



Financially **SMART**

SOCIAL GRANTS



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Words and meanings •

Assets

These are possessions such as buildings, furniture, vehicles, etc.

Dependant / Dependency

A person who relies on another, especially a family member, for financial support.

Disability

A physical or mental condition that limits a persons' movements, senses or activities.

Foster Care

Temporary care provided by people who act as a guardian to a child who has lost their parents or whose parents are unable to look after them.

Income

Money that comes in (your earnings). For example, your salary, grant, overtime income, etc.

Government pension

A social grant that the government pays to people of retirement age for example. There is certain criteria that will have to be met in order to apply for a monthly grant from the Government.

SASSA

South African Social Security Agency is a national agency of the government created in April 2005 in order to distribute social grants on behalf of the Department of Social Development to South African citizens who are in destitute situations for example.

Social Grant

This is an amount of money paid by the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) to people who have a disability, people who cannot support their children (child grant) or older people (pension).



Grant stories: Child support grant

The尔ma's story

The尔ma's sister passed away last year.

She is now raising her 14-year-old niece on her own.

She is a receptionist at a local business and earns R3,000 per month.

The尔ma is single and with the extra expenses of caring for her niece and educating her, she is struggling to pay for everything.

The尔ma can get a child support grant of R410 per month to help her.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I currently live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the child live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Does the child live with me? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Am I the primary care giver of a child who is 17 years old or younger? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. If I am single, do I earn less than R4,000 per month? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. If I am married, and I add my earnings with my partner, do we earn less than R8,000 per month? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- If the child lives in an orphanage or foster care you cannot apply. The care-dependent child/children must not be permanently cared for in an institution funded by the state.
- You may only apply for a grant for a maximum of 6 children, unless you are the biological parent or you have legally adopted the children.
- The grant will stop when the child turns 18.



Grant stories: Care dependency grant

Cyril's story

Cyril's 10-year-old son is in a wheelchair and the doctor has said that he will never walk again.

Cyril's wife cares for their son at home.

Cyril earns R15,000 per month as a school teacher.

With the extra trips to the doctor and his son's medication it is difficult to make it through the month.

Cyril can get a care dependency grant of R1,700 per month to help his family with the extra expenses.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I currently live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the child live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Does the child live with me? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Does the child have one of the following disabilities: | | |
| • Physical, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Mental, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Psychiatric, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Intellectual, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Sensory disabilities. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Do I have a medical officer's report that is less than 3 months old in order to prove the disability? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Have I gone to a SASSA's accredited medical doctor / professional? Find one here: www.sassa.gov.za | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Is the child under the age of 18? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. If I am single, do I earn less than R16,900 per month? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. If I am married, and I add my earnings with my partner, do we earn less than R32,800 per month? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- If the child lives in an orphanage or foster care you cannot apply.
- If this disability prevents this person from getting a job you cannot apply.
- If the disability is temporary, you will need to be re-evaluated and the doctor will tell you when you need to go back for this examination.



Grant stories: Foster child grant

Matito's story

Matito wants to give back to her community.

Matito has no children and therefore, decides to apply to foster a child from the local orphanage.

