



NEW YORK STATE  
 OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE  
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Andrew M. Cuomo  
 Governor

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 Commissioner

**Informational Letter**

**Section 1**

<b>Transmittal:</b>	13-INF-07
<b>To:</b>	Local District Commissioners
<b>Issuing Division/Office :</b>	Center for Employment and Economic Supports
<b>Date:</b>	December 12, 2013
<b>Subject:</b>	Social Security Administration (SSA) Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for January 2014 - SSI Benefit Levels Chart
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Local District Commissioners Temporary Assistance Directors SNAP and MA Directors WMS, SSI Maximization and Staff Development Coordinators
<b>Contact Person(s):</b>	SSI Questions - SSI State Supplement Bureau (518) 408-4757; TA Questions - Temporary Assistance Bureau (518) 474-9344; Systems Questions - Upstate Systems Bureau (518) 474-6055; Downstate WMS (212) 961-8185
<b>Attachments:</b>	<a href="#">Attachment 1 - SSI Benefit Levels Chart</a>
<b>Attachment Available On – Line:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Filing References**

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
12-INF-17 11-INF-23 09-INF-22 09-INF-14 08-INF-19 07-INF-16 06-INF-33 05-INF-22 04-INF-22 03-INF-40		18 NYCRR 352.8(c) (1) (ii)	Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2013; Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2012; Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2011; Chapter 58		ABEL Transmittal 13-4 PB#3509 - ELI (NYC) ABEL Transmittal 12-7 GIS 12 TA/WMS049 ABEL Transmittal 11-4

02-INF-35 01-INF-27 01-INF-15 97-ADM-1			of the Laws of 2010; Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2009; Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2008; Chapter 132 of the laws of 2007; Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2006; Chapter 515 of the Laws of 2006; Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2005		ABEL Transmittal 08-3 ABEL Transmittal 07-3 ABEL Transmittal 06-4 ABEL Transmittal 05-6 ABEL Transmittal 04-4 GIS 09 TA/WMS036 GIS05 TA/DC042 GIS 00 TA/DC021 GIS 99 TA/DC021
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### **I. Purpose**

To inform social services districts (SSDs) that the January 1, 2014, cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Title II RSDI (Social Security Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance) benefits and SSI (Title XVI – Supplemental Security Income) benefits has been set at 1.5%, and to provide SSDs with the SSI Benefit Levels Chart Effective January 1, 2014.

### **II. Background**

The Social Security Administration (SSA) adjusts RSDI and federal SSI benefits to reflect the increase in the cost of living. This cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase is based on the change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) from the third quarter of the last year to the third quarter of the current year.

### **III. Program Implications**

This year there was an increase in the CPI-W from the third quarter of 2012 (the last year a COLA was determined) to the third quarter of 2013, and as a result RSDI and SSI recipients will receive a COLA in 2014.

The 2014 COLA for RSDI and federal SSI benefits has been set at 1.5%. As authorized by Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2013, the full amount of the 2014 federal COLA will be passed along to all recipients of optional or mandatory SSI State supplementation. Residents of Congregate Care facilities will also see an increase in their Personal Needs Allowance (PNA).

The attached SSI Benefit Levels Chart for 2014 reflects the 1.5% federal COLA increase and the statutory change noted above. It is provided as a resource for informational purposes. The chart can also be viewed on CentraPort under Desk Guides and on the OTDA Intranet site within the Center for Employment and Economic Supports under Desk Guides/Aids. The increases in income of Temporary Assistance (TA) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients were addressed by the annual Mass Rebudgeting on November 16, 2013. See ABEL Transmittal 13-4 (Upstate) or PB #3509 – ELI (NYC) for more information.

The 2014 Medicare Part B Premium Amount will be \$104.90, the same as it was in 2013. Those who filed an individual tax return in 2012 with a yearly income of \$85,000 or less and couples who filed a joint tax return with a yearly income of \$170,000 or less will pay \$104.90 in 2014 for a Part B premium. Those who filed an individual tax return in 2012 with a yearly income above \$85,000 and up to \$107,000, or couples who filed a joint tax return with a yearly income above \$170,000 and up to \$214,000 will pay \$146.90 in 2014.

**Issued By**

**Name:** Phyllis Morris

**Title:** Deputy Commissioner

**Division/Office:** Center for Employment and Economic Supports