

## Assistance Programs

Program	Benefit	Eligibility Criteria
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<i>Food and Nutrition Assistance</i>		
Food Stamps	Average household allotment in FY 2012 was \$414	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AK resident</li> <li>Net income of not more than \$1,165 for an individual or \$1,532 for a couple; levels increase based on household size</li> <li>Not more than \$2,000 in assets per household, \$3,250 for a household who has at least one member who is disabled or over age 60</li> </ul>
WIC	Provides nutrition education, referrals, breastfeeding support and checks to purchase supplemental foods designed to address nutrient inadequacies and nutrition education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AK resident</li> <li>Must have a nutrition risk</li> <li>Pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age</li> <li>Must meet income criteria or must be within 185% of poverty</li> <li>Yearly income of \$25,031 for a 1 person household, \$34,003 for a 2 person household (2012). USDA updates income guidelines annually (April).</li> </ul>
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	Provides supplemental foods designed to address nutrient inadequacies. Includes nutrition education. Cannot have concurrent participation in WIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AK resident</li> <li>Pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to six years of age or age 60 or older</li> <li>Yearly income for woman, infants, and children for family of two- \$35,062 or one person household of \$ 18,161 for senior citizens (2012)</li> </ul> <p>Only available in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, and Fairbanks and limited outlying areas.</p>
WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program	Provide checks for purchase of fruits and/or vegetables. Provide nutrition education materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AK Resident</li> <li>Current WIC participants</li> <li>Only available in Anchorage, Eagle River, Mat –Su area, Delta Junction, Kenai Peninsula, Dillingham, Fairbanks area, Valdez, Copper Center, Bethel and Sitka.</li> <li>Yearly income of \$25,160 for a 1 person household, \$34,003 for a 2 person household (FY 2012)</li> </ul>
Senior Farmers Market Nutrition	Provides checks for purchase of fresh fruits and/or vegetables from local farmer's markets. Provides nutrition education materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AK resident</li> <li>Age 60 or older</li> <li>Participation in CSFP, TEFAP, Public Assistance, NEOP, or household participation in WIC, CSFP, or Free or Reduced School Meals OR</li> <li>Yearly income \$25,845 for one person household, \$35,062 for two person household (2012)</li> </ul> <p>Available in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, Fairbanks, and limited outlying areas.</p>
<i>Medical Assistance</i>		
Medicaid	Provides medical assistance to needy individuals and families. Basically, it is intended to provide medical coverage for needy families with children, pregnant women, and aged, blind and disabled persons.	<p>To be eligible, recipients must meet certain income and/or resource criteria. These criteria vary depending on the particular Medicaid category for which the recipient is eligible for. Generally, the Medicaid program uses income and resource criteria for the most closely associated cash assistance programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The eligibility criteria for families with children and pregnant women are based on the eligibility criteria used for the Alaska Temporary Assistance program except DKC.</li> </ul> <p>Eligibility criteria for aged, blind, and disabled persons are based on eligibility criteria used for the Adult Public Assistance program.</p>