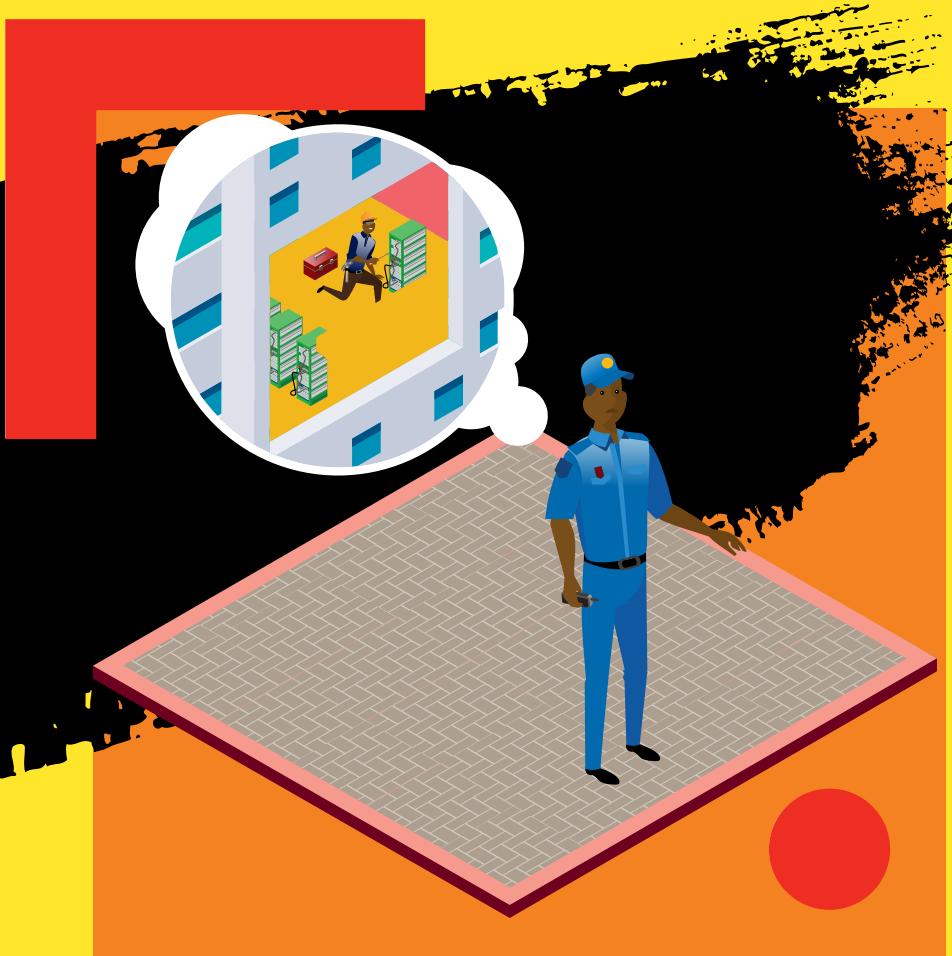
Matito is waiting for the court order to confirm that she is a foster caregiver.

Once Matito has this court order, she can get a foster child grant of R960 per month to help with the extra expenses.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I currently live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the child live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Does the child live with me? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Is the child 17 years old or younger? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Do you have a court order indicating you are the foster caregiver for the child? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Grant stories: Disability grant

Nkosi's story

Nkosi is a 45-year old electrician.

Nkosi was in an accident and a medical officer has told him that he will never be able to use his right hand again.

Nkosi can no longer work in his trade so he has found a job as a security officer at the local mall, where he earns R4,300.

Nkosi can get a disability grant of R1,700 per month.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do I currently live in South Africa? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Am I between the age of 18 and 59? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Do I have a medical officer's report to prove I have a disability that is not older than 3 months? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. If I am single, do I earn less than R6,510 per month? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. If I am married, and I add my earnings with my partner, do we earn less than R13,020 per month? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- You cannot apply for this grant, if:
 - You receive any other social grants.
 - You are cared for in a state institution.
- If the disability is temporary, you will need to be re-evaluated and the doctor will tell you when you need to go back for this examination.



Grant stories: Grant in aid

Tumi's story

Tumi is receiving an older person's grant.
Tumi fell down the stairs and broke her hip.
Tumi now needs to have her sister look after her.
Tumi needs to pay her sister to look after her.
Tumi can get a grant in aid of R410 per month to help her sister financially.

Can I also get this grant?

