



The Situation:

- James has dementia and needs Medicaid to cover his long-term care needs
- Medicaid has determined that he needs to spend-down \$500/month in order to qualify
- He can spend-down his excess income on medical needs, but he will have a difficult time paying his living expenses with the money Medicaid allows him to keep each month

The Solution:

- Instead, James can deposit his excess income into a pooled trust to meet his spend-down each month
- The trust deducts fees to administer the account and the remaining funds he deposits can be used to improve his quality of life



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Community Trust II:

Pooled Trust for Medicaid Eligibility

PURPOSE OF A POOLED TRUST:

A pooled supplemental needs trust (SNT) allows people with disabilities and seniors with disabling chronic health conditions to spend-down excess income in order to qualify for community-based Medicaid benefits, including home care and other long-term care services.

This allows people with disabilities to get the care they need and afford to pay bills to maintain independence in the community.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

People with disabilities who reside in New York can participate in a pooled trust to become financially eligible for Medicaid services if they have too much income or resources (assets) to qualify.

Medicaid will ask for proof of a disability. If you do not already receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, you may need to obtain a determination of disability to spend-down income in a pooled trust.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

You can open a trust with as little as \$300 while you await Medicaid approval or you can fund the trust with your first spend-down deposit. NYSARC charges a one-time enrollment fee that is deducted from your initial deposit and monthly administrative fees to service the account.

- \$200 one-time enrollment fee subtracted from opening deposit
- Admin fees start at \$30/month, based on amount of spend-down deposit
- \$1/month allocation fee, other bank fees are based on account balance
- \$50 tax and audit fee charged annually in July

For more information, visit nysarctrustservices.org to review the current fee schedule.

Enhancing the lives of people with disabilities since 1972

WHAT CAN THE TRUST PAY FOR?

Funds deposited into a pooled trust must be used for the sole benefit of the trust beneficiary to purchase goods and services that your benefits do not provide. For a person only receiving Community Medicaid, the trust will typically pay for living expenses, such as:

- Rent or mortgage, property maintenance, and taxes
- Utilities, cable, phone, and other bills
- Groceries, clothing, and other personal needs
- Irrevocable pre-need funeral arrangement

To utilize the funds in your trust account, you submit requests to the trust to make payments to third parties such as a licensed business or to reimburse an individual for making a purchase on your behalf.

WHY CHOOSE NYSARC TRUST SERVICES?

- Exceptional customer service available weekdays from 8 AM - 5 PM with multi-lingual support
- Online Portal and automated phone system available 24/7 to track trust activity at your convenience
- Monthly administrative fees cover all trust activity with no hidden fees or annual renewal fees
- Timely distribution processing and automatic payment options for recurring bills
- Electronic deposits make it easy to meet monthly spend-down requirement without having to mail a check
- Automated verifications of deposit sent to Medicaid and other agencies within 24 hours upon request
- Phone line dedicated exclusively for professionals to get in touch with us quickly
- Upon the death of the trust beneficiary, any funds left in the trust go to support other people with disabilities

**For more information, call us at (518) 439-8323
or visit www.nysarctrustservices.org**

About NYSARC Trust Services

NYSARC Trust Services is a non-profit organization that has been a leader in developing and administering supplemental needs trusts since 1972.

NYSARC is New York's original provider of pooled trusts to spend-down excess income for Medicaid purposes and has extensive experience helping thousands of people protect their eligibility for benefits and improve their quality of life.