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Governor

NEW YORK STATE  
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE  
40 NORTH PEARL STREET  
ALBANY, NY 12243-0001

Robert Doar  
Commissioner

## Informational Letter

### Section 1

<b>Transmittal:</b>	04-INF-22
<b>To:</b>	Local District Commissioners
<b>Issuing Division/Office:</b>	Division of Temporary Assistance
<b>Date:</b>	November 8, 2004
<b>Subject:</b>	SSA COLA for January 2005 - SSI and Food Stamp Charts
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Local District Commissioners, TA, FS, & MA Directors, WMS, CAP & Staff Development Coordinators
<b>Contact Person(s):</b>	Team Rep. @ 1 (800) 343-8859: Central Team (TA) 4-9344; Eastern Team (FS) 3-1469; Western Team (HEAP, SSI & IAR) 3-0332; or the Metro Team @ (212) 383-1655
<b>Attachments:</b>	SSI Benefit Levels Chart effective January 1, 2005, and Food Stamp Group Living Budget Data Chart for New York City
<b>Attachment Available On – Line:</b>	X

### Filing References

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
03 INF-40 02 INF-35 01 INF-27 01 INF-15 97 ADM-1			Chapter 310 of Laws of 2004		ABEL Transmittal 04-4 GIS 00 TA/DC021GIS 99 TA/DC021

### I. Purpose

- ❑ To inform local districts that the January 1, 2005 cost-of living adjustment (COLA) for RSDI (regular and disability Social Security benefits) and SSI has been set at 2.7%, and
- ❑ To provide local districts with the *SSI Benefit Levels Chart effective January 1, 2005*, and
- ❑ To provide the new *Food Stamp Group Living Budget Data: Effective January 1, 2005* chart for New York City.

## II. Background

Every year, the Social Security Administration (SSA) adjusts RSDI (Title II - regular Social Security) and federal SSI (Title XVI - Supplemental Security Income) benefits to reflect the increase in the cost of living. This increase is based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) between the third quarter of the current year and the third quarter of the previous year.

The January 1, 2005 COLA for RSDI and federal SSI benefits has been set at 2.7%.

The *SSI Benefit Levels* chart is provided as a resource for informational purposes.

The increases in client income of TA and Food Stamp recipients will be addressed by the annual Mass Rebudgeting. See ABEL Transmittal 04-4 for more information about the annual Mass Rebudgeting.

**Issued By:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Division/Office:** Division of Temporary Assistance