




**OFFICE OF POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND TRAINING**

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Office of Procedures

**POLICY BULLETIN #15-114-ELI**

**JANUARY 2016 RSDI/SSI COLA**  
*(Use with PD #14-30-ELI)*

<p><b>Date:</b> December 21, 2015</p>	<p><b>Subtopic(s):</b> Budgeting</p>
<p> This procedure can now be accessed on the FIAweb.</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy bulletin is to inform Job Center and Non Cash Assistance Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NCA SNAP) Center staff that there will be no cost of living adjustment (COLA) for Retirement Survivors Disability Insurance (RSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for January 2016.</p> <p>The Social Security Act provides for an increase in Social Security and SSI benefits if there is an increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from the third quarter of the last year that a COLA was determined to the third quarter of the current year. Since there was no increase in the CPI from the third quarter of the last year a COLA was determined (2014) to the third quarter of 2015, there will be no COLA for Social Security and SSI benefits for 2016.</p> <p>Since the SSI benefits for 2016 are unchanged from 2015, the attached SSI and SSP Benefit Levels Chart effective January 1, 2016 (<b>Attachment A</b>) reflects the change in effective date but retains the same benefit levels as in 2015.</p> <p><i>Effective Immediately</i></p> <p><b>References:</b></p> <p>15-INF-10 ABEL Transmittal 15-4</p> <p><b>Related Item:</b></p> <p><a href="#">PD #14-30-ELI</a>      January 2015 RSDI / SSI COLA Increases</p>

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE?  
Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or  
send an e-mail to *FIA Call Center Fax* or fax to: (917) 639-0298

**Attachment:**

🖨 Please use Print on Demand to obtain copies of forms.

**Attachment A** SSI and SSP Benefit Levels Chart effective January 1, 2016

## SSI and SSP Benefit Levels Chart effective January 1, 2016 (reflects the 0% federal COLA for January 2016)

Fed L/A Code	State Supp Code	New York State Living Arrangement	Individual			Couple		
			Federal	State	Total <sup>1</sup>	Federal	State	Total
A	A	<b>Living Alone</b>	\$733	\$87	<b>\$820</b>	\$1,100	\$104	<b>\$1,204</b>
A, C (B)	B (F)	<b>Living With Others</b> (Living in the Household of Another) <sup>2</sup>	\$733 (\$488.67)	\$23	<b>\$756</b> <b>(\$511.67)</b>	\$1,100 (\$733.34)	\$46	<b>\$1,146</b> <b>(\$779.34)</b>
A	C	<b>Congregate Care Level 1 - Family Care</b> OCFS certified Family Type Homes for Adults; and OMH or OPWDD certified Family Care Homes <i>NYC, Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester Counties</i>	\$733	\$266.48	<b>\$999.48</b>	\$1,100	\$898.96	<b>\$1,998.96</b>
		<i>Rest of State</i>	\$733	\$228.48	<b>\$961.48</b>	\$1,100	\$822.96	<b>\$1,922.96</b>
A	D	<b>Congregate Care Level 2 - Residential Care</b> OMH or OPWDD certified Community Residences, Individualized Residential Alternatives and OASAS certified Chemical Dependence Residential Services <i>NYC, Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester Counties</i>	\$733	\$435	<b>\$1,168</b>	\$1,100	\$1,236	<b>\$2,336</b>
		<i>Rest of State</i>	\$733	\$405	<b>\$1,138</b>	\$1,100	\$1,176	<b>\$2,276</b>
A	E	<b>Congregate Care Level 3 – Enhanced Residential Care</b> DOH certified Adult Homes and Enriched Housing programs; and OPWDD certified Schools for the Developmentally Disabled	\$733	\$694	<b>\$1,427</b>	\$1,100	\$1,754	<b>\$2,854</b>
D	Z	<b>Title XIX (Medicaid certified) Institutions</b> <sup>3</sup>	\$30	0 <sup>4</sup>	<b>\$30</b>	\$60	0	<b>\$60</b>
A	Z	(see below) <sup>5</sup>	\$733	0	<b>\$733</b>	\$1,100	0	<b>\$1,100</b>

**Minimum Personal Needs Allowances**

Congregate Care Level 1 -	\$ 141
Congregate Care Level 2 -	\$ 163
Congregate Care Level 3 -	\$ 193

**Limits on Countable Resources**

Individuals	\$2,000
Couples	\$3,000

Statutory References: Chap. 57 of L. 2015

Revised 20 Oct 2015

<sup>1</sup> The combined federal and State SSI benefit provided to eligible individuals and eligible couples with no countable income.

<sup>2</sup> The *Living With Others* category includes recipients whose federal benefit has been reduced by the "value of the 1/3 reduction" (VTR) due to the federal determination that they are both:

a) Living in someone else's household, and b) receiving some amount of free or subsidized food and shelter (room and board).

<sup>3</sup> Applies when an SSI recipient is residing in a medical facility, is not expected to return home within 90 days, and Medicaid is paying for at least 50% of the cost of care.

<sup>4</sup> Recipients in nursing homes licensed by DOH receive an additional monthly grant of \$25 issued by OTDA called a State Supplemental Personal Needs Allowance (SSPNA). Residents of other medical facilities receive an SSPNA of \$5.

<sup>5</sup> No State supplement is provided: a) when an SSI recipient is residing in a private medical facility and Medicaid is paying for less than 50% of the cost of care, or b) when a recipient resides in certain publicly operated residential facilities serving 16 or fewer residents, or c) while a recipient resides in a public emergency shelter for 6 calendar months during a 9 month period.