

Transition of the Administration of the SSI State Supplement Program (SSP)

Summary of Changes

9/3/2014

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

<p>APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY PROCESS</p>	<p>Application is filed with the Social Security Administration (SSA).</p> <p>SSA determines eligibility and benefit amount for both Supplement Security Income (SSI) and the New York State Supplement Program (SSP). SSA performs a separate eligibility calculation for SSP if the applicant is ineligible for SSI benefits due to excess income and will issue just SSP benefits if the applicant is eligible.</p> <p>SSA determines the recipient’s New York State Living Arrangement (SLA) as part of the eligibility process.</p>	<p>Application is filed with the Social Security Administration (SSA) and continues to serve as the application for the State Supplement Program (SSP). There is no separate application for the SSP.</p> <p>Eligibility requirements for SSP remain the same. An individual must either be eligible for SSI or ineligible for SSI due to income that is still within State eligibility standards.</p> <p>SSA determines eligibility and benefit amount for SSI but does <u>NOT</u> determine SSP eligibility or benefit level. SSA transmits information on both SSI eligible recipients and on applicants denied SSI due to excess income to New York State via the State Data Exchange (SDX).</p> <p>OTDA SSP will perform a separate calculation for those applicants over the SSI income eligibility standards to determine if the applicant is income eligible for SSP-only benefits.</p> <p>SSA will not determine the SLA. OTDA SSP will be responsible and will use a variety of information sources (i.e., SDX, the Welfare Management System (WMS), Congregate Care</p>

Summary of Changes

Prior to October 1, 2014

Effective October 1, 2014

	<p>SSI and /or SSP benefits generally begin in the month following the month in which the application was filed.</p>	<p>Directory, the applicant/recipient) to determine the SLA.</p> <p>SSP benefits generally begin in the month following the month in which the application was filed.</p>
<p>BENEFIT AMOUNTS</p>	<p>SSA issues one monthly payment that includes both the SSI and SSP benefit or, if the recipient is eligible only for SSP, includes only the SSP benefit.</p>	<p>Two monthly payments will be issued to recipients receiving both SSI and SSP benefits. SSA will issue the federal SSI benefit and NYS will issue the SSP benefit separately. SSP-only benefits will be issued solely by NYS.</p> <p>The total benefit amount received by the recipient remains the same.</p>

Summary of Changes

Prior to October 1, 2014

Effective October 1, 2014

PAYMENT METHODS	SSA issues benefits via direct deposit into a savings or checking account, onto a Direct Express card, or by check if the recipient has requested a waiver and received approval of the waiver from SSA.	<p>OTDA SSP will issue the SSP benefit in the same manner as the SSI benefit for those recipients receiving both SSI and SSP.</p> <p>OTDA SSP will continue to issue SSP-only benefits in the same manner that SSA used for those SSP-only recipients who are in receipt of benefits before the transition.</p> <p>SSP-only recipients who become eligible after October 1 may choose the method of payment, but direct deposit is strongly encouraged. No waiver is required to receive payments by check.</p> <p>In most cases, a check is automatically issued if the direct deposit fails in any given month.</p>
BANKING INFORMATION	Banking information and direct deposit forms sent to SSA are used to issue and deposit both SSI and SSP benefits.	<p>Banking information provided to SSA will be utilized for SSP benefits for those recipients receiving both SSI and SSP.</p> <p>For SSP-only recipients who become eligible after October 1, and for any SSP-only recipient who decides to change banking options, banking information must be submitted directly to OTDA SSP.</p>

Summary of Changes

Prior to October 1, 2014

Effective October 1, 2014

BENEFIT ISSUANCE DATES	Benefits for recipients in receipt of SSI and/or SSP are issued on the first of each month or on the preceding business day if the first falls on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday.	SSP benefits will be issued on the first of each month or on the preceding business day if the first falls on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday.
RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENTS	SSA identifies and recovers overpayments for both SSI and SSP.	SSA identifies and recovers overpayments using federal rules for SSI only. OTDA SSP identifies and recovers overpayments for SSP.
CORRECTING UNDERPAYMENTS	SSA identifies and corrects underpayments for both SSI and SSP.	SSA identifies and corrects underpayments for SSI only. OTDA SSP identifies and corrects underpayments for SSP.
DISABILITY PROCESS	SSA determines disability for all SSI and SSP-Only recipients.	SSA will continue to conduct disability determinations as part of the SSI application process. OTDA SSP will accept all disability determinations made by SSA. In cases where an applicant is over income for SSI and a disability determination is required, OTDA will conduct the disability determination for those applicants whose income is within SSP limits.

Summary of Changes

Prior to October 1, 2014

Effective October 1, 2014

REPORTING CHANGES	All changes, including those for SSP-only recipients, are reported to and managed by SSA.	<p>Recipients of both SSI and SSP will continue to report changes to SSA, who will pass these changes to OTDA SSP via the SDX. Congregate Care providers must be asked to report admissions and discharges of SSI recipients to both SSA and OTDA.</p> <p>SSP-only recipients report all changes to OTDA SSP.</p>
PAYEES	<p>SSA rules for Representative Payees are followed for both SSI and SSP. Representative Payees manage both SSI and SSP benefits.</p> <p>Representative Payees may be appointed by SSA due to recipient inability to manage funds and may be eligible to receive fees for services.</p>	<p>OTDA SSP has a similar process for third party payees entitled Designated Representatives.</p> <p>OTDA SSP will automatically accept all SSA Representative Payees and the SSA Representative Payee will become the Designated Representative for the SSP payments. A recipient in receipt of both SSI and SSP may only have one payee.</p>

Summary of Changes

Prior to October 1, 2014

Effective October 1, 2014

		An SSP-only recipient may grant different levels of authority to the Designated Representative. These are: payee, receive and provide information, and Fair Hearing representative.
APPEALS	All appeals are handled by SSA using federal rules.	Hearings on federal determinations will be handled by SSA. Hearings on OTDA SSP determinations will be handled by the NYS Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) in accordance with OTDA regulations and procedures.
TEMPORARY HOSPITAL STAYS	Recipient or congregate care provider notifies SSA of an individual's temporary transfer to a hospital. SSA continues to pay the SSI/SSP or SSP-Only benefit for up to 90 days to retain the recipient's bed.	Recipient or provider notifies SSA and OTDA SSP of an individual's temporary transfer to a hospital. SSA continues to pay the SSI benefit and NYS will continue to pay the SSP benefit for up to 90 days to retain the recipient's bed.