WHAT IS MSA?

MSA is a program that can give you more income if you are:

- Over age 18 (or under 18 and blind), and
- Getting Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

If you do not get SSI because you have too much money, you may still get MSA.

The monthly maximum MSA benefit is:

- $81 for an individual, or
- $111 for a couple

You may also get MSA Special Needs Payments if you:

- Have a special diet prescribed by your doctor
- Pay fees for having a guardian, conservator, or representative payee
- Need furniture or home repairs

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MSA Housing Assistance

MSA Housing Assistance helps some people who get MSA pay for housing.

You may be eligible for MSA Housing Assistance if you:
- Get MSA,
- Are between 18 and 65 when you apply, and
- Pay more than 40% of your income for housing costs.

You also must meet **one** of the following:
- Be moving from a hospital, Regional Treatment Center, nursing home, ICF-DD, or an Intensive Residential Mental Health Treatment Program (IRTS), or
- Be eligible for MA PCA services, or
- Be receiving Waivered Services (BI, CAC, CADI, DD) in your own home
- Transitioning from the Housing Support (formerly Group Residential Housing) program.

MSA Housing Assistance Benefit

If you apply and are eligible for MSA Housing Assistance, you will get an extra $421 per month (as of July 1, 2022), in addition to your regular MSA benefits.

Example of a MSA Housing Assistance Benefit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSI Federal Benefit Rate</td>
<td>$841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum MSA benefit</td>
<td>$81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSA Housing Assistance</td>
<td>$421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td>$1,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total income accurate as of July 1, 2022

MSA Tips

Apply for MSA (including Housing Assistance or other special needs),

- Fill out the Combined Application Form, DHS-5223 and return it to your county, or
- Apply online at www.applymn.org.

You can use rent and utility receipts or ask your worker for the DHS shelter verification form (DHS-2952) as proof of housing and utility expenses.