

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

What is Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?

SSI helps low-income people meet basic needs. SSI monthly cash payments are available to those who are:

- 65 and older
- Blind
- Disabled

How does it work?

SSI is a monthly payment made by the federal government to those who have little or no income and few resources. To receive a payment, the value of your savings, investments and possessions (not including your home or car) must be less than \$2,000 if you are single, or less than \$3,000 if you are married. Unlike unemployment insurance, SSI payment amounts are not based on prior work. Receiving SSI can make you eligible for other benefits, such as Food Stamps or Medicaid.

Additionally, those living in adult foster homes are also eligible for receiving a small [Supplemental State Payment \(SSP\)](#). This is a monthly cash benefit issued by the District of Columbia to eligible individuals.

Immigration Status

To receive SSI you must be a US citizen or [a member of specific categories of “alien”](#).

How does one apply?

- Call the local Social Security office.

Use the Social Security Administration’s [Benefit Eligibility Screening Tool \(BEST\)](#) and see the SSA website for more information on [SSI in DC](#).

Contact Information

Social Security

2100 M Street, NW

Washington, DC 20037

Phone: (800) 772-1213

TTY: (800) 325-0778

Office Hours: 9 AM – 4 PM, Monday-Friday

Automated phone service is available 24 hours a day