

# Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in Rhode Island

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're 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 get 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 Rhode Island adds money to the federal payment. Social Security issues a single payment to those living in residential care, assisted living facilities, or licensed adult community supportive living residence providing advance care.

The payment includes both the federal SSI payment and the supplement from Rhode Island.

If you live independently, in someone else's household, or in a Medicaid facility, you get a separate payment from Rhode Island.

## Medical assistance

If you get SSI, you usually can get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. If you have questions about Medicaid, contact your local 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 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:

- Information, referral and follow-up;
- Homemaker and chore services;
- Community placement services; and
- Rehabilitation services.

For more information, contact your local 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 amounts. Your payment may be lower if you have other income.

Category	2017 total monthly payments
<b><i>Independent living status</i></b>	
Eligible person	\$735.00
Eligible couple	\$1,103.00
<b><i>Individual living in someone else's household</i></b>	
Eligible person	\$490.00
Eligible couple	\$735.34
<b><i>Living in a licensed residential care and assisted living facility</i></b>	
Eligible person	\$1,067.00
<b><i>Living in a licensed adult community supportive living residence providing advance care</i></b>	
Eligible person	\$1,532.00
<b><i>Living in a Medicaid facility</i></b>	
Eligible person	\$30.00
Eligible couple	\$60.00

## Contacting Social Security

Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://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](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), is available to you anytime and anywhere!