TITLE 42 - THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
CHAPTER 7 - SOCIAL SECURITY
SUBCHAPTER XVI - SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME FOR AGED, BLIND, AND DISABLED
    Part A - Determination of Benefits

§ 1382j. Attribution of sponsor’s income and resources to aliens

(a) Attribution as unearned income

For purposes of determining eligibility for and the amount of benefits under this subchapter for an individual who is an alien, the income and resources of any person who (as a sponsor of such individual’s entry into the United States) executed an affidavit of support or similar agreement with respect to such individual, and the income and resources of the sponsor’s spouse, shall be deemed to be the income and resources of such individual (in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of this section) for a period of 3 years after the individual’s entry into the United States. Any such income deemed to be income of such individual shall be treated as unearned income of such individual.

(b) Determination of amount and resources

(1) The amount of income of a sponsor (and his spouse) which shall be deemed to be the unearned income of an alien for any year shall be determined as follows:

(A) The total yearly rate of earned and unearned income (as determined under section 1382a (a) of this title) of such sponsor and such sponsor’s spouse (if such spouse is living with the sponsor) shall be determined for such year.

(B) The amount determined under subparagraph (A) shall be reduced by an amount equal to

   (i) the maximum amount of the Federal benefit under this subchapter for such year which would be payable to an eligible individual who has no other income and who does not have an eligible spouse (as determined under section 1382 (b)(1) of this title), plus
   (ii) one-half of the amount determined under clause (i) multiplied by the number of individuals who are dependents of such sponsor (or such sponsor’s spouse if such spouse is living with the sponsor), other than such alien and such alien’s spouse.

(C) The amount of income which shall be deemed to be unearned income of such alien shall be at a yearly rate equal to the amount determined under subparagraph (B). The period for determination of such amount shall be the same as the period for determination of benefits under section 1382 (c) of this title.

(2) The amount of resources of a sponsor (and his spouse) which shall be deemed to be the resources of an alien for any year shall be determined as follows:

(A) The total amount of the resources (as determined under section 1382b of this title) of such sponsor and such sponsor’s spouse (if such spouse is living with the sponsor) shall be determined.

(B) The amount determined under subparagraph (A) shall be reduced by an amount equal to

   (i) the applicable amount determined under section 1382 (a)(3)(B) of this title in the case of a sponsor who has no spouse with whom he is living, or
   (ii) the applicable amount determined under section 1382 (a)(3)(A) of this title in the case of a sponsor who has a spouse with whom he is living.

(C) The resources of such sponsor (and spouse) as determined under subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be deemed to be resources of such alien in addition to any resources of such alien.

(c) Support and maintenance

In determining the amount of income of an alien during the period of 3 years after such alien’s entry into the United States, the reduction in dollar amounts otherwise required under section 1382a (a)(2)(A)(i) of this title shall not be applicable if such alien is living in the household of a person who is a sponsor.
(or such sponsor’s spouse) of such alien, and is receiving support and maintenance in kind from such sponsor (or spouse), nor shall support or maintenance furnished in cash or kind to an alien by such alien’s sponsor (to the extent that it reflects income or resources which were taken into account in determining the amount of income and resources to be deemed to the alien under subsection (a) or (b) of this section) be considered to be income of such alien under section 1382a (a)(2)(A) of this title.

(d) Information and documentation; agreements with Secretary of State and Attorney General

(1) Any individual who is an alien shall, during the period of 3 years after entry into the United States, in order to be an eligible individual or eligible spouse for purposes of this subchapter, be required to provide to the Commissioner of Social Security such information and documentation with respect to his sponsor as may be necessary in order for the Commissioner of Social Security to make any determination required under this section, and to obtain any cooperation from such sponsor necessary for any such determination. Such alien shall also be required to provide to the Commissioner of Social Security such information and documentation as the Commissioner of Social Security may request and which such alien or his sponsor provided in support of such alien’s immigration application.

(2) The Commissioner of Social Security shall enter into agreements with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General whereby any information available to such persons and required in order to make any determination under this section will be provided by such persons to the Commissioner of Social Security, and whereby such persons shall inform any sponsor of an alien, at the time such sponsor executes an affidavit of support or similar agreement, of the requirements imposed by this section.

(e) Joint and several liability of alien and sponsor for overpayments

Any sponsor of an alien, and such alien, shall be jointly and severally liable for an amount equal to any overpayment made to such alien during the period of 3 years after such alien’s entry into the United States, on account of such sponsor’s failure to provide correct information under the provisions of this section, except where such sponsor was without fault, or where good cause for such failure existed. Any such overpayment which is not repaid to the Commissioner of Social Security or recovered in accordance with section 1383 (b) of this title shall be withheld from any subsequent payment to which such alien or such sponsor is entitled under any provision of this chapter.

(f) Exemptions

(1) The provisions of this section shall not apply with respect to any individual who is an “aged, blind, or disabled individual” for purposes of this subchapter by reason of blindness (as determined under section 1382c (a)(2) of this title) or disability (as determined under section 1382c (a)(3) of this title), from and after the onset of the impairment, if such blindness or disability commenced after the date of such individual’s admission into the United States for permanent residence.

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply with respect to any alien who is—

(A) admitted to the United States as a result of the application, prior to April 1, 1980, of the provisions of section 1153 (a)(7) of title 8;

(B) admitted to the United States as a result of the application, after March 31, 1980, of the provisions of section 1157 (c)(1) of title 8;

(C) paroled into the United States as a refugee under section 1182 (d)(5) of title 8; or

(D) granted political asylum by the Attorney General.

References in Text

Section 1153 (a)(7) of title 8, referred to in subsec. (f)(2)(A), to be deemed a reference to such section as in effect prior to Apr. 1, 1980, and to sections 1157 and 1158 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality. See section 203(h) of Pub. L. 96–212, set out as a note under section 1153 of Title 8.

Amendments


1993—Pub. L. 103–152, § 7(b)(1), substituted “3 years” for “5 years” in subsecs. (a), (c), (d)(1), and (e).

Pub. L. 103–152, § 7(a)(1), substituted “5 years” for “three years” in subsecs. (a), (c), (d)(1), and (e).

1984—Subsec. (b)(2)(B). Pub. L. 98–369, § 2611(d), substituted “the applicable amount determined under section 1382 (a)(3)(B) of this title” for “$1,500” and “the applicable amount determined under section 1382 (a)(3)(A) of this title” for “$2,250”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 98–369, § 2663(g)(10), substituted “severally” for “severably”.

Effective Date of 1994 Amendment


Effective Date of 1993 Amendment

Section 7(a)(2) of Pub. L. 103–152 provided that: “The amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on January 1, 1994.”

Section 7(b)(2) of Pub. L. 103–152 provided that: “The amendments made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on October 1, 1996.”

Effective Date of 1984 Amendment

Amendment by section 2611(d) of Pub. L. 98–369 effective Oct. 1, 1984, except as otherwise specifically provided, see section 2646 of Pub. L. 98–369, set out as a note under section 657 of this title.

Amendment by section 2663(g)(10) of Pub. L. 98–369 effective July 18, 1984, but not to be construed as changing or affecting any right, liability, status, or interpretation which existed (under the provisions of law involved) before that date, see section 2664(b) of Pub. L. 98–369, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

Effective Date

Section 504(c) of Pub. L. 96–265 provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section and amending section 1382c of this title] shall be effective with respect to individuals applying for supplemental security income benefits under title XVI of the Social Security Act [this subchapter] for the first time after September 30, 1980.”

Abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service and Transfer of Functions

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.