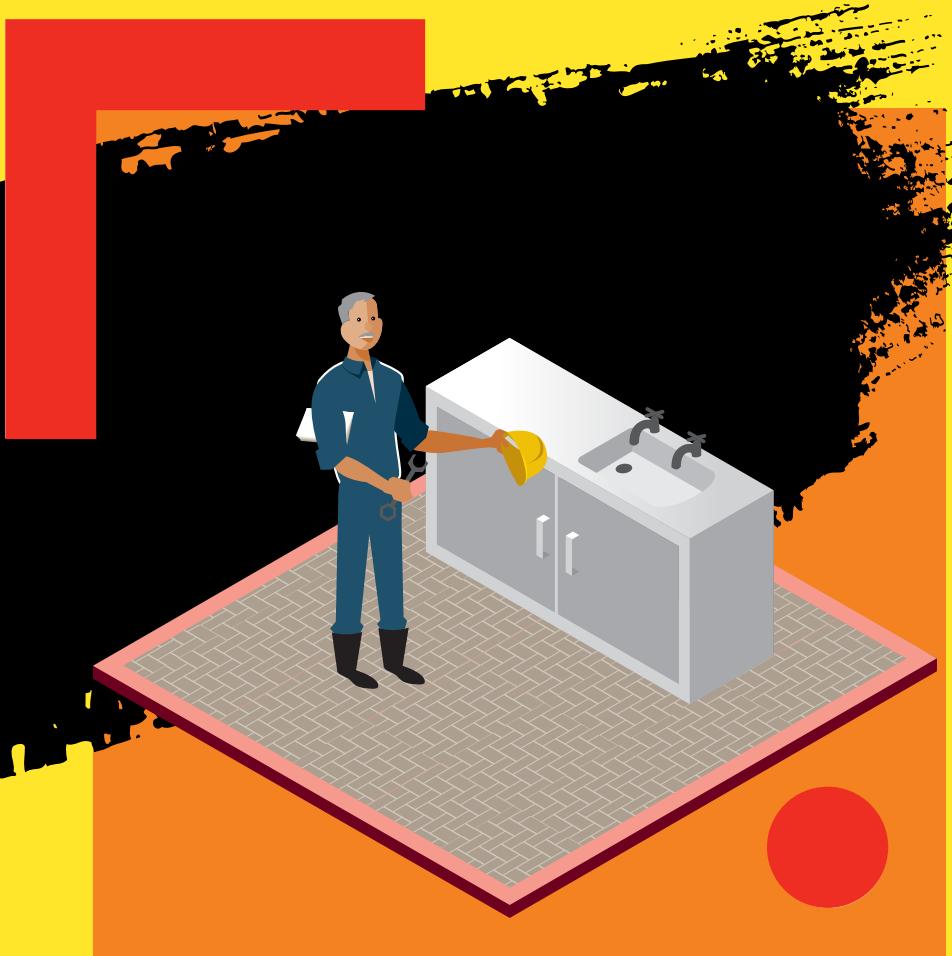
If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee? Yes No
2. Do I currently live in South Africa? Yes No
3. Do I receive a disability, older persons or war veterans grant? Yes No
4. Am I unable to look after myself? Yes No
5. Do I have a medical officer's report to prove I cannot look after myself that is not older than 3 months? Yes No



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- You cannot apply for this grant if you are cared for in a state institution.
- If the disability is temporary, you will need to be re-evaluated and the doctor will tell you when you need to go back for this examination.



Grant stories: **Older person's grant (old age pension)**

Ntando's story

Ntando is a 74-year old plumber and turns 75 next month.

Ntando's wife died 5-years ago.

Ntando earns R5,500 per month.

Ntando gets an older persons grant of R1,700 per month.

When Ntando turns 75 his grant will increase to R1,720.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee?
2. Do I currently live in South Africa?
3. Am I 60 years or older?
4. If I am single, do I earn less than R6,510 per month?
5. If I am married, and I add my earnings with my partner, do we earn less than R13,020 per month?

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- You cannot apply for this grant, if:
 - You receive any other social grants.
 - You are cared for in a state institution.
- When you turn 75-years old you will receive R20 more per month.



Grant stories: War veteran's grant

Sipho's story

Sipho is a war veteran.

Sipho fought in World War II.

Sipho has never been married.

Sipho lives with his brother and only owns his clothes.

Sipho does piece work and earns R4,500 per month.

Sipho gets a war veterans grant of R1,720 per month.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

1. Did I fight in World War I, World War II or the Korean War? Yes No
2. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee? Yes No
3. Do I currently live in South Africa? Yes No
4. Am I 60 years or older or do I have a disability? Yes No
If I am single, do I earn less than R6,510 per month?
5. If I am married, and I add my earnings with my partner, do we earn less than R13,020 per month? Yes No
6. I do not have assets worth more than R 1,115,400 if I am single or R 2,230,800 if I am married. Yes No



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- You cannot apply for this grant, if:
 - You receive any other social grants.
 - You are cared for in a state institution.



