

Impact of Criminal Record on Public Benefits in Pennsylvania

	Outstanding warrant or fleeing prosecution	Any probation or parole violation	Unpaid fines, court costs, or restitution	Currently incarcerated
TANF^{1, 2}	Ineligible for failure to appear for any criminal court case (including misdemeanors) until resolved.	Ineligible until resolved.	Ineligible unless up-to-date with approved payment plan.	Ineligible.
Federally-funded MA³	Not relevant	Not relevant.	Not relevant.	Ineligible.
General Assistance-related MA³	Ineligible for failure to appear for any criminal court case (including misdemeanors) until resolved.	Ineligible until resolved.	Ineligible unless up-to-date with approved payment plan.	Ineligible.
SSI	Ineligible if have a felony warrant for flight or escape; otherwise not relevant.	Ineligible if <u>adjudicated</u> guilty of parole/probation violation. If just a warrant for VoP, not relevant.	Not relevant unless violates a condition of probation or parole.	Ineligible for benefits. Not required to reapply for benefits if incarcerated for less than a year – benefits are in suspended status.
SSD	Ineligible if have a felony warrant for flight or escape; otherwise not relevant. Family members are still entitled to benefits.	Ineligible if <u>adjudicated</u> guilty of parole/probation violation. If just a warrant for VoP, not relevant. Family members are still entitled to benefits.	Not relevant unless violates a condition of probation or parole.	Ineligible if convicted of a criminal offense and incarcerated for more than 30 continuous days. Family members are still entitled to benefits. Not required to reapply on release – benefits are in suspended status only.
SNAP (Food Stamps)	Ineligible if have a felony warrant for flight or escape; otherwise, not relevant.	Ineligible until resolved.	Not relevant unless violates a condition of probation or parole.	Ineligible.

¹ State welfare fraud convictions carry the following disqualification periods:

- First time: ineligible for TANF for 6 months;
- Second time: ineligible for TANF for 12 months; and
- Third time: permanently ineligible for TANF.

² Not eligible for TANF, SNAP, or SSI for ten years after a conviction for making a fraudulent statement or representation regarding your state of residence in order to receive assistance from more than one state.

³ All MA in Pennsylvania is now federally-funded with the small exception of MA for certain immigrants who have been in the United States less than five years and who are not refugees, asylees, or trafficking victims. This small group is eligible for General-Assistance-related MA.