



SSI Living Arrangements Regulatory Changes - Effective September 30th, 2024

Background

The Agency is committed to the following goals: simplifying our policies, reducing burdens on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claimants and recipients, and reducing burdens on our technicians. We have updated certain regulations relating to living arrangements and In-Kind Support and Maintenance (ISM) to help us achieve these goals. First, effective September 30, 2024, we will no longer include food in ISM calculations, refer to EM-24048. Second, we are expanding the definition of a Public Assistance (PA) Household by adding Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to our list of Public Income Maintenance (PIM) payments. We are also revising the requirement that every member of the household receives a PIM payment to one in which the SSI claimant or recipient and one other member are receiving one of the listed PIM payments, refer to SI 00835.130. Third, we are expanding nationwide the Rental Subsidy Exception rule that currently only exists in Second and Seventh Circuit states, refer to SI 00835.380. This publication provides a snapshot of the policy updates impacted by these regulatory changes. NOTE: A living arrangement period change date of 9/29/2024 is required in the SSI Claims System in order for the regulatory changes to be effective on 9/30/2024.

Public Assistance Household

The definition of a PA Household, [SI 00835.130](#), is expanded to include situations in which the SSI claimant or recipient resides with at least one other person who receives a PIM payment. If there is at least one other person in the household who receives a PIM payment (including SNAP), technicians do not need to develop inside ISM. If this is the case:

- Answer “Yes” to the question “The household has both the SSI claimant and one other household member who receives a public assistance benefit” on the new Household Living with Others page.
- Select the other household member who receives a PIM payment from the drop-down menu.
- Select the appropriate PIM assistance type and verify receipt.

SNAP benefits were added to the list of acceptable types of PA and PIM payments, refer to [SI 01320.141](#). Exclude from deemed income, the PIM payment and any income used to compute such payment. This deeming exclusion applies to the income of an ineligible spouse or parent. See SI 01320.141 for another instance when this deeming exclusion applies.

- For deemors (and ineligible children, if any) who receive SNAP benefits, select “Non-Cash Public Assistance” from the Income menu within the SSI claims path.

Omitting Food from ISM

Food is no longer included in ISM calculations when determining if the claimant’s contribution equals or exceeds their share of the household expenses. Determine a claimant’s pro rata share and, if ISM applies, only calculate shelter expenses.

- The Household of Another and the Household Expenses and Contributions pages have been combined into a new page. This new page is called Household Living With Others. Technicians will only need to consider shelter expenses when developing ISM. Earmarking and token contribution no longer apply.

Rental Subsidy

In rental subsidy situations where someone in the household is related to the landlord (or landlord’s spouse) as a parent or child, rental subsidy does not apply if the verified required rent **equals** or exceeds the lesser of either: the Current Market Rental Value (CMRV) or the Presumed Maximum Value (PMV), refer to [SI 00835.380](#). No further development is needed.

- Due to Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) impacting the PMV each year, an E2 diary will generate in the COLA run for affected cases. Follow instructions in the EM associated with this Policy in Focus.

If the rental payment is less than both the PMV and CMRV, follow guidance in [SI 00835.380](#) to complete development to determine if ISM applies.

Resources

[SI 00810.005](#) What is Income
[SI 00835.130](#) Public Assistance Households
[SI 01320.141](#) Deeming: Public Income Maintenance Payments
[SI 00835.380](#) Rental Subsidies
[EM-24047](#) SSI Living Arrangement Regulatory Changes – Technician Instructions for Identifying and Processing Affected Cases
[EM-24048](#) Omitting Food from In-Kind Support and Maintenance Calculations
[SSI Living Arrangements Regulatory Changes SharePoint - All Resources](#)
[Regulatory Changes Living Arrangements VOD](#)