

363.140: Noncountable Assets

The following assets are not countable when determining the total value of assets available to a household.

(A) Home and Lot

The home and surrounding property that is not separated from the home by intervening property owned by others is noncountable, including:

- (1) Property separated from the home by a public right of way, such as a road.
- (2) The home and surrounding property when temporarily unoccupied for reasons of employment, training for employment, illness, vacation, or uninhabitability caused by casualty or natural disaster, provided that the household intends to return.
- (3) The value of a lot purchased, or in the process of being purchased, to build a home if the household does not already own a home and, if the new home is partially completed, the value of the partially completed home.
- (4) Household belongings such as furniture, appliances, household decorations, linens and cookware; personal belongings such as jewelry, books and toys, even if of more than usual value.
- (5) Property to which the household has no ready access, such as property that is the subject of legal proceedings (e.g., probate, divorce suits, etc.), and irrevocable trust funds that were placed in trust at least 12 months before application for SNAP benefits.

(B) Household and Personal Goods, Life Insurance and Pension Funds

- (1) Household goods and personal effects, including one burial lot per household member and the value of a prepaid funeral arrangement, not to exceed \$1,500, are noncountable assets. A prepaid funeral arrangement may include a contract with a funeral director or a separately identifiable trust fund. Use of any portion of this asset is countable if used for purposes other than funeral or burial arrangements in accordance with 106 CMR 363.130.
- (2) The cash value of life insurance policies is noncountable provided the insurance policies are not cashed.
- (3) Pension funds are noncountable assets. These include, but are not limited to, pension or traditional defined-benefits plans, 401(k)s, 501(c)(18)s, 403(b)s, 457s, Federal Employee Thrift Savings plans, Keogh plans, Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), Roth IRAs, Simple IRAs, Simplified Employer plans, Profit Sharing plans, and Cash Balance plans.