

THE STATE OF OLDER ADULTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*Directory of Public Benefit Programs Available to Seniors in
the District of Columbia*

DIRECTORY

The best cities are not only wonderful places to grow up; they are also great places to grow old. For the District of Columbia (D.C. or the District) to be a vibrant and inclusive city, it must consider the needs of all residents, including older adults. Seniors are an integral part of the District's social fabric, and the prosperity of D.C. rests on their shoulders and builds upon their legacy.

As noted in the "Public Benefit Programs Available to Seniors in the District of Columbia" report, the approximately 83,600 seniors living in D.C. have a wide array of public benefit programs available to them to help them meet their needs. This directory provides a brief explanation of each of the 90 programs and the associated eligibility requirements, benefit value (if applicable), the most recent number of enrollees (if available), and the agency responsible for administering the program and contact information. The programs detailed in this directory are all publicly funded, either completely or in part, by the District government or the federal government, or both. They also either use age as an eligibility criterion or a large portion of enrollees are seniors. The directory divides the benefit programs into the same 14 categories as the report, including: activity and socialization, cash benefits, federal employee retirement benefits, health, housing, Medicaid and Medicare, nutrition, Social Security, taxes, transportation, utilities, veterans, other, and help for caregivers.

While this directory contains an extensive discussion of the programs available to D.C. seniors, it may not be exhaustive. The eligibility requirements discussed are general and may differ based on an applicant's specific situation. Some programs may have different eligibility requirements and benefits or may not exist in other states. It is also important to note that given the financial and health effects of the coronavirus on the District, new programs could be created, and current programs could see a change in funding levels or could be closed. Those seeking eligibility information should contact the program directly.

The federal government has established "senior" to include only individuals age 65 and older; however, many programs provided by the District define "senior" as individuals age 60 or 62 and older. This directory uses the terms "senior" and "older adult" interchangeably.

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HELPFUL RESOURCES

The Federal Poverty Level (FPL), also called the poverty line, is lowest level of income deemed sufficient to cover essential living costs based on family size. These levels are represented by percentages. Since many of the benefits have income requirements based on percentages of FPL, as established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the following table provides the most commonly used percentages as 2020 annual dollar amounts for one- and two-person households.²

2020 Annual FPL for All States and D.C. (Except Alaska and Hawaii)								
Household Size	Percentages							
	100%	125%	130%	135%	150%	200%	250%	300%
1	\$12,760	\$15,950	\$16,588	\$17,226	\$19,140	\$25,520	\$31,900	\$38,280
2	\$17,240	\$21,550	\$22,412	\$23,274	\$25,860	\$34,480	\$43,100	\$51,720

Benefit programs may also determine income eligibility by requiring applicants to have incomes at or below certain percentages of the Area Median Income (AMI), as determined by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development each year. AMI is the midpoint of a region's income distribution. The 2019 AMI for D.C. is \$121,300.*³

Dollar Amounts of 2019 AMI by Percentages and Household Size					
Household Size	Percentages				
	30%	40%	50%	60%	80%
1 Person	\$25,500	\$34,000	\$42,500	\$51,000	\$54,350
2 Person	\$29,150	\$37,700	\$48,550	\$58,260	\$62,100
4 Person	\$36,400	\$44,900	\$60,650	\$72,780	\$77,600

* D.C. is part of the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD HUD Metro FMR Area, which contains D.C.; Calvert County, MD; Charles County, MD; Frederick County, MD; Montgomery County, MD; Prince George's County, MD; Arlington County, VA; Clarke County, VA; Fairfax County, VA; Fauquier County, VA; Loudoun County, VA; Prince William County, VA; Spotsylvania County, VA; Stafford County, VA; Alexandria city, VA; Fairfax city, VA; Falls Church city, VA; Fredericksburg city, VA; Manassas city, VA; and Manassas Park City, VA.

