

Social Security Administration

§ 416.1725

REFERRAL FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

§ 416.1710 Whom we refer and when.

(a) *Whom we refer.* If you are 16 years of age or older and under 65 years old, and receiving supplemental security income (SSI) benefits, we will refer you to the State agency providing vocational rehabilitation services. If you are under age 16, we will refer you to an agency administering services under the Maternal and Child Health Services (Title V) Block Grant Act.

(b) *When we refer.* We will make this referral when we find you eligible for benefits or at any other time that we find you might be helped by vocational rehabilitation services.

[45 FR 70859, Oct. 27, 1980, as amended at 48 FR 6297, Feb. 23, 1983]

§ 416.1715 Effect of your rejecting vocational rehabilitation services.

(a) *Ineligible for benefits if you do not have good cause.* If we refer you to the State agency providing vocational rehabilitation services, you are not eligible for SSI benefits for any month that you refuse, without good cause, to accept services available to you (see § 416.1328(a) on suspension because of a refusal). In determining whether you have good cause for refusing vocational rehabilitation services, we will take into account any physical, mental, educational, or linguistic limitations (including any lack of facility with the English language) which may have caused you to refuse such services. If you believe good cause exists to refuse these services, you will be asked to submit proof showing this.

(b) *Examples of good cause.* If you can show good cause for not accepting vocational rehabilitation services offered to you, you will continue to be eligible for benefits. Examples of good cause include the following:

(1) The services that are offered are not designed to restore your ability to work.

(2) You are already in a program (either governmental or private) that is expected to restore your ability to work.

(3) You are regularly attending a school, college, or university or are attending a course of vocational or tech-

nical training, and the program you are attending is designed to restore your ability to work.

(4) You are physically or mentally unable to participate in the services that are offered.

(5) The services offered would interfere with a medical program provided for you.

(6) The services would require you to be away from home and your absence would be harmful to the health and welfare of your family.

(7) You are working at the present time or you will be working within 3 months.

(8) You are a member or a follower of a recognized church or religious sect which teaches its members or followers to rely solely on prayer or other spiritual means for the treatment and care of any physical or mental illness, and you refuse to accept these services solely because of your belief in these teachings.

[45 FR 70859, Oct. 27, 1980, as amended at 59 FR 1637, Jan. 12, 1994]

REFERRAL FOR TREATMENT OF ALCOHOLISM OR DRUG ADDICTION

§ 416.1720 Whom we refer.

We will refer you to an approved facility for treatment of your alcoholism or drug addiction if—

(a) You are disabled;

(b) You are not blind;

(c) You are not 65 years old or older; and

(d) Alcoholism or drug addiction is a contributing factor to your disability.

§ 416.1725 Effect of your failure to comply with treatment requirements for your drug addiction or alcoholism.

(a) *Suspension of benefits.* Your eligibility for benefits will be suspended beginning with the first month after we notify you in writing that we have determined that you have failed to comply with the treatment requirements for your drug addiction or alcoholism as defined in § 416.940. Your benefits will be suspended and reinstated in accordance with the provisions in § 416.1326.