



sassa

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY

# You and Your Grants 2022/23

*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

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## Introduction

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

## 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

**Note: "Any applicant who is married must ensure that supporting documents required for any grant application are provided for both him/herself and his/her spouse"**

## 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 himself or herself;
- Must submit a 13 digit barcoded identity document or the smart IDcard for self and spouse. In the absence of these documents, an application can still be made.

### 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;
- And spouse must 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 himself or herself;
- Must submit a 13 digit barcoded identity document or the smart ID card for self and spouse. In the absence of these documents, an application can still be made.

### 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;
- Must not be in receipt of another social grant in respect of himself or herself;
- Must submit a 13 digit bar coded identity or a smart card for self and spouse. In the absence of these documents an application can still be made.

## Child Grants

### Foster Child Grant

- The applicant and child must be resident in South Africa;
- Must provide a 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);
- Foster parent must provide a 13 digit barcoded identity document or the smart card for both applicant and spouse;
- Must provide a birth certificate for the foster child. In the absence of ID documents, an application can still be made.

### 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-dependent child/children must not be permanently cared for in a State Institution;
- Must provide birth certificate for the child;
- The applicant must supply a 13 digit bar coded identity document or smart ID card for him/herself and spouse. In the absence of these documents, an application can still be made.



18 years. However, failure to produce this certificate or failure to attend school will not result in the refusal to pay the child support grant.

## Extended Child Support Grant

Where an orphan (child whose parents are both deceased) is cared for by a family member, that family member may qualify for an extended child support grant (CSG top up). This will entail an additional amount added to the child support grant for the care giver. The purpose of the extended child support grant is to prevent children without parents having to go through the foster care system purely for reasons of financial support.

The application requirements are the same as for a child support grant, with the following additions:

- Death certificates for both parents, or death certificate for primary parent with affidavit confirming that the whereabouts of the remaining parent are unknown and that he/she plays no role in the child's life.

## Grant-in-aid

- The applicant must be in receipt of an Older Persons grant, Disability grant or a War Veterans grant, and require regular attendance 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 ID document, smart ID or birth certificate for the 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. Refugees can provide the Section 24 permit as proof of refugee status and identity.

**Note:** *The income of foster parents will not be taken into consideration when they apply for the care dependency grant for their foster child.*

## 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;
- The child must be younger than 18 years;
- Must provide a birth certificate for the child;
- Must provide a 13 digit barcoded identity document or smart ID card for the applicant and his/her spouse. In the absence of these documents, an application can still be made;
- Applicant must be the primary care giver of the child/children concerned;
- 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;
- It should be noted that one of the intentions of the child support grant is to ensure that children attend and complete schooling. It is therefore a requirement that a school enrolment certificate be produced for children aged between 7 and

## 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; with letter from you as applicant authorizing the application;
- Your application form will be completed in the presence of an official from SASSA unless it was done online;
- When your application is completed you will be given a receipt or reference number;
- Applications for older person grants, child support grants or foster child grants can be done online at <https://services.sassa.gov.za>
- Keep this receipt/reference number as 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 appeal the decision
- The staff at the local office will advise on the process to follow.

## Date Of Award Of Grants

If your grant is approved, you will be paid from the date on which you submitted a complete application, 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, as well as your right to appeal the decision, should you not agree with the outcome.

## Methods Of Payment

You have the right to choose how you wish to receive your social grant, You can either have the grant paid directly into your own personal bank account, or you can have the grant paid into the card account opened with the South

African Post Office (SAPO) . If you wish to use your own account, you will be liable for all costs related to that account, If you use the SAPO card, then there are no costs to you, unless you use the card for services in excess of those SASSA pays for.

**Note:** *If you choose to have the grant paid into your own account, you will be requested to complete a form confirming the bank account details. If you choose to receive your grant in the SAPO card, you will be enrolled and issued the card at a post office.*

## Suspension Of Grants

Every grant beneficiary has the responsibility to inform SASSA of any change in his/her circumstances – whether this is a change of address, change of marital status, change of financial position, or the child for whom he/she receives a grant is no longer in his/her care.

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

Should a grant be lapsed because it was not collected for more than 3 consecutive months, an application must be made for restoration of that grant within 90 days of the suspension.