BENEFIT PROGRAMS

As previously noted, the 90 benefit programs are divided into 14 categories, including activity and socialization, cash benefits, federal employee retirement benefits, health, housing, Medicaid and Medicare, nutrition, Social Security, taxes, transportation, utilities, veterans, other, and help for caregivers.

ACTIVITY & SOCIALIZATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Older adults in D.C. can access five different programs that provide physically and mentally stimulating activities and socialization opportunities. Enrollment in these programs ranged from 28 to nearly 3,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019.

Adult Day Health Program (Adult Day Care Centers). Adult daycare provides assistance during the day to seniors with chronic health care needs who are not homebound. These centers also serve individuals with disabilities. Adult daycare helps those with long term care needs avoid or delay nursing facility placement.⁴ Services may include medical, recreational, social, and therapeutic supports in a supervised setting. Meals and transportation are provided. There is no fee to participate; however, donations are encouraged. To attend an adult daycare center, a senior must be at least 55 years old, have a diagnosed chronic medical condition, have an income up to 150 percent FPL, and obtain an assessment from the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF).⁵ In FY 2018, 144 people attended an Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) administered adult daycare center.⁶

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/book/how-should-you-or-your-loved-one-be-cared/adult-day-care>

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Senior Service Programs. DPR Senior Service Program offers classes for older adults. The classes include aquatics, environment, leisure, sports, and health and wellness.⁷ DPR also hosts a D.C. Senior Games, which is a weeklong celebration of senior District athletes. Some programs have an enrollment fee, while others are free.⁸ To participate in DPR's senior program, an applicant must be a D.C. resident and at least 55 years old. In FY 2019, the program had approximately 2,978 enrollees.⁹ DPR also offers seniors discounts on aquatic and fitness memberships, regardless of residency.

Agency: D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation

Website: <https://dpr.dc.gov/page/seniors-programs>

Phone Number: (202) 673-7647

University of the District of Columbia (UDC) Bodywise and Health Promotion Program. This is a free program that UDC offers to District residents who are age 60 or older, regardless of income.¹⁰ It is intended to promote older adults' health, wellness, and fitness. Classes include low-impact aerobics, movement exercises, water aerobics, and yoga.¹¹ The program had 587 participants in FY 2018 and 620 in FY 2019.¹²

Agency: University of the District of Columbia, Institute of Gerontology

Website: <https://www.udc.edu/causes/land-grant/the-center-for-nutrition-diet-and-health/institute-of-gerontology/>

Phone Number: (202) 274-6697

UDC Respite Aide Program. This UDC program offers free, in-home assistance to seniors living alone and also provides support to caregivers. To qualify, an individual must be a D.C. resident and 60 years or older; there are no income requirements.¹³ In both FY 2018 and FY 2019 the program had 28 enrollees, with another 19 seniors on the waiting list in FY 2019.¹⁴

Agency: University of the District of Columbia, Institute of Gerontology

Website: <https://www.udc.edu/causes/land-grant/the-center-for-nutrition-diet-and-health/institute-of-gerontology/>

Phone Number: (202) 274-6697

UDC Senior Companion Program. Senior companions help adult clients with everyday tasks and chores, provide transportation, and offer companionship and friendship to isolated older adults.¹⁵ The program serves District residents who are at least 60 years old, have an income of 200 percent FPL or below, and are frail, disabled, or terminally ill.¹⁶ There were 144 participants enrolled in the program in both FY 2018 and FY 2019.¹⁷

Agency: University of the District of Columbia, Institute of Gerontology

Website: <https://www.udc.edu/causes/land-grant/the-center-for-nutrition-diet-and-health/institute-of-gerontology/>

Phone Number: (202) 274-6697

CASH BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Three programs provide cash benefits to older adults in D.C. Participation ranged from 512 to almost 26,000 individuals, depending on the program, as an average of FY 2018 and FY 2019. People who qualify for the maximum benefits for all three programs can receive up to \$2,107 a month in cash assistance.

