



MICHELLE BAASS
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

November 28, 2022

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No.: 22-31
ALL COUNTY WELFARE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY MEDS LIAISONS

SUBJECT: 2023 SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME/STATE SUPPLEMENTARY
PAYMENT CASH GRANT LEVELS FOR DETERMINING PICKLE
ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER RELATED INFORMATION

The purpose of this All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) is to provide the Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/State Supplementary Payment (SSP) Cash Grant Levels for 2023 along with the In-Kind Support and Maintenance Values (ISM) for computing Pickle eligibility, the 2023 resource limit for Medi-Cal and Pickle cases, and the 2022 Pickle Disregard Computation chart.

This letter provides the counties with the following enclosures:

- Enclosure 1: The Effective Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/State Supplementary Payment (SSP) Cash Grant Levels for Determining Pickle Eligibility from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.
- Enclosure 2: The 2023 In-Kind Support and Maintenance Values for Computing Pickle Eligibility.
- Enclosure 3: The 2023 Resource Limit for Both Medi-Cal and Pickle Cases.
- Enclosure 4: The 2022 Pickle Disregard Computation Chart (2022 Pickle Multipliers).

SSI/SSP Payment Levels

The SSI/SSP payment levels effective January 1, 2023, are included in Enclosure 1. In the past, in some cases, the corresponding rate was the May 1, 2009 rate. However, all rates have now exceeded the May 2009 rate. Enclosure 1 replaces page 16-a in the Pickle Manual. Use the January 1, 2023, rates when determining eligibility for Disabled Adult Child, Disabled Widow/Widower, 250 Percent Working Disabled, and the Aged, Blind, and Disabled Federal Poverty Level programs.

2023 Resource Limits

The resource limit for both Medi-Cal only and Pickle eligibility has increased as of July 1, 2022, to \$130,000 per person and \$195,000 for two people, and \$65,000 for each additional person (up to a maximum of 10 people). Enclosure 3 replaces page 15-12 in the Pickle Manual.

Effective January 1, 2024, the asset limits for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal programs will be eliminated. See ACWDL [22-25](#) for more information.

2023 Federal Benefits Rate

Individual: \$914
Couple: \$1,371

Standard/Parent Allocation Amounts

The SSI standard and parent allocation amounts are based on the federal benefit rate (FBR), which is based on the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). The Social Security COLA is 8.7 percent for 2023; the standard allocation amount is \$457, which is calculated by subtracting the FBR for an eligible individual from the FBR for an eligible couple.

The 2023 parent allocation amounts when there is earned income, unearned income, or a combination of income are:

- The parent allocation (if one ineligible parent lives with a child) \$914 (for an individual)
- The parent allocation (if both ineligible parents live with a child) is \$1,371 (for a couple)

The link below provides more information on the SSI FBR:

<https://www.ssa.gov/oact/cola/SSI.html>

2022 Pickle Disregard Computation Chart

Effective January 1, 2023, use the enclosed chart (Enclosure 4) when computing a Title II disregard amount for Pickle eligibles and applicants. The COLA disregard relates to individuals who were terminated from SSI/SSP in December 2022. The chart is titled with the year 2022 because the COLA disregard relates to individuals who were terminated from SSI/SSP in 2022.

Below is an example of how to determine the Pickle disregard for an applicant/beneficiary:

2023 gross Title II benefit amount:	\$1681.00
2022 disregard multiplier:	<u>x 0.0800</u>
Raw Disregard Amount:	\$134.48
Disregard rounded down to the nearest whole dollar:	\$134.00
2023 gross Title II benefit amount:	\$1681.00
Subtract disregard:	<u>-\$134.00</u>
Total:	\$1547.00
Total countable Title II income:	\$1547.00

Note: Per Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letters (MEDILs) [I 20-07](#), [I 20-08](#), [I 20-18](#), [I 20-25](#), and [I 20-26](#), counties must defer discontinuances and other negative actions based on the declared federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) for most beneficiaries. Counties shall continue to handle Medi-Cal eligibility as outlined in ACWDL [21-26](#) for case processing actions allowed during the COVID 19 PHE and ACWDL [22-18](#) for case processing during the COVID 19 PHE unwinding period. Counties shall process determinations or redeterminations for those individuals who would gain access to health care coverage and resolve barriers related to access to care.

All County Welfare Directors Letter No.: 22-31
Page 4
November 28, 2022

If you have any questions, or if we can provide further information, please contact Minel Tobertga by email at Minel.Tobertga@dhcs.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 345-8075.

