

16 MA Eligible Date - Overview

The eligible begin date for MA applicants begins with the first day of the approval month.

EXCEPTION

The MA eligible begin date IS NOT the first day of the approval month in the following situations:

- A [Deemed Newborn](#) - MA eligibility begins with the date of birth.
- The [MD](#) category - MA eligibility begins with the date spenddown is met or the first day of the application month.
- Move into state - MA eligibility begins the date Arizona residency is established.
- Inmates release from jail or prison - MA eligibility begins with the date of release.
- Release from [Arizona State Hospital](#) - MA eligibility begins with the date of release.

Applicants who are inmates or residents of the Arizona State Hospital (ASH) may apply for MA during the month they are released.

NOTE Inmates may apply for MA before they are released. [Research and Analysis \(RA\)](#) determines eligibility for ASH pre-release residents.

To ensure that the correct date of eligibility is transmitted to AHCCCS for applicants who were inmates or residents of ASH, the EI MUST complete the all of the following:

- Verify the date the applicant was released.
- Key one of the following in the RELEASE FROM field on RESE:
J-Released from jail or prison
I-Released from [ASH](#)
(See Example [Date of Eligibility 1](#))
- Key the date of their release in the RELEASE DATE field on RESE.
(See Example [Date of Eligibility 2](#))

When the application date is in the month prior to the release date, change the BEN PRORATION DATE on APMA to the release date.
(See Example [Date of Eligibility 3](#))

FAA transmits the correct MA eligibility date to AHCCCS when the RELEASE FROM and RELEASE DATE fields are keyed correctly.

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