

# **7 SECRETS FOR SURVIVING THE MEDICAID SPEND DOWN**

Colin Meeks, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®  
410-663-0700  
9621 Harford Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
[www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com](http://www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com)

## **7 Secrets For Surviving The Medicaid Spend Down**

Armed with these 7 Secrets, you'll be in a great position to protect your hard-earned savings while gaining the peace of mind that comes with knowing that the future of yourself and your loved ones is secure.

Before I go through these 7 secrets... I'm going to let you in on one additional secret... some people are in a crisis now and need help right away. Others just don't want to learn all about the secrets, and many want to jump right to end to see if they and their loved ones can save money now.

If that's you... if you want to know now if it's likely there are benefits available to you and your family to pay the cost of nursing home care, then call my office for a Medicaid Benefits Check-Up.

I'll ask you a series of questions designed to help us diagnose your particular situation, and then I'll give you my professional opinion as to where to start.

To be upfront, I'm not an attorney and I'm not able to help you through the entire Medicaid qualification process. But I can give you an initial check-up and analysis, explain the basics of how the rules work, and get you started on the right foot. Then I'll suggest some realistic steps you can take.

I have helped many families through the Medicaid maze and I'd love to help you too.

For your Medicaid Eligibility Check-Up call me at 410-663-0700.

In the meantime, let me reveal to you those 7 secrets I promised.

Colin Meeks, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®  
410-663-0700  
9621 Harford Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
[www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com](http://www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com)

## **1. How to protect the healthy spouse.**

Because they don't know the rules, many couples spend more money than they need to on the first spouse's long-term care costs. We can show you how the rules allow you to actually spend money to make the healthy spouse's life better while also qualifying for Medicaid.

## **2. Gifting**

Giving your stuff to your kids could leave you broke, sick, and on the street. Learn how to do it right - because doing it wrong can have terrible (and unintended) consequences.

## **3. Countable vs. Exempt Assets**

How to save your money by "converting" assets. Medicaid counts your money as either available for care or exempt. We can provide details about how to convert available assets into exempt money (that YOU may get to keep)!

## **4. Timing is everything**

Medicaid application timing is critical! It may be hard to believe, but allowing a nursing home case worker to help you fill out a "simple" Medicaid application can cause you to lose thousands of dollars, and create a Medicaid penalty because you applied too early. Find out when you should apply for Medicaid.

## **5. How to avoid cruel and unusual punishment.**

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 creates a Medicaid ineligibility penalty for seniors who give away their money to children, churches or charities within 5 years of applying for Medicaid. Learn how to avoid becoming broke, sick, and on the street just because you gave away assets in the wrong way.

## **6. All Annuities ARE NOT created equal**

How can you tell if an annuity is really "Medicaid-proof." Many financial advisors tout annuities as being safe from Medicaid spend-down. The truth is not so simple - you've got to get past the hype.

Colin Meeks, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®

410-663-0700

9621 Harford Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Baltimore, MD 21234

[www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com](http://www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com)

There are very specific requirements for an annuity to be Medicaid Compliant and the timing of putting the annuity in force is also critical. Most banks, insurance agents, and financial advisors do not know these rules and do not have the right products available to help, so beware. (I have been writing Medicaid Compliant annuities since 1994 and the products and companies are always changing. Using the wrong company/product may disqualify you from Medicaid benefits)

## **7. Veterans Benefits**

Learn how Veterans and spouses can receive Hard-To-Understand benefits for in-home or nursing home care. A wartime veteran and spouse can receive over \$2000 for in-home and/or nursing home medical care. You'll read all about this in the Report on Veterans Benefits that I'll send later on, so be sure to read those emails.

For an initial analysis and detailed explanation of how these 7 secrets may apply to your situation, call Colin Meeks at 410-663-7300.

### **Important disclosure –**

Colin Meeks is not an attorney and does not practice law. He does not provide personalized advice on Medicaid planning and/or how to qualify for Medicaid, this should only be done by an attorney. If suitable, he may refer you to one or more of the attorneys in the area who specialize in this planning. He receives no referral fee or compensation from any attorneys or law firms nor is he involved in the Medicaid planning process.

If you and your attorney decide that a Medicaid Compliant Annuity should be part of your plan, you may place that business through him or any other licensed annuity agent. If you do purchase a Medicaid Compliant Annuity through him, he is compensated by the insurance company and will disclose that amount to you.

Colin Meeks, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER®  
410-663-0700  
9621 Harford Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
[www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com](http://www.MarylandMedicaidHelp.com)