

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in Pennsylvania

2016



What is SSI?

SSI, or Supplemental Security Income, is a federal program that provides monthly cash payments to people in need. SSI is for people who are 65 or older, as well as blind or disabled people of any age, including children.

To qualify for SSI, you must also have little or no income and few resources. The value of the things you own must be less than \$2,000 if you are single or less than \$3,000 for married couples living together. We don't count the value of your home if you live in it, and, usually, we don't count the value of your car. We may not count the value of certain other resources either, such as a burial plot.

To get SSI, you must also apply for any other government benefits for which you may be eligible. You must live in the United States or Northern Mariana Islands to receive SSI. If you're not a U.S. citizen, but you lawfully reside in the United States, you still may be able to get SSI. For more information, read a copy of *Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for Noncitizens* (Publication No. 05-11051).

The state of Pennsylvania adds money to the federal SSI payment. A single payment that includes both the federal SSI payment and the supplement from Pennsylvania is issued to residents of domiciliary care homes and personal care boarding homes.

If you live independently, in someone else's household, you receive a separate payment from Pennsylvania in addition to your federal SSI payment.

Medical assistance

If you get SSI, you usually can get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. If you have questions about Medicaid, contact your local county health or human services office.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

If you get SSI, you may be able to get help through SNAP, formerly known as food stamps. SNAP can help you buy more food without spending more money. Social Security, however, doesn't decide if you qualify for SNAP. If everyone in your household is applying for or getting SSI, you can apply for SNAP at a Social Security office. If not, you must apply at your local county health or human services office.

Other social services

Other services you may be able to get through the local county health or human services office include:

- Information, referral and follow-up services;
- Assessment of service needs; and
- Liaison with service providers.

For more information, contact your local county health or human services office.

Monthly SSI payment amounts

Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum amount. Your payment may be lower if you have other income.

Category	2016 total monthly payment
Independent living status	
Eligible person	\$733.00
Eligible couple	\$1,100.00
Living in someone else's household	
Eligible person	\$488.67
Eligible couple	\$733.34
Domiciliary care (DOMCARE)	
Eligible person	\$1,167.30*
Eligible couple	\$2,047.40*
Personal care boarding home (PCBH)	
Eligible person	\$1,172.30*
Eligible couple	\$2,057.40*
Medicaid facility	
Eligible person	\$30.00
Eligible couple	\$60.00

* These amounts include federal and state payments combined.

Contacting Social Security

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov anytime to apply for benefits, open a **my Social Security** account, find publications, and get answers to frequently asked questions. Or, call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** (for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**). We can answer case-specific questions from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Generally, you'll have a shorter wait time if you call after Tuesday. We treat all calls confidentially. We also want to make sure you receive accurate and courteous service, so a second Social Security representative monitors some telephone calls. We can provide general information by automated phone service 24 hours a day. And, remember, our website, www.socialsecurity.gov, is available to you anytime and anywhere!