

Social Security Administration

§ 418.3425

that the value of your resources has changed as described in § 418.3120.

(b) *Equity value.* Resources, other than cash, are evaluated according to your (and your spouse's, if any) equity in the resources. For purposes of this subpart, the equity value of an item is defined as the price for which that item, minus any encumbrances, can reasonably be expected to sell on the open market in the particular geographic area involved.

(c) *Relationship of income to resources.* Cash you receive during a month is evaluated under the rules for counting income during the month of receipt. If you retain the cash until the first moment of the following month, the cash is countable as a resource unless it is otherwise excludable.

§ 418.3420 How are funds held in financial institution accounts counted?

(a) *Owner of the account.* Funds held in a financial institution account (including savings, checking, and time deposits also known as certificates of deposit) are considered your resources if you own the account and can use the funds for your support and maintenance. We determine whether you own the account and can use the funds by looking at how the account is held.

(b) *Individually-held account.* If you are designated as the sole owner by the account title and you can withdraw and use funds from that account for your support and maintenance, all of that account's funds are your resource regardless of the source. For as long as these conditions are met, we presume that you own 100 percent of the funds in the account. This presumption is not rebuttable.

(c) *Jointly-held account.* (1) If you are the only subsidy claimant or subsidy recipient who is an account holder on a jointly held account, we presume that all of the funds in the account belong to you. If more than one subsidy claimant or subsidy recipient are account holders, we presume that the funds in the account belong to those individuals in equal shares.

(2) If you disagree with the ownership presumption as described in paragraph (c)(1) of this section, you may rebut the presumption. Rebuttal is a procedure

which permits you to furnish evidence and establish that some or all of the funds in a jointly-held account do not belong to you.

§ 418.3425 What resources do we exclude from counting?

In determining your resources (and the resources of your spouse, if any) the following items shall be excluded:

(a) *Your home.* For purposes of this exclusion, a home is any property in which you (and your spouse, if any) have an ownership interest and which serves as your principal place of residence. This property includes the shelter in which an individual resides, the land on which the shelter is located, and outbuildings;

(b) *Non-liquid resources, other than nonhome real property.* Non-liquid resources are resources that are not liquid resources as defined in § 418.3405. Irrevocable burial trusts and the irrevocable portion of prepaid burial contracts are considered non-liquid resources;

(c) Property of a trade or business which is essential to the means of self-support as provided in § 416.1222 of this chapter;

(d) Nonbusiness property which is essential to the means of self-support as provided in § 416.1224 of this chapter;

(e) Stock in regional or village corporations held by natives of Alaska during the twenty-year period in which the stock is inalienable pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (see § 416.1228 of this chapter);

(f) Life insurance owned by an individual (and spouse, if any) to the extent provided in § 416.1230 of this chapter;

(g) Restricted allotted Indian lands as provided in § 416.1234 of this chapter;

(h) Payments or benefits provided under a Federal statute where exclusion is required by such statute;

(i) Disaster relief assistance as provided in § 416.1237 of this chapter;

(j) Funds up to \$1,500 for the individual and \$1,500 for the spouse who lives with the individual if these funds are expected to be used for burial expenses of the individual and spouse;

(k) Burial spaces, as provided in § 416.1231(a) of this chapter;