

## Special Medicaid Protections for Childhood Disability Beneficiaries (CDB)

A project of  
Disability Rights Oregon



Section 1634(c) of the Social Security Act requires States to consider title II childhood disability beneficiaries (CDBs) who lose SSI or 1619(b) eligibility as if they were still SSI recipients for Medicaid purposes, so long as they would have remained otherwise eligible for SSI/1619(b) benefits but for their entitlement to (or increases in) CDB benefits on or after July 1, 1987. This protection is afforded only to individuals who lost SSI or 1619(b) eligibility because of becoming eligible for or getting an increase in the CDB payment.

### How Social Security Informs Beneficiaries of Possible 1634(c) Continued Medicaid Eligibility

When SSA sends former SSI recipients their notice indicating that SSI benefits will cease due to establishing eligibility for or receiving an increase in CDB payments, special language is included in the letter indicating that it may be possible to retain Medicaid.



State Medicaid agencies make the eligibility determinations for special Medicaid coverage - not SSA. Beneficiaries need to take the notice from SSA to the local agency that makes Medicaid eligibility determinations and apply for special Medicaid coverage.

There is no time limit for establishing eligibility for special Medicaid coverage as a former SSI recipient who lost SSI due to CDB payments or increases in CDB benefits. If this coverage is not obtained when the SSI benefits are first stopped, beneficiaries can apply for it at a later date and be found eligible. However, special Medicaid coverage is not retroactive prior to the date of initial application.