

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director and
State Medicaid Director

MDL #22-03

MEDICAID DIRECTOR LETTER

TO: All Interested Parties

DATE: April 18, 2022

**SUBJECT: Child and Adolescent Supplemental Security Income Program (CASSIP):
Procedure to Request Disability Determination for Non-SSI Recipients of
D.C. Medicaid**

Purpose

This Medicaid Director Letter (MDL) updates MDL #21-02 to announce that effective February 1, 2022, DHCF's contractor, Comagine Inc., began serving as its authorized agent to make all clinical disability determinations for individuals seeking voluntary enrollment in CASSIP on such basis. To be eligible for voluntary enrollment into CASSIP, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Be actively enrolled in the D.C. Medicaid program at the time of the CASSIP enrollment request; and
2. Be under the age of 21 years old; and
3. Be an active receipt of SSI; **or**
4. Be determined by DHCF or its authorized agent to meet the disability definition and criteria adapted from the Social Security Administration (SSA).
 - a. For purposes of CASSIP enrollment, a D.C. Medicaid beneficiary under the age of 21, is considered disabled if they have a "medically determinable physical or mental impairment or combination of impairments (MDI) that causes marked and severe functional limitations, and that can be expected to cause death or that has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months."¹

A formal Transmittal will be issued by DHCF in the following weeks, which will outline the procedures for making disability determination requests directly to Comagine, Inc., as well as the clinical determination guidelines applicable to such determinations. Until such Transmittal is issued, please submit the CASSIP Provider Referral Form and accompanying medical records to Cavella Bishop of DHCF, cavella.bishop@dc.gov, who will then forward the request to Comagine, Inc. for evaluation and determination.

¹ See 20 C.F.R. § 416.906

Sincerely,

Melisa Byrd, Senior Deputy Director/State Medicaid Director
District of Columbia Government, Department of Health Care Finance

Cc: DC Hospital Association
DC Primary Care Association
DC Health Care Association
DC Home Health Association
DC Behavioral Health Association
DC Coalition of Disability Service Providers
Medical Society of DC