

State Supplement to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (Cash Assistance)



Fact Sheet

The State Supplement to the Aged, Blind or Disabled program is a cash assistance program administered by the Department of Social Services (DSS). The program serves adults who are ages 18 to 64 and have a permanent disability, individuals age 65 and older, and individuals who are blind. To be eligible, individuals also must have **income and assets that are below allowable limits**. Eligible recipients receive cash assistance that “supplements” other income they have to help them pay for living expenses. If you are eligible and live in a boarding home or residential care home (RCH), the State Supplement cash assistance program will help you pay for the cost of residing there.

What are the income limits to be eligible for State Supplement cash assistance?

Under most circumstances, a single individual living in the community (not in a boarding home) who does not have income from work must have income below \$931 per month to be eligible. A married couple that does not have income from work must, under most circumstances, have income below \$1,465 per month to be eligible. If you live in a boarding home or RCH, the income limit is higher because we will consider your monthly boarding home or RCH costs when determining your eligibility. DSS will determine the amount of your total countable income after allowable deductions.

What are the asset limits to be eligible for State Supplement cash assistance?

Your assets may not exceed \$1,600 if you are unmarried or \$2,400 if you are married. If you own a motor vehicle, the vehicle’s value may be excluded as a counted asset if the vehicle is used for employment or medical transportation. The value of **some** life insurance policies and monies placed in a trust for burial costs may also be excluded. Be sure to report all of your assets so we can determine which assets count toward the asset limit.

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How are my benefits calculated?

If your income and assets are at or below the program's eligibility limits and you meet other requirements based on age, disability, or blindness, then DSS will take a closer look at your financial situation to determine if you are eligible to receive a cash benefit award. We will ask you about the cost of your living expenses such as rent. We will then create a financial budget for you, calculating the costs of certain expenses you have, up to allowable limits. Your income is then compared to your allowable expenses. If there is a deficit, you may be eligible to receive a State Supplemental cash award to help you pay your living expenses.

How do people apply for State Supplement cash assistance?

Online—The fastest and easiest way to apply is online. Visit www.connect.ct.gov and click on the "Apply Now" button. You can also use the "Am I Eligible?" feature to find out if you qualify for State Supplement cash benefits.

By Mail—To request an application that you can mail back to us, call the DSS Client Information Line and Benefits Center at 1-855-CONNECT (1-855-626-6632); TTD/TTY 1-800-842-4524 for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing. You can also print an application to complete by visiting www.ct.gov/dss/apply.

In Person—Visit any DSS Service Center to complete an application. Office locations can be found at www.ct.gov/dss under the "Regional Offices" tab, or you can call 2-1-1 to be referred to your nearest DSS office.