

of Public Law 89-97 establish the conditions for entitlement to hospital insurance benefits. Sections 202 (t) and (u) of the Act specify limitations that apply to certain aliens and to persons convicted of certain offenses.

[48 FR 12536, Mar. 25, 1983. Redesignated at 51 FR 41338, Nov. 14, 1986, as amended at 56 FR 38078, Aug. 12, 1991]

§ 406.2 Scope.

Subparts A through D of this part specify the conditions of eligibility for hospital insurance and set forth certain specific conditions that affect entitlement to benefits. Hospital insurance is authorized under Part A of title XVIII and is also referred to as Medicare Part A. It includes inpatient hospital care, posthospital SNF care, home health services, and hospice care.

[48 FR 56026, Dec. 16, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 33033, Aug. 16, 1985. Redesignated and amended at 51 FR 41338, Nov. 14, 1986]

§ 406.3 Definitions.

First month of eligibility means the first month in which an individual meets all the requirements for entitlement to hospital insurance except application or enrollment if that is required.

First month of entitlement means the first month for which the individual meets all the requirements for entitlement to Part A benefits.

Insured individual means an individual who has the number of quarters of coverage required for monthly social security benefits.

Quarter of coverage means a calendar quarter that is counted toward the number of covered quarters required to make the individual eligible for monthly social security benefits. A quarter is counted if during that quarter (or that calendar year) the individual earned a required minimum amount of money. (For details, see 20 CFR part 404, subpart B.)

§ 406.5 Basis of eligibility and entitlement.

(a) *Hospital insurance without premiums.* Hospital insurance is available to most individuals without payment of a premium if they:

- (1) Are age 65 or over, or

(2) Have received social security or railroad retirement disability benefits for 25 months; or

(3) Have end-stage renal disease. Subpart B of this part explains the requirements such individuals must meet to obtain hospital insurance without premiums.

(b) *Premium hospital insurance.* Many individuals who are age 65 or over, but do not meet the requirements set forth in subpart B of this part, and certain individuals under age 65, may obtain the benefits by paying a premium. Section 406.20 of this part explains the requirements individuals must meet to obtain premium hospital insurance.

[48 FR 12536, Mar. 25, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 33033, Aug. 16, 1985; 56 FR 38078, Aug. 12, 1991]

§ 406.6 Application or enrollment for hospital insurance.

(a) *Basic provision.* In most cases, eligibility for Medicare Part A is a result of entitlement to monthly social security or railroad retirement cash benefits or eligibility for monthly social security cash benefits. This section specifies the individuals who need not file an application to become entitled to hospital insurance, those who must file an application, and those who must enroll.

(b) *Individuals who need not file an application for hospital insurance.* An individual who meets any of the following conditions need not file an application for hospital insurance:

(1) Is under age 65 and has been entitled, for more than 24 months, to monthly social security or railroad retirement benefits based on disability.

(2) At the time of attainment of age 65, is entitled to monthly social security or railroad retirement benefits.

(3) Establishes entitlement to monthly social security or railroad retirement benefits at any time after attaining age 65.

(c) *Individuals who must file an application for hospital insurance.* An individual must file an application for hospital insurance if he or she seeks entitlement to hospital insurance on the basis of—

(1) The transitional provisions set forth in § 406.11;