Grant stories: Social relief of distress

Berta's story

Berta lives in a shack in Soweto.
Berta's shack burnt down.
Berta lost everything she owns.
Berta has no money to buy food for her family.
Berta can get a grant for a period of 3 months.

Can I also get this grant?

If you answer yes to all of these questions, you can apply for this grant.

1. Am I a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee?
 2. Do I currently live in South Africa?
 3. I do not receive any other social grant.
 4. Have one or more of the following happened to me?
 - Am I awaiting payment of an approved social grant?
 - Am I not fit to work for less than six months due to medical reasons?
 - Have I not received legal maintenance that was due to me?
 - Has the breadwinner of the family died?
 - Has the breadwinner of the family been in prison for less than six months?
 - Has the breadwinner of the family been in a state institution?
 - Have I lost everything because of a flood or fire?

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THINGS TO REMEMBER

- This grant can be in the form of:
 - Food parcels.
 - Voucher.
 - Money.
 - This grant is only for 3 months. The government will only give another 3 months grant in very bad cases. They will decide whether the case is bad enough.

How to apply for a social grant •



Apply at the SASSA office nearest to you



You will need:

- ID card
- Proof of income (if you are receiving an income)
- **If you have a disability** - medical doctor / practitioners report
- **If you are applying for a child** - original birth certificate
- **If you are married** -
 - Your spouses ID document,
 - Proof of spousal relationship (marriage certificate, divorce order, a sworn statement, or spouse's death certificate)
 - Sworn statement or affidavit stating the income and assets of yourself and your spouse
 - 3 months bank statements of both partners if married in community of property



An officer will assist you with completing the appropriate application form.

4



When you hand in your application form, you will be given a receipt. This is the proof you submitted your application.

5



When the application is processed, you will receive written notification of the outcome. A letter will be sent to the address given on your application form.

6



The application process takes up to 90 days, and your first payment will include back-pay for the time you wait to receive the grant. This is calculated from the first day of application.

If your grant is approved, you will be paid from the date on which you applied.
For example:
If you apply in May, and it takes 90 days to process your application. You will get back pay.
E.g. R2000 May
R2000 June
R2000 July
You will get R2000 for August plus the above (R6000)

7



If your grant application is successful, you will receive a SASSA card where your money will be deposited each month.



