

Overview of State/County Special Assistance Programs

Presentation to Joint Legislative Oversight Committee
on Health and Human Services

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Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Aging and Adult Services
Suzanne Merrill, Adult Services Section Chief

State/County Special Assistance Program

Purpose of Program

- Provides a cash payment to supplement a person's own income to pay the cost of room and board in certain licensed facilities or for persons who can live safely at home
- Licensed facilities include:
 - Adult care homes and family care homes licensed under G.S. 131D, and
 - Supervised living facilities licensed under G.S. 122C and NC Adm. Code 10A NCAC 27G .5600 A and C

Eligibility

Must:

- Be financially eligible based on:
 - income (income threshold: \$1,228/month for Basic SA in certain licensed facilities and \$1,561/month for Alzheimer's Special Care Units)
 - resource (assets) limit of \$2,000
 - SA In-Home (must first qualify for Medicaid)
- Be a U.S. citizen or qualified alien
- Meet State residency requirements

Eligibility

- Have physician documentation (FL-2) indicating need for adult care home level of care; and
- Be 65 years of age or older, or if between the ages of 18-64, must meet Social Security definition for disability or legally blind
- Eligibility is determined by county departments of social services

SA Rates

- Established by the General Assembly
- Maximum Rate for Basic SA--\$1,182/month
- Maximum Rate for Special Care Alzheimer's Dementia Unit--\$1,515/month
- Personal Needs Allowance--\$46/month

SA Budget

- Total SA expenditures for SFY 10-11:
\$144,129,226
- Certified Budget for SFY 11-12:
\$140,427,088
- Payments to recipients are 50% state and-
50% county

History of Recipient Numbers and Expenditures

State Fiscal Year	Total Expenditures	SA Basic ACH Unduplicated Client Count	SA Special Care Unit Unduplicated Client Count	SA In-Home Unduplicated Client Count
2004-2005	\$ 134,243,286.00	30,151	program not established	939
2005-2006	\$ 139,486,915.00	29,467	629	1,040
2006-2007	\$ 142,412,950.00	29,664	1,110	1,503
2007-2008	\$ 148,392,234.00	29,214	1,724	2,027
2008-2009	\$ 151,366,306.00	28,297	2,429	2,429
2009-2010	\$ 142,881,801.00	27,467	2,942	2,567
2010-2011	\$ 144,129,226.00	26,810	3,568	2,774

SA Payment

- Payment is based on applicant/recipient's total countable monthly income
- SA Basic payment is:
 - SA Basic rate established by the General Assembly-- currently \$1,182 plus \$46 personal needs allowance = \$1,228 total
 - Minus recipient's income from other sources
 - Example:
$$\$1,182 + \$46 = \$1,228 - \$700 \text{ (monthly income)} = \$528 \text{ SA payment}$$
 - Recipient retains \$46 out of SA payment
- SA In-Home payment up to 75% of the monthly payment person would have received if residing in adult care home

State/County Special Assistance In-Home Program

History and Background

- 1999 SA/IH began as a demonstration project by the General Assembly (G.A.)
 - 400 slots
 - SA/IH payment up to 50% of payment person would have received if residing in an adult care home
- 2003 G.A. increased slots to 800
- 2005 G.A. increased slots to 1,000;
increased SA/IH payment from 50% to 75%
- 2007 G.A. codified Program into G.S. 108A-47.1
 - expanded from 1,000 slots to 15% of statewide SA caseload
- Payments are 50% state and 50% county







County Participation

- Voluntary participation by County DSSs
- Ninety-one DSSs currently participating
- 3,108 slots allocated with 2,241 filled as of May 1, 2012

Special Assistance In-Home Participating Counties

May 2012



- | | |
|--|---|
| Original SA/IH Counties (eff. 9/14/2000) |  |
| Additional SA/IH Counties (eff. 10/1/2003) |  |
| Additional SA/IH Counties (eff. 12/7/2004) |  |
| Additional SA/IH Counties (eff. 11/1/2005) |  |
| Additional SA/IH Counties (eff. 9/8/2006) |  |
| Additional SA/IH Counties (eff. 10/1/2007) |  |

SA/IH Participating Counties

- Alamance
- Alexander
- Ashe
- Avery
- Beaufort
- Bertie
- Bladen
- Buncombe
- Burke
- Cabarrus
- Caldwell
- Carteret
- Caswell
- Catawba
- Chatham
- Cherokee
- Clay
- Cleveland
- Columbus
- Craven
- Cumberland
- Currituck
- Dare
- Davidson
- Davie
- Duplin
- Durham
- Edgecombe
- Forsyth
- Franklin
- Granville
- Gaston
- Gates
- Graham
- Greene
- Guilford
- Halifax
- Harnett
- Haywood
- Henderson
- Hertford
- Hoke
- Hyde
- Iredell
- Jackson
- Johnston
- Lee
- Lenoir
- Lincoln
- Macon
- Madison
- Martin
- McDowell
- Mecklenburg
- Mitchell
- Montgomery
- Moore
- Nash
- New Hanover
- Northampton
- Onslow
- Orange
- Pamlico
- Pasquotank
- Pender
- Person
- Pitt
- Polk
- Randolph
- Richmond
- Robeson
- Rockingham
- Rowan
- Rutherford
- Sampson
- Scotland
- Stanly
- Stokes
- Surry
- Swain
- Transylvania
- Union
- Vance
- Wake
- Warren
- Watauga
- Wayne
- Wilkes
- Wilson
- Yadkin
- Yancey

Need for Services

- Comprehensive assessment completed by DSS case manager to determine needs
- Case management required:
 - Assist with identifying, coordinating, and monitoring needed services for persons to remain safely at home
 - Assure good stewardship of SA payment

How are SA/IH Payments Used?

- To assist recipients to remain independent and safe in their own homes
- Rent, utilities, food
- Other necessities: critical home repairs, clothing, household items, nutritional supplements, protective under-garments, respite care to relieve informal caregivers, assistance in the home