

SSI In The District of Columbia

People in financial need who are 65 or older or people of any age who are blind or have a disability (including children) may be eligible for monthly cash payments from the federal government. The payments are called Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

You may be eligible for SSI payments if you have little or no income and if the value of the things you own is less than \$2,000 if you're single or \$3,000 if you're married. We do not count the value of your home or your car (if it is not an expensive model). Certain other assets do not count either. Check with Social Security for more information.

Also, to get SSI you must be living in the U.S. or the Northern Mariana Islands and be a U.S. citizen or an alien who is living in the U.S. legally. And, you must apply for any other money benefits you might be eligible for.

Even though the Social Security Administration runs the program, SSI is not the same as Social Security. Money for SSI payments comes from the general fund of the U.S. Treasury.

The District of Columbia adds money to the federal payment. For the convenience of SSI recipients, the District of Columbia and the federal government have agreed to include the District of Columbia's share of the payments in the federal check. Therefore, SSI recipients receive one U.S. government check during the first week of each month with federal and District of Columbia money included.

The back of this factsheet has a table showing the 1996 maximum monthly payment amounts for SSI recipients in different living arrangements.

Medical Assistance

If you receive SSI payments, you usually get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. A separate Medicaid application isn't necessary. If you have questions about Medicaid, you should contact your local Department of Human Services.

Food Stamps

When you receive SSI, you also may be eligible for food stamps. Food stamps can help you buy more food without spending more money. Social Security doesn't decide if you can get food stamps. However, people who live in a household where everyone is applying for or receiving SSI may apply for food stamps at a Social Security office.

Other Social Services

Additional social services are available to SSI recipients through their local Department of Human Services. These services include:

- Information, referral, and follow-up services
- Exploration of service needs
- Liaison with service providers

For more information on these and other social services, contact your local Department of Social Services.

SSI Payments

The amounts shown on the back of this factsheet include both federal and District of Columbia money. Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum payment amounts. Payments may be lower if you have other income. Your Social Security office can give

you more information about payment levels and how income affects them.

For More Information

You can get more information 24 hours a day by calling Social Security's toll-free number, **1-800-772-1213**. You can speak to a service representative between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days. Our lines are busiest early in the week and early in the month, so if your business can wait, it's best to call at other times. Whenever you call, have your Social Security number handy.

If you have a touch-tone phone, recorded information and services are available 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call our toll-free "TTY" number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

The people at Social Security can tell you what information you need to apply for SSI. Parents and guardians can apply on behalf of children under 18 who are blind or have a disability.

The Social Security Administration treats all calls confidentially—whether they're made to our toll-free numbers or to one of our local offices. We also want to ensure that you receive accurate and courteous service. That is why we have a second Social Security representative monitor some incoming and outgoing telephone calls.

Category

Total SSI Payment

Independent Living

Eligible Individual

\$474.70

Eligible Couple

705.00

Living in the Household of Another

Eligible Individual

321.47

Eligible Couple

489.73

Medicaid Facility

Eligible Individual

70.00

Eligible Couple

140.00

Adult Foster-Care Home (50 beds or less)

Eligible Individual

617.20

Eligible Couple

1,225.40

Adult Foster-Care Home (over 50 beds)

Eligible Individual

727.20

Eligible Couple

1,448.40

Social Security Administration

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