



Clark County Family Services

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Clark County Family Services Policy

SUBJECT:

Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI), and Veteran's Administration (VA) Benefits Referrals

Effective Date	Amendment Number	Amendment Effective Date
9/12/2024	1	9/22/2026

SCOPE:

Referral and oversight process for Social Security Income, Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance, and Veteran's Administration Benefits.

SPECIFIC LEGAL and OTHER REFERENCES:

[NAC 432B](#)

[NRS 432B](#)

PROGRAMS IMPACTED:

Adoption-Permanency
Eligibility
Nevada Initial Assessment
Permanency

SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

Updated to include the new requirements of [Senate Bill 284](#) from the 2025 Nevada Legislature.

DEFINITIONS:

For a list of acronyms and a glossary of terms used throughout CCFS refer to Acronyms and Glossary located on DFSNet.

FORMS, PUBLICATIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL (FPI) DOCUMENTS:

[A Guide for Representative Payees](#) (Social Security Administration Document available on FPI Library)

[SSA-11 Payee Application Form](#) (SSA Document)

[SSI/RSDI Referral Form](#) (UNITY)

SSI, RSDI, VA Benefits P&P FAQ (FPI Library)

POLICY:

- I. Children and youth may be eligible for certain federal benefits including Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Retirement, Survivors, Disability and Death Insurance (RSDI), and Veterans Administration (VA) benefits. Ultimate eligibility for these benefits is determined by the Social Security Administration. CCFS' responsibility is to identify and refer children who may be eligible, and to identify and recommend a suitable payee.
- II. Children and youth that are disabled or whose parent may be retired, disabled, or deceased may be eligible for benefits from the Social Security Administration (SSA). There are two (2) types of social security benefits that may be available to the child.
 - A. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is for children who have a physical or mental condition that seriously limits their activities, and the condition must have lasted, or is expected to last, at least one year or result in death.

- B.** Retirement, Survivors, Disability and Death Insurance (RSDI) is for children whose parents are retired, disabled, or deceased.
- C.** Eligibility for SSI/RSDI is determined by the Social Security Administration District office.
1. A child may be eligible for SSI benefits if they have one of the following circumstances apply:
 - a. Placed in or referred for a Higher Level of Care placement; or
 - b. Receiving or referred for a Medically Fragile rate; or
 - c. Receiving or referred for clinical services related to a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED); or
 - d. Has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), or
 - e. Demonstrate behavioral problems with numerous placement changes as a result; or
 - f. Has psychological or emotional concerns or conditions; or
 - g. Requires frequent medical attention; or
 - h. Has physical, behavioral, or mental conditions that have lasted or are expected to last at least one (1) year or may result in death.
 2. A child who may be eligible for RSDI benefits if the following circumstances apply:
 - a. Child whose parent is deceased, retired, or disabled; and
 - b. The child must be a United States citizen.
- III.** Surviving or dependent children and youth whose parents have served in the armed forces may be eligible for benefits from the Veterans Administration.
- IV.** CCFS is responsible for recommending a potential SSI/RSDI representative payee in consultation with the child, any parent whose rights have not been terminated, and the attorney for the child. The following applies when determining who is eligible to be recommended as the representative payee:
- A.** If the child is currently residing with their parent, the parent should be the recommended representative payee.
 - B.** If the child is in Clark Custody and over seventeen and one half (17 ½) years old, the child may be considered as the recommended representative payee.
 - C.** If the child is in Clark Custody and is placed with a relative or fictive kin caregiver:
 1. If the relative or fictive kin is unlicensed at time of placement, the caregiver should be recommended as the representative payee to utilize the benefit for the immediate care and maintenance of the child.
 2. If the relative or fictive kin is a licensed foster parent at the time of placement, they must demonstrate a long-term commitment to the child with placement of the child for at least six (6) months before they should be recommended as the representative payee.
 - a. Does not apply to a caregiver licensed by a Specialized Foster Care agency.
 - D.** If the child is in Clark Custody and is placed with a caregiver licensed by a Specialized Foster Care agency, CCFS should be the recommended representative payee.
 - E.** If the child is in Clark Custody and is placed with a licensed foster parent that did not have a prior relationship with the child, and that does not have a long-term commitment to the child including at least six (6) months of placement of the child, CCFS should be the recommended representative payee.
 - F.** If the child is in Clark Custody and is placed in detention, a hospital, Child Haven, or there is no person suitable to be the representative payee, CCFS should be the recommended representative payee.
 - G.** A person may not be considered suitable if they have been convicted of theft or fraud.
- V.** Representative payees recommended by CCFS and approved by the Social Security Administration assume specific responsibilities regarding the disbursement and documentation of SSI or RSDI funds. Refer to [A Guide for Representative Payees](#) (Social Security Administration Document available on FPI Library) for further information. CCFS provides training for representative payees regarding SSA and CCFS documentation requirements.

Stacie Dastrup, Director
Clark County Family Services

July 28, 2026

Approved Date