





# **Benefits Quick Guide**

#### CHOICES 1 (800) 994-9422

## 1. Medicare Savings Program (MSP)

Effective 3/1/23-2/29/24

#### QMB

Monthly Income Guideline

- Single: \$2,564
- Couple: \$3,468

#### SLMB

Monthly Income Guidelines

- Single: \$2,807
- Couple: \$3,797

#### ALMB

Monthly Income Guidelines

- Single: \$2,989
- Couple: \$4,043

#### Important notes about MSP

- There is no asset limit or estate recoupment for MSP.
- Individuals who qualify for MSP and missed enrollment into Medicare A and/or B may be able to enroll into Medicare through MSP.
- Earned income disregard applies to income limits: For earned income, the first \$65 and then half of the remainder is not counted toward eligibility. For more info on the Medicare Savings Program, click here.

## 2. Extra Help/Low Income Subsidy (LIS)

Effective 1/1/23-12/31/23

#### Full LIS Level 1 copays

(Medicare + MSP)

- Generic drugs: \$4.15
- Brand Drugs: \$10.35

#### Full LIS Level 2 copays

(Medicare + HUSKY C)

- Generic drugs: \$1.45
- Brand Drugs: \$4.30
- Maximum out of pocket cost-sharing \$17 per month

#### Full LIS Level 3 copays

(Medicare + Medicaid Waiver or SNF)

• \$0 cost-sharing

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#### Important notes about LIS:

- MSP recipients automatically qualify for full LIS level 1.
- Connecticut residents should consider applying for LIS through MSP because MSP has no asset restrictions and higher income guidelines.
- Beneficiaries who have LIS will be randomly assigned to a benchmark Part D plan if they do not select a plan on their own. Beneficiaries with Extra Help who are enrolled in a benchmark plan will have a \$0 monthly premium for their coverage. However, they still benefit from a plan comparison to determine the best plan that covers all their medications.
- Individuals entitled to LIS who do not yet have a Part D plan can be eligible for immediate drug coverage through LI NET. For more information on LI NET and eligibility requirements, click here.

## 3. Medicaid for those age 65+, blind or with a disability (HUSKY C)

Effective 3/1/23

#### Husky C Monthly Income Guidelines:

- Single: \$1,182\*
- Couple: \$1,746\*

#### HUSKY C Asset limits:

- Single: \$1,600
- Couple: \$2,400

Unearned income disregard

- Single \$482
- Couple: \$818

#### Earned income disregard:

• Subtract \$65, then divide by half

#### Important notes about HUSKY C:

- State income regions A, B and C eliminated 7/1/22 statewide standard limit now in effect.
- \*Income limits above include single unearned disregard of \$482 and couple unearned disregard of \$818. Income counted may be higher or lower than this amount based on living arrangements. Beneficiaries should still apply if above these income limits.
- The special shared disregard is \$549.90.

## 4. Medicaid Expanded Benefits (HUSKY D)

Effective 3/1/23

#### **Husky D Monthly Income Guidelines**

- Household Size of 1 MAGI monthly Income: \$1,677
- Household Size of 2 MAGI monthly Income: \$2,268

#### Important notes about HUSKY D:

- For those 18-64 without minor children or Medicare
- Apply through Access Health CT online at accesshealthct.com
- Eligibility is based on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) in the tax household
- No spend-down provision if you are over the income guidelines

• No asset limits

## 5. Medicaid for Employees with Disabilities (MED-CONNECT)

Effective 7/1/22

#### **MED-CONNECT Income limits:**

• Earnings up to \$75,000/year

#### MED-CONNECT Asset limits:

- Single person \$10,000
- Married couple \$15,000

#### Important notes about MED-CONNECT:

- Enrollees can have income up to \$75,000 per year and qualify for full Medicaid/HUSKY Health coverage.
- Enrollees may have to pay monthly premium, depending on their income level.
- Only the applicant's income counts to determine program eligibility. Spouse's income is counted when determining monthly premium amounts.
- Full MED-CONNECT program details can be found by clicking here.

## 6. Medicaid for parents and caregivers with children under age 19 (HUSKY A) Effective 3/1/23

#### Monthly Income Limits for parents/caregivers:

- Family of 1: \$1,944
- Family of 2: \$2,630

#### Important notes about HUSKY A:

- There are other groups covered under HUSKY A, including pregnant women. There are different income and asset limits for different groups under HUSKY A. <u>To view the Husky full eligibility</u> <u>chart, click here.</u>
- Eligibility is based on Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI).
- There is no asset test for this HUSKY A coverage group.
- SSI and certain other types of income do not count toward eligibility limits, and certain expenses are deducted from eligibility.

#### 7. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Effective 10/1/22

#### Gross monthly income limits

- Household Size of 1: \$2,265
- Household Size of 2: \$3,052

#### Asset limits

• Households below 200% FPL: No asset limit

• Households above 200% FPL: \$4,250

#### Maximum monthly SNAP benefit

- Household Size of 1: \$281
- Household Size of 2: \$516

#### Important notes about SNAP

- Certain income and assets are not counted toward eligibility.
- Emergency SNAP supplemental benefits are ending as of February 2023.
- For full SNAP program details, click here.

### 8. Information and Programs for Persons with Disabilities

#### Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) Assists persons with disabilities wanting to return to work. Call 1-800-537-2549.

#### • BRS Benefits Counseling

Benefits Specialist explain the benefits of working and how employment works without benefits Call 1-800-773-4636 or <u>click here to find your local contact for a BRS Benefits Counselor.</u>

• Ticket to Work

9-month trial test period to return to work. Individuals get full benefits regardless of money earned. Call 1-866-968-7842.

#### • Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

Provide peer support, I&R, advocacy, independent skills training to persons with disabilities <u>Click here for your local Center for Independent Living contact information</u>

#### ABLE Accounts

Tax-free savings accounts for people with a disability prior to age 26 to pay for qualified disability expenses.

Call 1-888-609-3268 or click here for more information on ABLE accounts.

#### • Senior Outreach and Engagement

Identify, engage, refer & link adults 55 years old+ adults to individually tailored community treatment options. <u>Click here for more information and regional contacts for the Senior Outreach</u> and Engagement Program.

#### 9. DSS Contacts

#### • Mailing applications

Husky C, MSP and SNAP benefit applications are mailed to: DSS Connect Scanning Center, PO Box 1320, Manchester, CT 06045-1320

• Online Applications

Applications for most programs can be completed online at <u>www.connect.ct.gov</u>

#### • DSS Benefits Center telephone line

Consumers can call **1-855-626-6632** to check on the status of benefits and to report changes.