

Social Security Administration Announces 2021 Cost of Living Adjustment

ODP Announcement 21-002

AUDIENCE:

Providers who collect room and board such as residential habilitation or life sharing services through the Consolidated, Community Living, and Adult Autism Waivers, Providers of base-funded residential habilitation and life sharing services, and All Other Interested Parties

PURPOSE:

To provide notice that the Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment will increase beginning January 2021.

DISCUSSION:

SSI is a Federal program that provides benefits to adults and children who meet the Social Security Administration (SSA) requirements for disability, income, and resources. This income benefit is designed to help qualified individuals meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter.

Periodically, a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) affects the maximum monthly allotment. Effective January 2021, the SSA increased the SSI allotment by 1.3 percent to reflect an increase in the cost of living. This raises the maximum monthly income to \$794 for an eligible individual, \$1,191 for an eligible individual with an eligible spouse, and \$397 for an essential person.

There is no anticipated increase in the State Supplementary Payment (SSP) for 2021.

To account for the new COLA, Room and Board contracts should be reviewed to determine appropriate adjustment. The following Room and Board Contract (DP 1051) is found on MyODP.org by following this path: Resources> Intellectual Disability> Forms.

Beginning July 1, 2020, the requirements for Room and Board as established in 55 Pa. Code Chapter 6100, must be followed. ODP is in the process of replacing the DP 1051 form to reflect Sections §§6100.681-6100.694 that providers will begin to use. The current DP 1051 will continue to be accepted as current until the annual due date or until a change requires that a new form is completed. ODP will be releasing a bulletin to stakeholders regarding the new room and board requirements with the 6100 regulations. This bulletin will also inform stakeholders of the new form and where it can be found on myodp.org.

This announcement obsoletes Announcement 20-018 *Social Security Administration Announces 2020 Cost of Living Adjustment*. For more specific information regarding SSI and the COLA, please review the [U.S. Social Security Administration website](https://www.ssa.gov).