## Main Reasons For Lapsing Of Grants

- When the beneficiary or primary care giver dies;
- Admission to a State Institution;
- 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.
- If the grant was not collected for 3 consecutive months.

## 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 30 days in advance of the date of the review or the date on which the life certificate is due.

## Life Certificates

You may be asked to provide life status confirmation (proof of life) once per year. You will be informed in advance of the requirements.

## 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, are resident in South Africa and meet one or more of the following criteria:

- The applicant is awaiting payment of an approved social grant;
- The breadwinner has been assessed to be disabled for a period of less than 6 months;

- The breadwinner of that household has died and an application is made within 12 months following the death of the breadwinner;
- The breadwinner has been admitted to a public or private institution for a period of at least one month;
- The breadwinner does not receive any maintenance from a person legally obliged to pay maintenance to him or her;
- The applicant has been affected by a disaster as defined in the Disaster Management Act or the Fund Raising Act, 1978;
- In cases where the applicant experiences undue hardship, and meets the requirements as set in the SRD procedure manual, he/she may qualify for the social relief of distress grant of R350 per month.

## 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 at a time may be granted if the applicant meets the criteria as set.

**Note:** *No person who is in receipt of a social grant may receive the grant and social relief of distress simultaneously. Any person who receives social relief while awaiting payment of an approved grant will be expected to repay the amount received from the first payment of the grant. 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. It is a beneficiary's responsibly to safeguard his/her social grant card and not to divulge the PIN to anyone. SASSA will never request the PIN in any dealings with the beneficiaries.

## 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 as well as his/her spouse 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 type to another.

**Note:** *Grants for older persons, war veterans and disabled are paid on a sliding scale. that is, the more private income you have, the smaller the government support you may qualify for.*

## Asset And Income Threshold

|   | 01 April 2021 | 01 April 2022 | 01 October 2022 |
|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>Asset threshold</b>                                    |               |               |                 |
| <b>Older person's, disability and war veteran's grant</b> | -             | -             | -               |
| Single person   | R 1,247,400   | R 1,306,800   | R 1,313,400     |
| Married person  | R 2,494,800   | R 2,613,600   | R 2,626,800     |
| <b>Income threshold per annum</b>                         |               |               |                 |
| <b>Older person's, disability and war veteran's grant</b> |               |               |                 |
| Single person   | R 87,720      | R 92,040      | R 92,520        |
| Married person  | R 175,440     | R 184,080     | R 185,040       |
| <b>Child support grant</b>                                |               |               |                 |
| Single  | R 55,200      | R 57,600      | R57 600         |
| Married   | R 110,400     | R 115,200     | R115 200        |
| *Means test also same for Additional payment (01/04/2022) |               |               |                 |
| <b>Foster child grant</b>                                 |               |               |                 |
| Child   | No means test | No means test | No means test   |
| <b>Care-dependency grant</b>                              |               |               |                 |
| Parent/PCG: Single  | R 226,800     | R 237,600     | R 238,800       |
| Parent/PCG: Married                                       | R 453,600     | R 475,200     | R 477,600       |

## Amounts of grants as at April 2022

| Grant Type  | October 2021 | April 2022 | October 2022 |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Old Age Grant (Below 75 years)                                    | R1 890       | R1 980     | R1 990       |
| Old Age Grant (Above 75 years)                                    | R1 910       | R2 000     | R2 010       |
| War Veteran's Grant   | R1 890       | R2 000     | R2 010       |
| Disability Grant  | R1 890       | R1 980     | R1 990       |
| Care Dependency Grant   | R1 890       | R1 980     | R1 990       |
| Foster Child Grant  | R1 050       | R1 070     | R1 070       |
| Child Support Grant   | R460         | R480       | R480         |
| Extended child support grant for care givers of orphaned children | 0            | R720       | R720         |
| Grant In Aid  | R460         | R480       | R480         |

# CONTACT DETAILS

## SASSA HEAD OFFICE

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501 Prodinsa Building  
Cnr Steve Biko & Pretorius  
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Arcadia,  
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Tel: 0800 60 1011 (Customer Care)

## EASTERN CAPE

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## WESTERN CAPE

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## LIMPOPO

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Fax: 015 291 7996

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## NORTH WEST

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