Grandparent Caregivers Program (Grandparent Subsidy or GCP). GCP provides a subsidy to low-income District residents who are raising their grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-nieces, or great-nephews. The subsidy can only be used for items and activities that benefit the child, such as groceries, clothing, housing, or utilities.¹⁸ A full subsidy payment is \$24.79 per day for children younger than age 12 and \$27.92 per day for children older than 12 in 2018.¹⁹ During the same period, a participant in GCP could expect to receive an average daily rate of \$19.83 per child or an average monthly rate of \$594.90 per child.²⁰ To qualify for GCP, a caregiver must be a D.C. resident, have a household income under 200 percent FPL, provide proof of their relationship with the child(ren) and their caregiving responsibilities, and complete the clearance process. Caregivers must also apply for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), even if they do not meet its eligibility standards. Further, the child(ren)'s parent(s) cannot reside in the home, unless the parent(s) is/are a minor in school, have a disability, or have designated the grandparent as a standby guardian.²¹ In 2018, the program had 512 caregivers and served a total of 900 children.²² Each month, the program served an average of 799 children.

Agency: D.C. Child and Family Services Agency

Website: <https://cfsa.dc.gov/service/grandparent-program>

Phone Number: (202) 442-6100

Optional State Supplement Payment (OSP). OSP provides a special supplement to eligible individuals who reside in an Adult Foster Care Home, which include Certified Residential Facilities and Adult Living Facilities.²³ Residents of an adult foster care home are typically no longer able to live independently and need help performing daily tasks. According to DHCF, the monthly OSP benefit ranges from \$620 to \$730 for an individual and from \$1,606 to \$1,825 for a couple.²⁴ Participants use the majority of OSP to pay for their room and board, while the remainder can be spent on clothing and personal needs.²⁵ To be eligible for OSP, an individual must be a D.C. resident, live in a D.C. licensed adult foster care home, meet Supplemental Security Income eligibility standards, have assets below \$2,000 (\$3,000 for a couple), and have a monthly income of \$1,206 or less (\$2,412 for a couple). In FY 2019, 558 District residents received OSP benefits.²⁶

Agency: D.C. Department of Health Care Finance, Department of Behavioral Health, and the Social Security Administration

Website: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/service/optional-state-supplement-payment-program>

Phone Number: (202) 673-7440

Supplemental Security Income (SSI). SSI is a federal program designed to help low-income aged, blind, or disabled individuals. While the Social Security Administration administers both SSI and the Social Security retirement program, they are separate programs. SSI provides a cash benefit to support recipients' basic needs and is funded by general federal tax

revenue, as opposed to Social Security taxes.²⁷ In FY 2018, 25,816 D.C. residents received SSI, and the program had 8.1

million beneficiaries nationwide.²⁸ To qualify for SSI, an individual must be a U.S. citizen or resident, 65 years old or disabled, and not living in an institution (such as a hospital or prison).²⁹ Applicants must also have less than \$2,000 (\$3,000 for a couple) in resources and an income below the maximum benefit payment available for an applicant (also known as the Federal Benefit Rate).³⁰ SSI's resource test excludes primary residences, household goods, one vehicle, and burial funds or life insurance policies worth less than \$1,500, among others. The maximum monthly SSI benefit payment in 2020 is \$783 for individuals and \$1,175 for couples.³¹

Agency: Social Security Administration

Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/>

Phone Number: (800) 772-1213

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Federal employees and retired federal employees can qualify for one of two pension plans: the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). Both systems offer defined benefit plans, meaning that the value of the monthly pension payment is set. The size of retirees' monthly payments depends on their length of service and pre-retirement salary. In the event of the retiree's death, their children and spouse can receive the benefit in their place. Approximately 44,000 District residents received a pension from either plan in FY 2018.³² Depending on which pension program an individual is enrolled in; they could have received an average FY 2018 monthly pension benefit between \$1,714 and \$4,755.

Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). CSRS is a pension benefit system for current and former civil service federal employees who were hired before 1987. CSRS has the majority of enrollees between the two systems, with almost 1.9 million total CSRS beneficiaries in FY 2018.³³ There are five categories of benefits under CSRS; Optional, Special/Early Optional, Special Provision Retirement, Discontinued Service, and Disability. Each category of benefits has different qualifying ages and required years of service. At least two categories have no age requirement so long as the employee has at least 25 years of service. The average monthly CSRS pension benefit for civilian federal employees was \$4,755 in FY 2018.³⁴ To qualify for CSRS benefits, employees must have served in a position subject to CSRS coverage for one of the last two years before retirement.³⁵ The youngest qualifying age for retirement under CSRS is 50 years, and 20 years of service is typically required.

Agency: U.S. Office of Personnel Management

Website: <https://www.opm.gov/retirement-services/csrs-information/>

Phone Number: (888) 767-6738

Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). FERS is a retirement plan that provides pensions to federal workers who were hired in 1987 or later. The earliest a retiree can begin receiving pension benefits is at age 55.³⁶ FERS offers four different types of retirement benefits: deferred, disability, early, and voluntary. Some categories of FERS benefits require employees to reach the Minimum Retirement Age, while one category has no age requirements so long as the employee has at least 25 years of service. Almost 743,800 federal government retirees or survivors were enrolled in FERS.³⁷ The average FY 2018 monthly annuity for civilian federal employees who retired under FERS was \$1,714.³⁸

Agency: U.S. Office of Personnel Management

Website: <https://www.opm.gov/retirement-services/fers-information/>

Phone Number: (888) 767-6738

HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The District offers health-related services to D.C. seniors through four different programs. These programs had an average FY 2018 and FY 2019 enrollment of 197 to 2,400 individuals.

D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) Senior Wellness Centers. The centers promote the health and wellness of D.C. senior residents 60 years of age and older.³⁹ They provide a variety of services such as classes in nutrition,

exercise, reflexology, and health; seminars; support groups; intergenerational programs; peer leader training; and health care services.⁴⁰ While it is free to utilize the general services, some outings or special events may require a fee.

There are currently seven centers in D.C.; one in each ward with the exception of Wards 2 and 3, which have a joint center.⁴¹ In 2018, over 2,000 seniors attended a senior wellness center.⁴²

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living
Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/service/senior-wellness-centers>
Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Elderly and Persons with Disabilities (EPD) Waiver. The EPD Waiver provides in-home services to older adults and people with disabilities.⁴³ The waiver helps individuals who need long-term care age in place. It can be used for case management, personal care aide services, personal emergency response services, assisted living, and the Services My Way Program. Medicaid will pay the costs of services provided in an enrollee's home, so long as those costs are the same or less than the costs of the same service provided in an institutional setting, such as a hospital or nursing home.⁴⁴ To qualify, an individual must be a D.C. resident, be 65 or older or disabled, need assistance with daily activities, have a monthly income below \$2,313, and less than \$4,000 in assets. Assets include the total amounts in checking, savings, and investment accounts, as well as the cash value of life insurance policies, minus the \$10,000 for burial expenses.⁴⁵

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living
Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/EPDWaiverProgram>
Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Medicaid Spend Down. Medicaid Spend Down is a financial strategy that allows individuals to receive Medicaid benefits even though their income would normally be too high to qualify. It is often used by seniors to pay for nursing home stays or assisted living.⁴⁶ Those who are accepted into the Spend Down program are still responsible for paying some of their medical bills, while Medicaid covers the balance. Medical bills can be used to obtain Medicaid coverage during the spend down eligibility period.⁴⁷ The bills must be for Medicaid-covered services. Qualifying medical bills of a spouse, minor child up to age 21, or an adult disabled child for which an individual is financially responsible, can also be considered. An individual must also meet the Medicaid eligibility requirements and be a D.C. resident to qualify.⁴⁸ Medicaid sometimes provides retroactive coverage for people accepted to the Spend Down program, paying an individual's unpaid bills for the three months prior to when they submitted their application.⁴⁹

