

department head as well as to the agency that determines a member's employment status. In the case of a department head, the application shall be submitted only to the agency that determines employment status.

(4) If the written notice by the employee is not approved, the employee, on his request, shall be given a hearing before the Maryland Employees Retirement Review Board.

(5) If the written application by the employee is approved, employment shall be authorized for 1 year. Further continuation of employment shall be based on the execution of the appropriate application form not less than 30 nor more than 90 days before each authorized year is completed.

[(e)] (D) (1) The Director of the Office on Aging shall establish a "Golden Age Card" Program and provide a Golden Age Card to any resident of the State who applies to the Office on Aging for a card and who is 65 years of age or older or disabled. The Director shall encourage voluntary programs to provide assistance of any kind to card holders, and encourage support and participation in them by all persons. Card holders shall be entitled to any assistance granted to them by and through these voluntary programs, the laws of this State, or ordinances or resolutions of political subdivisions; however, this subsection does not require any person or organization to provide any assistance to card holders. The Director shall establish and charge a fee of \$1 to accompany application for a card.

(2) Before issuing a Golden Age Card to any person, the Director shall establish the identity of the person who applies for a card and shall ascertain that the person is eligible to receive the card. The Director shall adopt regulations to prevent the issuance of cards to persons not eligible to have them. Cards shall contain the signature of the card holder and any other information the Director considers necessary to carry out the purposes of the Golden Age Card Program. Any card that the Director issues may be held in perpetuity by the original card holder and may not be transferable to any other person. A person who loses his card may obtain another card from the Office upon providing the same information as was required for the issuance of the original card.

(3) A card holder may not use a Golden Age Card except to obtain a benefit to which the holder is entitled under the conditions of the offer.

(4) As used in this subsection, "disabled person" means a person who has been certified as permanently and totally disabled by an agency of this State or the United States having the function of so classifying persons.