Original Signed By

Theresa Hasbrouck
Acting Branch Chief
Policy Development Branch
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division

Enclosures

SSI/SSP

PAYMENT STANDARDS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

(Rates used may be May 1, 2009 rates)

INDIVIDUAL

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
AGED or DISABLED	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$914.00	\$609.34	\$609.34	\$914.00
SSP	\$219.73	\$224.55	\$571.80	\$578.82
Total	\$1,133.73	\$833.89	\$1,181.14	\$1,492.82

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
AGED or DISABLED without cooking facilities (RMA)¹	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$914.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
SSP	\$337.74	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	\$1,251.74	N/A	N/A	N/A

INDIVIDUAL (cont'd)

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
BLIND	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$914.00	\$609.34	\$609.34	\$914.00
SSP	\$297.00	\$301.82	\$571.80	\$578.82
Total	\$1,211.00	\$911.16	\$1,181.14	\$1,492.82

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
DISABLED MINOR	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$914.00	\$609.34	\$609.34	\$914.00
SSP	\$89.07	\$93.89	\$571.80	\$578.82
Total	\$1,003.07	\$703.23	\$1,181.14	\$1,492.82

COUPLE

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
AGED or DISABLED (Per Couple)	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$1,371.00	\$914.00	\$914.00	\$1,371.00
SSP	\$556.62	\$563.83	\$1,469.05	\$1,614.64
Total	\$1,927.62	\$1,477.83	\$2,383.05	\$2,985.64

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
AGED or DISABLED Without Cooking Facilities (RMA)	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$1,371.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
SSP	\$792.65	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	\$2,163.65	N/A	N/A	N/A

COUPLE (cont'd)

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
BLIND (Per Couple)	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$1,371.00	\$914.00	\$914.00	\$1,371.00
SSP	\$763.14	\$770.35	\$1,469.05	\$1,614.64
Total	\$2,134.14	\$1,684.35	\$2,383.05	\$2,985.64

	Independent Living Arrangement	Reduced Needs	Non-Medical Out-of-Home Care (NMOHC)	
BLIND/AGED or DISABLED (Per Couple)	Residing in Own Household	Household of Another With In-Kind Room & Board	Household of Relative With In-Kind Room & Board	Licensed Facility or Household of Relative Without In-Kind Room & Board
SSI	\$1,371.00	\$914.00	\$914.00	\$1,371.00
SSP	\$684.47	\$691.68	\$1,469.05	\$1,614.64
Total	\$2,055.47	\$1,605.68	\$2,383.05	\$2,985.64

NON-MEDICAL OUT-OF-HOME CARE COSTS

Room and Board	Care and Supervision	Personal and Incidental Needs	Title XIX Medical Facility
\$646.82	Minimum \$547.00	Minimum \$168.00	Individual \$59.00
N/A	Maximum \$678.00	Maximum \$299.00	Couple \$117.00

FEDERAL BENEFIT RATE (FBR)

Aged, Blind, Disabled	FBR
INDIVIDUAL	\$914
COUPLE	\$1,371

¹ Restaurant Meals Allowance – RMA amounts are included in the total

PICKLE HANDBOOK

2023 ISM VALUES FOR COMPUTING PICKLE ELIGIBILITY

<https://secure.ssa.gov/poms.nsf/lnx/0500835901>

	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Couple</u>
VTR (not rebuttable)*	\$304.66	\$457.00
PMV (rebuttable)**	\$324.66	\$477.00

The VTR is the payment level to use in situations 1, 2, and 3 below. The PMV is the unearned income amount to add in other situations. The following chart provides the method to use for determining Pickle eligibility for individuals and couples in various living arrangements.

<u>HOUSEHOLD SITUATION</u> (LIVING ARRANGEMENT)	<u>PRINCIPLE</u>
1. Living in household of another throughout a month and receiving both food and shelter from someone in the household.	Reduce the applicable payment level by one-third the Federal Benefit Rate (FBR). Use the VTR.
2. Living in household of another who is providing both food and shelter and also receiving ISM from a third party.	Reduce the FBR payment level by one-third (VTR). Exclude third party ISM.
3. Living with a responsible relative (deemor) who lives in the household of another and the householder is not a responsible relative but is supplying both food and shelter.	Add VTR from the householder to deemed income from the responsible relative and add to other unearned income.
4. Living in own household (ownership or rental liability) and receiving ISM from someone outside the household.	Add PMV to other unearned income.
5. Living in non-institutional care* situation or group home and receiving ISM from someone outside the household.	Add PMV to other unearned income.
6. Living with a responsible relative (deemor) who lives in the household of another and the householder is not a responsible relative but is supplying food or shelter.	Add PMV from the householder to deemed income from the responsible relative and add to other unearned income.