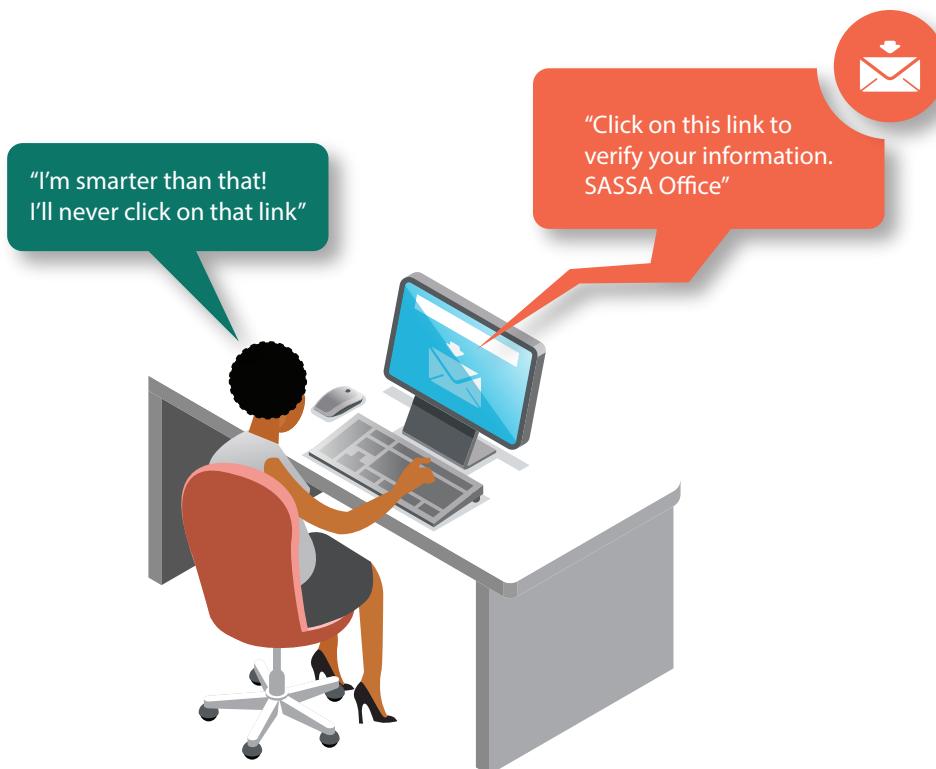
THINGS TO REMEMBER

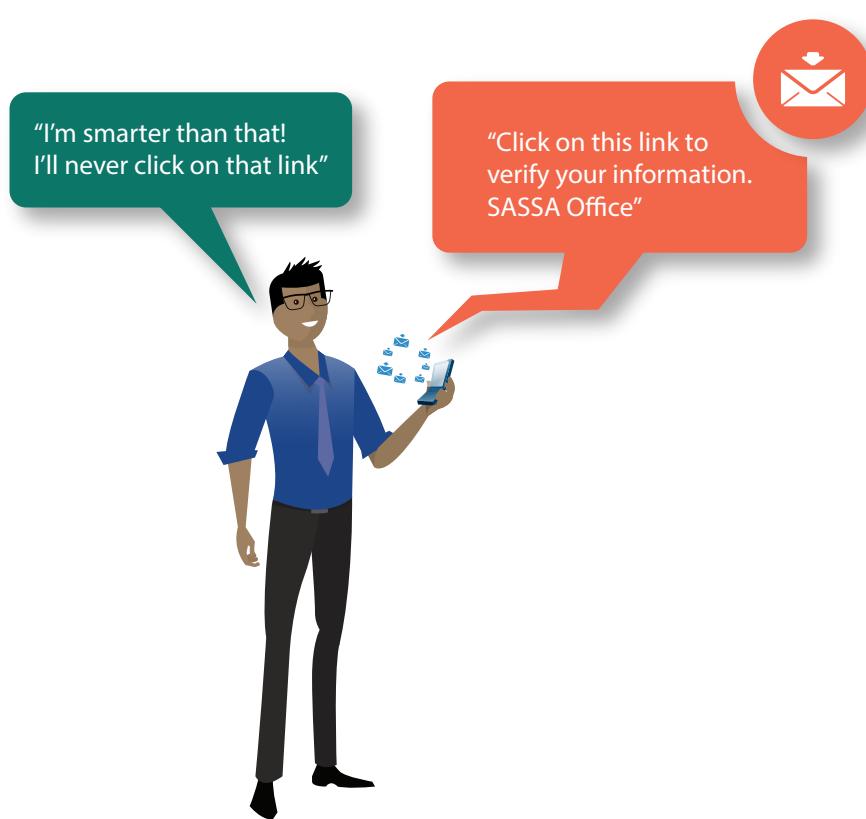
- Remember, you will need money for transport to get to the SASSA office.
- You may need to visit the offices more than once.
- Remember your important documentation.

Scams •

Don't get caught out in a scam

- Never give out any personal information like your bank account number, your ID number or your bank pin.
- Never click on a link in an email if you do not know who sent it or if you suspect that the source of the email is not legitimate.
- Never respond to an email or SMS with any of your SASSA related or personal information.
- Do not believe everything you see, beware of SMS's. Scam artists use SMS to scam anyone.
- Never give anyone your pin number.
- Never give anyone your SASSA card.
- Never give someone money to apply for a grant for you. You can nominate someone to go and apply for the grant if you are too ill or unable to do so yourself.





FAQs •

Questions & Answers

1. How will I receive my grant?
2. Can I apply for a social grant if I am not a South African citizen?
3. What if my ID card is lost or stolen?
4. Can I apply online?
5. Can I fill in the application form at home?
6. What if I cannot go to the SASSA office to apply?
7. Do I have to pay for the application?
8. Do I need to go to the police station to get an affidavit?

