



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Division Staff and Interested Parties  
FROM: Gail Havelick, Division for Perinatal, Early Childhood and Special Health Needs  
DATE: November 8, 2007  
RE: **SSI INCOME AND BENEFITS CHANGE FOR 2008**

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**IMPORTANT UPDATE!**

Effective January 1, 2008 the Supplemental Security Income Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) is increased according to the 2.3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). The federal change will affect the monthly SSI benefit as well as the maximum income limits for families with disabled or blind children in Massachusetts.

Enclosed are the revised charts reflecting those changes. Any family who may have been slightly over the SSI income limits in 2007 should be notified of the January increase. They may now be eligible for benefits under the SSI Program. If found eligible, the child will also qualify for MassHealth (Medicaid).

A disabled or blind child in a family whose income still exceeds the SSI limits may be eligible for CommonHealth for disabled children. To apply for CommonHealth, an MBR (Medical Benefit Request) form must be completed along with the Children's Disability Supplement. To obtain these forms from a MassHealth Enrollment Center, call 1-888-665-9993, or 1-800-841-2900.

If you have any further questions about SSI or CommonHealth, please do not hesitate to call the DPH Division for Perinatal, Early Childhood and Special Health Needs Community Support Line at 1-800-882-1435 and ask to speak with a Resource Specialist.

Enclosure