## *Assistance Programs*

Program	Benefit	Eligibility Criteria
Chronic and Acute Medical Assistance	Provides emergency medical coverage for persons who do not qualify for Medicaid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age 18 or older</li> <li>Lack of other medical resources</li> <li>Covered medical needs only include:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A terminal illness</li> <li>o Diabetes and diabetes insipidus</li> <li>o Chronic mental illness</li> <li>o Cancer requiring chemotherapy</li> <li>o Seizure disorders</li> <li>o Hypertension</li> </ul> </li> <li>Assets that do not exceed \$500</li> <li>Countable income of not more than \$300 for an individual or \$400 for a couple</li> </ul>
<i>Assistance for Seniors &amp; Disabled</i>		
Adult Public Assistance (including Interim Assistance and Old Age Assistance)	Maximum \$362/month; combined with SSI max is \$1,072/month	<p>The Adult Public Assistance program is designed as a State supplement to the Federal Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI). As such, it confers Medicaid eligibility to its recipients.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age 65 or older, blind or disabled</li> <li>AK resident</li> <li>Less than \$2,000 (single) \$3,000 (couple) in assets excluding house, one vehicle, burial fund</li> <li>Monthly income below \$1,319 for an individual, \$1,954 for a couple, both eligible</li> </ul>
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Maximum \$710/month combined with APA max is \$1,072/month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age 65 or older, blind or disabled</li> <li>Less than \$2,000 (single) \$3,000 (couple) in assets excluding house, one vehicle, burial fund</li> <li>Monthly income below \$710 for an individual, \$1,066 for a couple, both eligible</li> </ul>
Senior Benefits Program	Monthly payment of \$125, \$175 or \$250 depending on income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age 65 or older</li> <li>AK resident</li> <li>Effective March 1, 2012 – February 28, 2013 – Yearly income of below \$24,448 for an individual or \$33,110 for a couple</li> <li>Effective March 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014 – Yearly income of below \$25,113 for an individual or \$33,915 for a couple</li> </ul>
<i>Heating Assistance</i>		
Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP – federally-funded)	\$1,493/year average per household in FY2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides help in paying for home heating costs</li> <li>Annual home heating costs must exceed \$200</li> <li>Gross income at or below \$1,746 for an individual, \$2,366 for a couple (150% of federal poverty level)</li> <li>Household with a person age 60 or older, disabled, or under the age of 6, is considered a priority population. Households receive one additional heating point toward their benefit calculation</li> </ul>
Alaska Affordable Heating Program (100% state-funded)	\$780/year average per household in FY2012.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides help in paying for home heating costs</li> <li>Annual home heating costs must exceed \$200</li> <li>Gross income between 151% to 225% of federal poverty level or \$2,619 for an individual, \$3,548 for a couple</li> <li>Household with a person age 60 or older, disabled, or under the age of 6, is considered a priority population. Households receive one additional heating point toward their benefit calculation</li> </ul>





Alaska Department of Health and Social Services  
Division of Public Assistance

## Assistance Programs

Program                      Benefit                      Eligibility Criteria

Assistance for Families with Dependent Children		
Alaska Temporary Assistance Program	Maximum cash benefit of \$821 for a family with 1 child, \$923 for a family with 2 children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AK resident</li> <li>• Families with dependent children under age 18</li> <li>• Child support cooperation</li> <li>• 60-month time limit               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 76% of States (39 of 51) have a 60 month lifetime limit</li> <li>◦ Of the remaining 12 states: 5 have 48 month limit, 3 have 36 months limit, 7 have 24 month limit, 1 has a 21 month limit</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Participation in work activities and family self-sufficiency planning</li> <li>• Not more than \$2,000 in assets per household, \$3,000 for a household who has at least one member who is over 60</li> <li>• Net income of not more than \$1,541 for a family with 1 child, \$1,713 for a family with 2 children</li> <li>• Benefit amount based on income (lower if more income or less need)</li> <li>• 26% are "Child Only" Cases (non-needy caregiver)</li> <li>• 74% include a parent and are subject to work and time limits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 44% have used less than 2 years</li> <li>◦ 12% have used between 2 and 3 years</li> <li>◦ 8% have used between 3 and 4 years</li> <li>◦ 6% have used between 4 and 5 years</li> <li>◦ 4% have used more than 5 years (on extension)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Child Care Assistance	Provides monthly subsidy to help low income families pay for child care. Benefit is paid to the child care provider based on geographic location, type of care and age of children.	<p>To be eligible the parent(s) in the family must be participating in work, seek work, school or training activities and meet income criteria. Countable income is dependent on the household size.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child(ren) must be under the age of 13 or under the age of 19 if developmentally disabled.</li> <li>• Income limits are set at 75% of 2008 median income for Alaska: \$4,524 for household of 3, \$4,614 for a household of 4, etc.</li> </ul>
Other Assistance		
General Relief Assistance	Provides for emergent basic needs for shelter, utilities, food, clothing or burial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AK resident</li> <li>• Have an emergent need for shelter, food, clothing or burial</li> <li>• Assets that do not exceed \$500</li> <li>• Countable income of not more than \$300 for an individual or \$400 for a couple</li> </ul>

### ACRONYM KEY

APA	Adult Public Assistance
ATAP	Alaska Temporary Assistance Program
CSFP	Commodity Supplemental Food Program
DKC	Denali Kid Care
LIHEAP	Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program
NEOP	Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TEFAP	The Emergency Food Assistance Program
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
WIC	Women, Infants, and Children