

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in New Jersey

2017



What is SSI?

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) 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 the Northern Mariana Islands to receive SSI. If you are 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 *Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for Noncitizens* (Publication No. 05-11051).

In many cases, the state of New Jersey adds money to the federal payment. The single payment you get in the beginning of each month includes both the federal SSI payment and your supplement from New Jersey.

Medical assistance

If you get SSI, you can get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. You'll get a separate letter of acceptance and Medicaid ID card from the state of New Jersey. If you have questions about Medicaid, contact your local Medical Assistance Customer Center.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

If you get SSI, you may be able to get additional 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

Individuals who qualify for SSI often are eligible for additional programs and services provided by their local county health or human services office. These other services or benefits may include:

- Consumer protection services;
- Educational training and employment assistance;
- Homemaker services;
- Home-delivered meals;
- Housing services;
- Information and referral services;
- Money management services;
- Special assistance for drug abusers;
- Special assistance for the blind and disabled; and
- Transportation.

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

Monthly SSI payment amounts

The table below lists the combined federal and state payment amounts. Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum amount. Your payment may be lower if you have other income.

Category	2017 total monthly payment
Person living alone or with others in own household	\$766.25
Person living with spouse who is not eligible for SSI	\$888.00
Person living in someone else's household and receiving support and maintenance	\$534.31
Person living in licensed residential health care facility	\$945.05
Person living in public general hospital or Medicaid-approved long-term health facility	\$40.00
Couple living alone or with others in own household	\$1,128.36
Couple living in someone else's household and receiving support and maintenance	\$828.43
Couple living in licensed residential health care facility	\$1,841.36

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!