

SSI Administration Handbook Coversheet

Change Summary for SSI Administration Handbook Release 26-01

Release Date: 5/01/2026

This coversheet contains a summary of the changes included in this release and the redline edit changes that were made in the handbook.

Clarifications and Corrections

TOPIC	SUMMARY	SECTIONS
Federal and State SSI Recipients	Updated effective date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1.5 State SSI Payment Levels
State-Only SSI Recipients	Updated effective date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1.3 State-Only SSI Payment Levels
SSI Payment Levels	Updated link to SSI in Wisconsin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1.1 PDF Version and Introduction
SSI Payment Levels	Updated date for federal and state maximum payments in different living arrangements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1.5 SSI Payments
SSI Payment Levels	Updated table with new payment rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4.1.7 Table of SSI Payment Levels

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2.1 FEDERAL AND STATE SSI RECIPIENTS

2.1.5 State SSI Payment Levels

SSI payment levels effective ~~January~~ May 1, ~~2011~~ 2026, by living arrangement, are in [4.1 SSI Payment Levels](#). A monthly state SSI payment may include as many as three components: state SSI payment, Exceptional Expense Supplement, and Caretaker Supplement.

3.1 STATE-ONLY SSI RECIPIENTS

3.1.3 State-Only SSI Payment Levels

SSI payment levels effective ~~January~~ May 1, 2011 2026, by living arrangement, are in [4.1 SSI Payment Levels](#). A monthly state-only SSI payment may include as many as three components: State SSI payment, [Exceptional Expense Supplement](#) and [Caretaker Supplement](#) (CTS).

4.1 SSI PAYMENT LEVELS

4.1.1 PDF Version and Introduction

This document is also available in Adobe Acrobat: [SSI in Wisconsin](#).

People in financial need who are 65 or older or people of any age who are blind or disabled may be eligible for monthly cash payments from the federal Social Security Administration (SSA) and from the state Department of Health Services (DHS). The payments are called Supplemental Security Income (SSI). You can receive the state SSI payment only if you qualify for a federal SSI payment. (One exception is a small group of grandfathered SSI recipients who still receive the state SSI payment they qualified for in December of 1995.) You may be eligible for SSI payments if you have little or no income and if your assets are \$2,000 or less for a single person or \$3,000 or less for a married couple. Certain assets do not count, such as your home and car. You can apply for SSI at your nearest Social Security office. You do not have to apply separately for the state SSI payment. You will automatically receive the state SSI payment as long as you qualify for a federal SSI payment. You will receive both SSI payments during the first week of each month.

4.1.5 SSI Payments

[4.1.7 Table of SSI Payment Levels](#) shows both federal and state maximum SSI payments in ~~2011~~2026 for SSI recipients in different living arrangements. Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum SSI payment amounts. Federal payments may be lower if you have other income - such as Social Security retirement or Social Security disability. But not all of your other income counts toward your eligibility for SSI. Your Social Security office can give you more information about how other income affects federal SSI payment amounts. Everyone who qualifies for a federal SSI payment of any amount automatically qualifies for the maximum state SSI payment. If you lose eligibility for a federal SSI payment, you will also stop receiving the state SSI payment.

4.1.7 Table of SSI Payment Levels

SSI Payment Rates Effective ~~January~~May 1, ~~2011~~2026

Living Arrangement	Federal Payment	State Payment	Total Payment
Independent Living			
Eligible Individual	\$ 674 994.00	\$ 83.78 92.16	\$ 757.78 1086.16
Eligible Couple	\$1, 011 491.00	\$ 132.05 145.26	\$1, 143.05 636.26
Couple/ One Spouse Eligible	\$ 674 994.00	\$ 130.43 143.47	\$ 806.43 1,137.47
Living in the Household of Another			
Eligible Individual	\$ 449.34 662.67	\$ 83.78 92.16	\$ 533.12 754.83
Eligible Couple	\$ 674 994.00	\$ 132.05 145.26	\$ 806.05 1,139.26
Couple/ One Spouse Eligible	\$ 449.34 662.67	\$ 135.05 148.56	\$ 584.39 811.23
Natural Residential or Substitute Care SSI-E Exceptional Expense Supplement			
Eligible Individual	\$ 674 994.00	*\$ 179.77 197.75	\$ 883.77 1,191.75
Eligible Couple	\$1, 011 491.00	*\$ 477.41 525.16	\$1, 488.41 2,016.16
SSI Caretaker Supplement			

Effective November July 1, 1999 2023	* \$250 **\$275 for the first eligible child and \$ 150 165 for each additional eligible child
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*The SSI-E state payment is available to SSI recipients who reside in certain substitute care facilities or who require additional support services in order to live independently. Only County Social Services/Human Services agencies may certify eligible SSI recipients for the SSI-E supplement.

**The Caretaker Supplement state payment is available to SSI recipients whose dependent children are eligible for certain types of Medicaid.