<p>7. Living in household of another and sharing partial or total household expenses.</p>	<p>If pro rata share is contributed, we use the SSI/SSP payment level for a person in an “independent living arrangement.” If pro rata share is not contributed, add PMV.</p>
<p>8. One member of an eligible couple lives in the household of another and receives both food and shelter from the householder while the second member lives in his/her home or a non-medical institution.</p>	<p>One-sixth of the FBR for a couple for the person living in the household of another. (VTR—not rebuttable).</p> <p>One-sixth of the FBR for a couple for the person living in his/her own household (VTR—not rebuttable).</p>
<p>9. If the non-institutionalized spouse lives in any other situation.</p>	<p>One-sixth of the FBR for a couple plus \$10.</p>
<p>10. Paying less than Current Market Rental Value (CMRV) for shelter (See page 1-2).</p>	<p>Add PMV unless criteria for earned/unearned income is met (see ISM).</p>

- * VTR – Value of One-Third Reduction
- ** PMV – Presumed Maximum Value

PICKLE HANDBOOK

RESOURCE ELIGIBILITY

2023 Resource Limit
\$130,000—Individual
\$195,000—Couple

Pickle persons must be within the resource limit at 12:01 a.m. on the **FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH** for which eligibility is being determined. If a person is not eligible on the first, he/she is not eligible for the **ENTIRE MONTH**.

Using information from the Single Streamlined Application (SSApp), SAWS 2 Plus, MC 604 IPS, or MC 210B, complete the Pickle Resource Worksheet (DHS 7037) to determine resource eligibility. Instructions for completion of the DHS 7037 are attached to the form.

Refer to the following for determining resource eligibility.

- Resource Charts
- Life estate and remainder interest tables.

Clarification**1. Possible Pickle Person Living With a Spouse**

If both members of the couple are eligible, apply the resource limit for two persons and consider the resources of **BOTH** spouses (whether owned separately or jointly).

2. Possible Pickle Child

Allow the parents all of the resource exclusions for which they would be eligible if they were the applicants. Consider only the resources of the parent and his/her spouse. This includes, but is not limited to home, household goods, personal effects, automobile, etc. After the exclusions are applied, the remaining countable resources are deemed to the possible Pickle child. Where there is more than one possible Pickle child, the resources are deemed among those children:

Example

There are two possible Pickle children and \$500 in parental resources must be deemed to them. Deem \$250 to each child.

3. If applicant is ineligible as a possible Pickle person due to excess resources:

(Continued next page.)

2022
Pickle Multipliers

Date of Last SSI	Cost of Living Amount	Multiplier
1/22 through 12/22	1.087	0.0800
1/21 through 12/21	1.059	0.1313
1/20 through 12/20	1.013	0.1424
1/19 through 12/19	1.016	0.1559
1/18 through 12/18	1.028	0.1789
1/17 through 12/17	1.020	0.1950
1/16 through 12/16	1.003	0.1974
1/15 through 12/15	1.000	0.1974
1/14 through 12/14	1.017	0.2109
1/13 through 12/13	1.015	0.2225
1/12 through 12/12	1.017	0.2355
1/11 through 12/11	1.036	0.2621
1/10 through 12/10	1.000	0.2621
1/09 through 12/09	1.000	0.2621
1/08 through 12/08	1.058	0.3025
1/07 through 12/07	1.023	0.3182
1/06 through 12/06	1.033	0.3400
1/05 through 12/05	1.041	0.3660
1/04 through 12/04	1.027	0.3827
1/03 through 12/03	1.021	0.3954
1/02 through 12/02	1.014	0.4037
1/01 through 12/01	1.026	0.4188
1/00 through 12/00	1.035	0.4385
1/99 through 12/99	1.024	0.4516
1/98 through 12/98	1.013	0.4587
1/97 through 12/97	1.021	0.4698
1/96 through 12/96	1.029	0.4847
1/95 through 12/95	1.026	0.4978
1/94 through 12/94	1.028	0.5115
1/93 through 12/93	1.026	0.5239
1/92 through 12/92	1.030	0.5377
1/91 through 12/91	1.037	0.5542
1/90 through 12/90	1.054	0.5771
1/89 through 12/89	1.047	0.5960

2022
Pickle Multipliers

Date of Last SSI	Cost of Living Amount	Multiplier
1/88 through 12/88	1.040	0.6116
1/87 through 12/87	1.042	0.6272
1/86 through 12/86	1.013	0.6320
1/85 through 12/85	1.031	0.6431
1/84 through 12/84	1.035	0.6552
7/82 through 12/83	1.035	0.6668
7/81 through 06/82	1.074	0.6898
7/80 through 06/81	1.112	0.7210
7/79 through 06/80	1.143	0.7559
7/78 through 06/79	1.099	0.7779
7/77 through 06/78	1.065	0.7915
4/77 through 6/77	1.059	0.8031