

FEDERAL, STATE and LOCAL BENEFITS

Federal, state and local governments provide a variety of benefits for residents. Eligibility standards vary by program.

FEDERAL BENEFITS

Medicare provides federal insurance coverage or subsidies for individuals of all ages, depending on eligibility. See the section titled INSURANCE for further details of this program.

Social Security is the largest financial assistance program serving those who are retired, disabled, or surviving spouses and children. Social Security Administration determines the amount the individual will receive.

- ◆ **Retirement Benefits** – Most individuals who work pay taxes to fund Social Security benefits. The amount received depends on the year the individual was born and the individual's Full Retirement Age.
- ◆ **Disability Benefits (SSDI)** – Social Security Disability Income may be available to adults ages 18–64, who cannot work due to a physical or mental condition. The condition must be expected to last at least one year or result in death.

The application process can be lengthy. It is important to apply as soon as possible at www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability.

- ◆ **Survivors Insurance** – Upon the death of a spouse or parent, an individual may be eligible to collect Social Security income based on the work record of the deceased. Eligible children over age 18 can receive their own benefit depending on school enrollment status or disability.
- ◆ **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** - Provides a minimum monthly income for those who are aged, blind or disabled who may not qualify for regular Social Security income. An individual who has never worked may be eligible to collect benefits if they have very limited income and assets.

Social Security was not intended to be the sole source of income for retirees, so it is important to prepare for retirement with other pensions, savings and investments.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
1-800-772-1213 (Toll-Free), 1-800-325-0778 (TTY)

Automated information is available 24 hours a day. To speak to a service representative, call between the hours of 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

Social Security's website provides benefit information and applications at www.ssa.gov. Also provided is a place to create your own account to browse your individual projected earnings www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Social Security local offices provide service during the following timeframes:
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Wed. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

1325 N. Lake Street
Aurora, IL 60506
1-877-274-5412 or (630)264-3739

Services residents of: Aurora, Carol Stream, Eola, Fox Valley, Naperville, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton and Winfield.

230 W. Lake Street
Bloomington, IL 60108
1-800-325-0778

Services residents of: Addison, Bensenville, Bloomington, Elmhurst, Itasca, Lombard, Medinah, Oakbrook Terrace, Roselle, Villa Park, Wayne and Wood Dale.

7440 Providence Drive
Woodridge, IL 60517
1-866-303-2724

Services residents of: Burr Ridge, Clarendon Hills, Darien, Downers Grove, Glen Ellyn, Glendale Heights, Hinsdale, Lisle, Oak Brook, Westmont, Willowbrook, and Woodridge.

790 Fletcher Drive, Ste 100
Elgin, IL 60123
1-877-405-0435

Services residents of: Bartlett, Hanover Park, Ontarioville and Streamwood.



STATE BENEFITS

Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Family Community Resource Center

1717 Park Street, Suite 105, Naperville, IL 60563
(630) 530-1120, (630) 530-1135 (TDD)

Change Report Line 1-800-720-4166

Current clients can notify IDHS of changes.

Quick Answer System 1-800-843-6154, 1-800-447-6404 (TTY)

Automated helpline provided for clients and providers. Call to check case status, availability of grants, food stamps, etc.

www.dhs.state.il.us

- ◆ **SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – “Food Stamps”**
Administers the nutrition program for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Benefits are provided through the Illinois Link Card to purchase certain food items and is accepted at most grocery stores.
- ◆ **State Supplemental Payments (SSP) / AABD** - Provides cash assistance that supplements SSI to the aged, blind or disabled who have incomes that are insufficient to meet basic needs based on state established standards.
- ◆ **TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)** - Provides temporary monthly income to women who are pregnant or families with children under age 19, who have insufficient income to meet their basic needs, based on state established standards. Grandparents raising grandchildren may also be eligible for this benefit.
- ◆ **Medicaid (in Illinois also considered part of the Affordable Care Act)** - Insurance coverage and subsidies, both state and federally funded. Available to those individuals who have incomes that are insufficient to meet basic needs. See the section titled **INSURANCE** for further details of this program.



ENERGY AND WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

DuPage County Community Services - Intake & Referral

421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

(630) 407-6500

1-800-942-9412

The following Federal programs are administered by DuPage County to provide financial benefit to low-income households that assist in gas and electric bills.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP)

www.dupageco.org/liheap

Assists low-income households by offsetting the rising cost of home energy through direct financial assistance, energy counseling, outreach and education.

Emergency assistance may be available if your household has a disconnect notice from your gas or electric supplier, or a fuel supplier has refused to deliver service. Homeowners whose furnace is non-operational or unsafe to operate, may also be eligible for emergency assistance.



Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP)

www.dupageco.org/weatherization

Provides a diagnostic test to income eligible households to aid in lowering the cost of utilities. Energy saving measures provided may include sealing cracks, insulating walls and attics, as well as weather stripping, caulking and repairing of windows and doors.

IHWAP checks each furnace for safety and efficiency. Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors will be checked or installed in homes.



ComEd CARE (Customers' Affordable, Reliable Energy) – Offers a variety of programs subject to available funding.

- ◆ **Residential Hardship**
DuPage County Community Services
Intake & Referral (630) 407-6500, 1-800-942-9412
www.dupageco.org/community



A program available to customers suffering a hardship due to job loss, illness, disability or as an older adult. Eligibility guidelines apply and the program is subject to change or cancellation.

- ◆ **CHAMP (ComEd Helps Activated Military Personnel)**
ComEd Care 1-888-806-2273
www.comed.com/MyAccount/Customersupport/Pages/CHAMP.aspx

Program tailored for active members of the military, including the National Guard and Reserves, and honorably discharged personnel. Benefits can include bill payment, deferred billing arrangements, extended due dates, cancellation of late charges, deposit reduction or budget payment plan options.



Nicor Gas Sharing Program

1S415 Summit Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181
(630) 629-3044

www.nicorgas.com/residential/energy-assistance/sharing-program
Salvation Army www.salarmychicago.org

Administered by the local Salvation Army, the Nicor Gas Sharing Program provides a one-time annual grant to residential customers who are income eligible. Applicants cannot be eligible for LIHEAP.

This location serves Oak Brook, Oakbrook Terrace and Villa Park. All other DuPage County residents can access the Salvation Army Service Extension centers at their township offices www.dupageco.org/seniorsvcs/townshipmap