You will be given a SASSA card which works and looks like a bank card.

You can apply if you are a permanent resident or refugee.

If you have lost your ID card and do not have any identification you must get an affidavit from the police station stating that you have lost your ID card. The affidavit must include your ID number.

No, you must go to the SASSA office nearest to you.

This form must be completed in front of the SASSA officer (The form cannot be completed and brought to the office).

If you are too old or too sick to apply for the grant at the office you may have a friend or family member apply on your behalf. You can also arrange for a home visit, although you may wait a while for this.

The application is free and you can get the forms from the SASSA's offices.

When affidavits are required, SASSA will provide the affidavits for you to complete.



Questions & Answers

9. What do I do if I am not happy with the outcome of the application?
10. What can I do with my SASSA card?
11. Will I have to pay to use my SASSA card?
12. When do I receive my grant?
13. Can I put money into my SASSA card?
14. If I draw money from a till point do I need to spend money in that shop?
15. Can I get more than one grant at a time?

If your grant was not approved and you are not happy you can ask them to look at your application again, you can appeal. You have 90 days to submit your appeal.

Your SASSA card is like a debit card. You can make purchases, check your balance or withdraw cash at till points wherever MasterCard is accepted.

If you withdraw money at a till point, you will not have to pay any transaction costs on your SASSA card. But, if you withdraw money with your card at ATMs, you will be charged transaction charges.

Once a month usually on the 1st of the month.

You and other people can also deposit money into this account.

No, if you draw money at a till point in a Spar, for example, you do not need to spend your money in the Spar.

You may qualify for more than one of the grants, for example, you may have a child and can claim a child support grant but you are also looking after your mother, so you can claim a care dependency grant.

Contact details •

SASSA offices

SASSA Hotline 0800 601 011

Head office

501 Prodinsa Building
Cnr Steve Biko and Pretorius Streets, Pretoria
Phone: 0800 60 10 11 (toll free) or
012 400 2000 (switchboard)
email: GrantEnquiries@sassa.gov.za

North West

1st Industrial Site
Mahikeng, 2735
Tel: 018 388 0060 Fax: 086 611 9740
email: GrantEnquiriesNW@sassa.gov.za

Free State

Iustitia Building
Cnr St. Andrews Street & Aliwal Street
Bloemfontein
Phone: 051 410 0804/5 Fax: 051 409 0862
email: GrantEnquiriesFS@sassa.gov.za

Western Cape

Golden Acre
Adderley Street
Cape Town, 8001
Tel: 021 469 0200 Fax: 021 469 0260
email: GrantEnquiriesWC@sassa.gov.za

Limpopo

43 Landros Mare Street
Polokwane, 0699
Tel: 015 291 7400 Fax: 015 291 7416
email: GrantEnquiriesLIM@sassa.gov.za

SASSA Offices

Monday – Friday 07h30-16h00
Saturday & Sunday: Closed
Anti-fraud: 0800 701 701
Toll free: 0800 60 10 11
Website: www.sassa.gov.za

Eastern Cape

BKB Building
Cnr Fitzpatrick and Merino Road
Quigney
Tel: 043 707 6300 Fax: 043 707 6487
email: GrantEnquiriesEC@sassa.gov.za

Kwa-Zulu Natal

1 Bank Street
Pietermaritzburg, 3201
Tel: 033 846 3300 Fax: 033 846 9595
email: GrantEnquiriesKZN@sassa.gov.za

Gauteng

28 Harrison Street
Johannesburg, 2000
Phone: 011 241 8300 Fax: 011 241 8305
email: GrantEnquiriesGP@sassa.gov.za

Northern Cape

Du Toitspan Building
95-97 Du Toitspan Road
Kimberley, 8301
Tel: 053 802 4900 Fax: 053 831 4038
email: GrantEnquiriesNC@sassa.gov.za



Notes •

Notes •



SOCIAL GRANTS

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The purpose of this booklet is to give you the information you need about the different Social Grants available in South Africa. You will need to make sure that you qualify for a specific Grant before you can apply.

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Financial Sector
Conduct Authority

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