

Minnesota Supplemental Aid

Program Description

Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA) is a state funded program that provides a monthly cash supplement to persons who are aged, blind, or 18 years of age or older and disabled who also receive federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Some recipients receive MSA and do not receive SSI benefits because their income is too high. The MSA program is administered by county human services agencies.

Eligibility Criteria

MSA is available to Minnesota residents who:

- are recipients of SSI, or
- are eligible for SSI except for excess income and whose net income is less than the MSA standards.

To receive MSA benefits, a person must be:

- age 65 or older, or
- blind or have severely impaired vision, or
- disabled according to the criteria used for Retirement and Survivors Disability Insurance (RSDI) and SSI and be between the ages of 18 and 65. Disability for non-SSI recipients is determined by the State Medical Review Team.

Recipients must have resources that total no more than:

- \$2,000 for an individual
- \$3,000 for a couple

Monthly MSA standards (in 2002) are:

Person living alone	\$606
Person living with others	\$454
Married couple living alone	\$908
Married couple living with others	\$606
Personal needs allowance (people in certain non-medical congregate care facilities)	\$ 71

Standards are adjusted annually by the amount of the cost of living adjustment in SSI.

Program Recipients and Costs

In state fiscal year 1999 (July 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999), total annual payments were \$24,728,888. In the same period there were an average of 25,340 recipients per month with an average monthly payment of \$81.33 per recipient.