

Handy Tips

Some States supplement the Federal benefit payment, called the Federal Benefit Rate, for SSI. The following information for State supplements is current as of 2008:

SSA Administered States			
<i>In these States, SSA administers any State supplement to the Federal Benefit Rate.</i>			
California	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Rhode Island
District of Columbia	Montana	Pennsylvania	Utah
Hawaii	Nevada		

SSA and State Administered States			
<i>In these States, both SSA and the State administer any State supplement to the Federal Benefit Rate.</i>			
Delaware	Michigan	Vermont	Washington
Iowa	New York		

Additionally, a few states supplement SSI in particular living situations. Check with local SSA offices for information.

When determining Medicaid eligibility, the following States require information and/or applications beyond the SSI application:

SSI Criteria States			
<i>SSI criteria States use SSI eligibility criteria for Medicaid; beyond these criteria, these states may make their own Medicaid determinations or ask SSA to determine eligibility.</i>			
Alaska	Kansas	Nevada	Oregon
Idaho	Nebraska	North Mariana	Utah

209(b) States			
<i>209(b) States use at least one criterion that is more restrictive than the SSI program's criteria for determining eligibility.</i>			
Connecticut*	Indiana	New Hampshire*	Oklahoma
Hawaii	Minnesota	North Dakota	Virginia
Illinois	Missouri*	Ohio	
*State does not include individuals who are not blind and who are under the age of 18 in its definition of disability.			

- To find out if a person receives SSI, public assistance, or SSDI, ask about the check amount and when the check arrives. The full Federal Benefit Rate for SSI is usually the maximum SSI amount (see annual benefits sheet). It may be reduced generally by one-third. SSDI is often above the full Federal Benefit Rate for SSI. Know the public or general assistance amount in your State.
- Benefits are not an end point, but rather a tool in recovery — a means of helping people gain stability in their lives.
- Find out more about Medicare at www.Medicare.gov.