

2018 SSA COLA Benefit Impact



Did You Know?

Each year the Social Security Administration calculates eligibility and benefits for the upcoming year. Social Security and Supplemental Security Income recipients will receive a 2% increase in their benefits for 2018.

These changes are because of a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) which may cause a client's monthly cash or SNAP benefits to change. The SSA COLA will happen January 1st.

DTA Benefits Adjustments

In February 2018, DTA benefits will change by a small amount for many households due to the SSA COLA.

Clients will get a notice about this change.

Clients who are not getting the maximum benefit amount should let DTA know about certain expenses listed on the back of this page. This may help households get more in DTA benefits.



For more information on DTA programs
Please visit <http://mass.gov/dta>
Follow us on Twitter at @DTA_Listens



Maximize Your



Benefits!

Tell DTA About Your Expenses!

You may get credit for these expenses even if you are currently not paying for them in full. This may help to increase your SNAP benefits!



Shelter Costs: Rent, Mortgage (Principal, Interest, Taxes, & Insurance), Condo Fees, etc.



Utility Costs: Heating, Cooling, Electricity, Trash Collection, Water & Sewerage, Phone



Dependent Care Costs: Tell us about childcare or adult dependent care costs



DOR Child Support Payments: You may receive credit for paying court ordered child support



Medical Costs: Elderly or disabled clients may claim Co-pays, Prescriptions, Over-the-Counter Medications, Health Insurance, Transportation, etc.



Do You Know About the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP)?

SNAP households can earn a dollar-for-dollar match, up to a monthly cap, when buying fruits and vegetables directly from participating farmers at farmers markets, mobile markets, farm stands, and CSAs. Go to www.mass.gov/hip for more information on HIP, a list of retailers where SNAP clients can earn the incentive benefit, and a list of HIP eligible fruits and vegetables.

Additional Client Resources



To find local employment & training providers please visit www.snappathtowork.org



To find local food sources please call Project Bread's Food Source Hotline at 1-800-645-8333



To find essential health and human services programs in your area please call 2-1-1



To find nutritional advice please visit the Food & Nutrition Service website at www.choosemyplate.gov



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