provisions of §§404.316, 404.337, and 404.352 by reason of disability on the basis of drug addiction or alcoholism as described in §404.1535.

[60 FR 8149, Feb. 10, 1995. Redesignated at 61 FR 10277, Mar. 13, 1996]

**§416.215 You leave the United States.**

You lose your eligibility for SSI benefits for any month during all of which you are outside of the United States. If you are outside of the United States for 30 days or more in a row, you are not considered to be back in the United States until you are back for 30 days in a row. You may again be eligible for SSI benefits in the month in which the 30 days end if you continue to meet all other eligibility requirements.

**§416.216**

By *United States*, we mean the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

[47 FR 3103, Jan. 22, 1982. Redesignated at 61 FR 10277, Mar. 13, 1996]

**§416.216 You are a child of armed forces personnel living overseas.**

(a) *General rule.* You may be eligible for continuation of SSI benefits if you live overseas and if—

(1) You are a child as described in §416.1856;

(2) You are a citizen of the United States;

(3) You are living with a parent as described in §416.1881 who is a member of the armed forces of the United States assigned to permanent duty ashore outside the United States; and

(4) You were eligible for an SSI benefit (including any federally administered State supplementary payment) for the month before your parent reported for such duty.

(b) *Living with.* You are considered to be living with your parent who is a member of the armed forces if—

(1) You physically live with the parent who is a member of the armed forces overseas; or

(2) You are not living in the same household as the military parent but your presence overseas is due to his or her permanent duty assignment.

[58 FR 4897, Jan. 19, 1993; 58 FR 9597, Feb. 22, 1993, as amended at 59 FR 41400, Aug. 12, 1994. Redesignated at 61 FR 10277, Mar. 13, 1996]

**ELIGIBILITY FOR INCREASED BENEFITS  
BECAUSE OF ESSENTIAL PERSONS**

**§416.220 General.**

If you are a *qualified* individual and have an essential person you may be eligible for increased benefits. You may be a qualified individual and have an essential person only if you received benefits under a State assistance plan approved under title I, X, XIV, or XVI (AABD) of the Act for December 1973. Definitions and rules that apply to qualified individuals and essential persons are discussed in §§416.221 through 416.223.

**§416.221 Who is a qualified individual.**

You are a qualified individual if—

(a) You received aid or assistance for the month of December 1973 under a State plan approved under title I, X, XIV, or XVI (AABD) of the Act;

(b) The State took into account the needs of another person in deciding your need for the State assistance for December 1973;

(c) That other person was living in your home in December 1973; and

(d) That other person was not eligible for State assistance for December 1973.

**§416.222 Who is an essential person.**

(a) *General rule.* A person is an essential person if—

(1) That person has continuously lived in the home of the same qualified individual since December 1973;

(2) That person was not eligible for State assistance for December 1973;

(3) That person was never eligible for SSI benefits in his or her own right or as an eligible spouse; and

(4) There are State records which show that under a State plan in effect for June 1973, the State took that person's needs into account in determining the qualified individual's need for State assistance for December 1973.

Any person who meets these requirements is an essential person. This means that the qualified individual can have more than one essential person.

(b) *Absence of an essential person from the home of a qualified individual.* An essential person may be temporarily absent from the house of a qualified individual and still be an essential person. For example, the essential person could be hospitalized. We consider an absence to temporary if—

(1) The essential person intends to return;

(2) The facts support this intention;

(3) It is likely that he or she will return; and

(4) The absence is not longer than 90 days.

(c) *Absence of a qualified individual from his or her home.* You may be temporarily absent from your home and still have an essential person. For example, you could be hospitalized. We consider an absence to be temporary if—

(1) You intend to return;

(2) The facts support your intention;