

State Supplement for the Aged, Blind or Disabled

Description:

The State Supplement for the Aged, Blind or Disabled is a program administered by the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS). The purpose of the program is to supplement assistance provided under the Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program; however actual receipt of SSI is not required. A person receiving a low monthly Social Security benefit, private pension, veteran's benefit, or limited income from another source may still qualify for the State Supplement program.

Monthly payments are issued by check from the DSS. The amount paid is based on an individual's personal needs and actual costs up to a maximum rate established by the State for basic needs like food, clothing, personal items, utilities, and rent. Additional special needs such as telephone, special diets, or transportation may be covered.

Persons receiving State Supplement are automatically eligible for Medicaid to cover medical expenses. Individuals with private insurance must use it before using Medicaid. State Supplement recipients may also receive food stamps and energy assistance if they are determined to be eligible.

Eligibility Requirements, Service Areas and Program Year:

Eligibility Requirements:

- Individuals must be age 65 or older, blind, or disabled between the ages of 18 and 65.
- Individuals' incomes must be insufficient to meet the basic needs of daily life. DSS allows a certain amount of income to be "disregarded" (subtracted from gross income) before determining whether a person is eligible for State Supplement. The unearned income disregard is \$278 per month for individuals living in the community. The disregard is \$185.70 per month for individuals living in a licensed boarding home. The disregard is \$345.90 per month for individuals who share housing with non-relatives.
- Single persons can have no more than \$1,600 in assets; a couple's assets cannot exceed \$2,400. Assets include cash, bank accounts and cash surrender value of life insurance. In addition, persons can have up to \$1,800 in a revocable burial contract or up to \$5,400 in an irrevocable burial contract. A burial plot is defined as a gravesite, opening and closing of a gravesite, cremation urn, casket, outer burial container and a headstone or marker, including a contract to provide the aforementioned items. A gravesite may include a crypt or mausoleum. Individuals may have a burial plot and be eligible for assistance.

- The state places a lien on the recipient's home, while they are living there, for the value of the aid that is given to the recipient. The State will not collect on the liens while recipients live in their homes.

Service Areas:

Statewide

Program Year:

Income requirements are updated January 1.

Contact Information:

Contact the local DSS Regional Offices located in [Appendix H](#).

Related Information:

[Medicaid \(Title XIX\), refer to page IX – 6](#)

[Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\), refer to page VI – 15.](#)