

# End Poverty For Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Older Adults & People With Disabilities



## Action is needed to bring Individuals on SSI/SSP up to the Federal Poverty Line .

About 1 million older adults and people with disabilities in Californians rely on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and State Supplementary Payment (SSP) income to meet their needs like staying housed, fed, clothed, and healthy.

Current funding levels fall short of what individuals need to live safely and comfortably in California, especially due to the harm caused by recession-era cuts in 2009 and 2011, when California eliminated the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and reduced the state portion of the SSI grant.

“They give you enough so you can stay alive but still struggle and be in pain. It’s not enough to have any quality of life.”

—Sharon, SSI/SSP Recipient in California

## Our Request to Meet Community Need:

- Provide a five-step increase over five years to bring and keep the SSI/SSP grant at 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) as a down payment to the Elder Economic Security Index, which reflects the true cost of living for SSI/SSP recipients. Step 1 would be appropriating \$370,001,033 in the 2025-2026 State Budget to bring SSI/SSP levels up to at least 93% FPL.

Maximum SSI/SSP grant for an individual in 2025:

\$1206

Maximum SSI/SSP grant for an individual if it was raised to 100% off the FPL:

\$1304

Actual Need Based on the Elder Index:<sup>1</sup>

Housing (\$1696)

Food (\$320)

\$232

Healthcare (\$577)

Misc. (\$333)

Transportation

Questions? Visit [ca4ssi.org/contact](https://ca4ssi.org/contact)

<sup>1</sup>Cost of living estimate for an elderly single renter in California in poor health in 2023, <https://elderindex.org/explore>