

§ 416.1338 for an exception to this rule if you are participating in an appropriate vocational rehabilitation program, and § 416.261 for an explanation of special benefits for which you may be eligible.) The last month for which we can pay you benefits based on blindness is the second month after the month in which your blindness ends (see § 416.986 for when blindness ends). You must meet the income, resources, and other eligibility requirements to receive any of the benefits described in this paragraph. We will also stop payment of your benefits if you have not cooperated with us in getting information about your disability or blindness.

(b) *After we make a determination that you are not now disabled.* If we determine that you do not meet the disability requirements of the law, we will send you an advance written notice telling you why we believe you are not disabled and when your benefits should stop. The notice will explain your right to appeal if you disagree with our determination. You may still appeal our determination that you are not now disabled even though your payments are continuing because of your participation in an appropriate vocational rehabilitation program. You may also appeal a determination that your completion of or continuation for a specified period of time in an appropriate vocational rehabilitation program will not significantly increase the likelihood that you will not have to return to the disability benefit rolls and, therefore, you are not entitled to continue to receive benefits.

(c) *When benefits terminate due to 12 consecutive suspension months for failure to comply with treatment for drug addiction or alcoholism.* If you are disabled and drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the determination of disability as described in § 416.935, your benefits will terminate after 12 consecutive months of suspension for noncompliance with treatment requirements as described in § 416.1326.

(d) *When benefits terminate due to payment of 36 months of benefits based on disability when drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the determination of disability.* If you are disabled and drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor mate-

rial to the determination of disability as described in § 416.935, your benefits will terminate after you receive a total of 36 months of SSI benefits. The 36-month limit is no longer effective for benefits for months beginning after September 2004.

(e) *Months we count in determining the 36 months of benefits when drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the determination of disability.* Beginning March 1995, we will count all months for which you were paid an SSI benefit, a federally-administered State supplement, a special SSI cash benefit, or you were in special SSI eligibility status, toward the 36 months described in paragraph (d) of this section. Months for which you were not eligible for benefits will not count toward the 36 months.

[49 FR 22274, May 29, 1984, as amended at 60 FR 8152, Feb. 10, 1995; 65 FR 42792, July 11, 2000]

§ 416.1332 Termination of benefit for disabled individual: Exception.

Special SSI cash benefits (see § 416.261) will be payable for the period beginning January 1, 1981, and ending June 30, 1987 if you meet eligibility requirements in § 416.262. These requirements apply if you, as a disabled recipient, are no longer eligible for regular SSI benefits because you demonstrate that you are able to engage in SGA.

[47 FR 15325, Apr. 9, 1982, as amended at 50 FR 46763, Nov. 13, 1985]

§ 416.1333 Termination at the request of the recipient.

A recipient, his legal guardian, or his representative payee, may terminate his eligibility for benefits under this part by filing a written request for termination which shows an understanding that such termination may extend to other benefits resulting from eligibility under this part. In the case of a representative payee there must also be a showing which establishes that no hardship would result if an eligible recipient were not covered by the supplemental security income program. When such a request is filed, the recipient ceases to be an eligible individual, or eligible spouse, effective with the month following the month