Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in Vermont

What is SSI?
Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal program that provides monthly payments to people who have limited income and resources. SSI is for people who are 65 or older, as well as people of any age, including children, who are blind or have disabilities.

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 are 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 receive 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 Non-Citizens (Publication No. 05-11051).

The state of Vermont adds money to the federal payment. The single payment you get in the beginning of each month includes both the federal SSI payment and your supplement from Vermont.

Medical assistance
If you get SSI, you usually can get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. If you have questions about Medicaid, contact your local Vermont Department of Disability Determination Services.

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. However, we don’t decide if you qualify for SNAP. If everyone in your household is applying for or receiving SSI, you can apply for SNAP at a Social Security office. If not, you must apply at your local Department of Prevention, Assistance, Transition, and Health Access (PATH) office.

Other social services
Other services you may be able to get through PATH include:
• Information, referrals, and follow-ups.
• Homemaker and chore services.
• Community placement services.
• Rehabilitation services.
For more information, contact your local PATH office.

Monthly SSI payment amounts
The table on the back of this page lists combined federal and state payment amounts. Not all SSI recipients get the maximum amount. Your payment may be lower if you have other income.
Contacting Social Security

The most convenient way to do business with us is to visit www.ssa.gov to get information and use our online services. There are several things you can do online: apply for benefits; get useful information; find publications; and get answers to frequently asked questions.

When you open a personal my Social Security account, you have more capabilities. You can review your Social Security Statement, verify your earnings, and get estimates of future benefits. You can also print a benefit verification letter, change your direct deposit information, request a replacement Medicare card, get a replacement SSA-1099/1042S, and request a replacement Social Security card (if you have no changes and your state participates). Access to your personal my Social Security account may be limited for users outside the United States.

If you don’t have access to the internet, we offer many automated services by telephone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you do not need to speak with a representative. Call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 or at our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778, if you’re deaf or hard of hearing.

A member of our staff can answer your call from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Wait times to speak to a representative are typically shorter Wednesdays through Fridays or later in the day.