



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY KINSLEY • Secretary

JOYCE MASSEY-SMITH, MPA
Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services

November 17, 2022

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: SPECIAL ASSISTANCE AND ADULT SERVICES SUPERVISORS, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, AND PROGRAM MANAGERS

SUBJECT: Special Assistance (SA) and Special Assistance In-Home (SA-IH) Rate Adjustments for 2023

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

As per North Carolina Session Law 2022-74 and effective January 1, 2023 (and each January 1 thereafter), Special Assistance rates shall be adjusted using the federally approved Social Security cost-of-living change (if any) effective for the applicable year. The federally approved Social Security cost-of-living (COLA) adjustment effective for 2023 is 8.7%. As a result, the following Special Assistance rate changes will occur:

- effective January 1, 2023, the monthly **Basic Rate** for Special Assistance shall be \$1,285.00, and the SA Basic Maintenance Amount shall be \$1,355.00
- effective January 1, 2023, the monthly **Enhanced Rate** (previously known as the SCU Rate) for Special Assistance shall be \$1,647.00, and the SA Enhanced Maintenance Amount shall be \$1,717.00

Special Assistance policy will be updated to indicate this change and a related Change Notice issued at a later date and prior to implementation of these rate changes.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' CHANGES DUE TO COLA ADJUSTMENT

1. RSDI/SSI - Effective January 1, 2023, recipients of RSDI and/or SSI will receive an 8.7% COLA increase in their monthly benefits.
2. SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR) - Effective January 1, 2023, the SSI FBR for an individual will increase to \$914.00 per month.
3. VA Compensation and Benefits - Effective January 1, 2023, most recipients of VA compensation and benefits will receive an 8.7% COLA increase in their monthly benefit.

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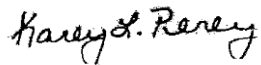
LOCATION: 693 Palmer Drive, Taylor Hall, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 2101 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2101
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-3400 • FAX: 919-733-0443

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

The COLA mass change process in NC FAST for Special Assistance facility cases and for Special Assistance In-Home (SA-IH) cases will take place in the normal manner. Both NC FAST and DAAS will issue communications regarding the COLA mass change process at a future date.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Special Assistance listserv at specialassistance@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Karey Perez
Adult Services Section Chief
Division of Aging and Adult Services

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