Agency: D.C. Department of Health Care Finance
Website: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/service/spend-down>
Phone Number: (202) 698-4202

Senior Dental Services Program. The Senior Dental Services program provides free covered dental care services to D.C. residents aged 65 or older who have an income below \$100,000.⁵⁰ In FY 2019, 197 unique patients received dental services through this program.⁵¹

Agency: D.C. Department of Health
Website: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/oral-health-program>
Phone Number: (202) 442-9395

HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAMS

There are nine programs that promote safe and affordable housing for senior residents, in addition to the property tax credits discussed later in the report. Between FY 2018 and FY 2019, approximately 17 to 3,700 households either applied or received a benefit from one of the programs focused on housing affordability.[†] The two programs focused on safety renovations had a combined average of almost 1,100 of applicants and beneficiaries in the same period.

[†] This excludes the number of potential beneficiaries of the Elderly Tenants and Tenants with Disabilities Protection Amendment Act, since there is no exact estimate available.

Elderly Tenants and Tenants with Disabilities Protection Amendment Act. The District’s rent control laws limit the amount and the frequency of rent increases for all affected rental units. To be covered by D.C.’s rent control law, units generally have to be built before 1975 and owned by a landlord that has more than four rental units in the District.⁵² D.C. law entitles tenants who are elderly, age 62 or older, or disabled to a lower rent increase cap than other tenants in rent-controlled units. In 2019, elderly or disabled tenants’ rental increase was capped at a maximum of 2.3 percent.⁵³ Qualified individuals must submit an application to The Rental Accommodations Division, which is part of the D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development, to participate.⁵⁴ The D.C. Policy Center estimates that the District has between 2,136 and 2,186 rent controlled buildings that contain from 72,885 to 74,986 rent controlled units.⁵⁵

Agency: D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate
Website: <https://ota.dc.gov/page/rent-control>
Phone Number: (202) 442-9505

Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). ERAP helps eligible D.C. residents who are facing eviction maintain their housing.⁵⁶ The program helps tenants pay overdue rent and provides funds directly to the landlord or court for overdue rent, including late fees and court fees.⁵⁷ Security deposits and first month’s rent are also covered for residents moving into new units. A household can only use ERAP once in a 12-month period. The benefit value depends on the household’s income and resources and is subject to certain limitations. For overdue rent, ERAP can pay for up to 5 months of overdue rent, or \$4,250. In cases of disability or households with seven or more children, this can be increased to up to \$6,000. For security deposits and the first month’s rent, ERAP can pay up to a total of \$900 each. If the highest available ERAP funds are insufficient for the situation, the applicant is responsible for the difference and must prove their ability to pay this difference.⁵⁸ The program is only available for individuals who are age 60 and older, have a disability, or households with a child.⁵⁹ In addition, one must be a D.C. resident and have a household income of less than 125 percent FPL.⁶⁰ **Note:** As of October 2020, the Council made the following changes to ERAP eligibility requirements: the income requirement was adjusted to 40 percent AMI; the requirement that a member of the household be under the age of 18, a senior, or disabled was removed; and documentation requirements were streamline.⁶¹ The Council also adjusted the total ERAP payment an enrollee could receive to an amount equal to the fair market rent for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria Metropolitan area based on unit size and zip code multiplied by five. Over 3,700 households applied for ERAP in FY 2018, and the average benefit award was \$2,938.⁶²

Agency: D.C. Department of Human Services
Website: <https://dhs.dc.gov/service/emergency-rental-assistance-program>
Phone Number: (202) 671-4200

Grand Families Housing – Plaza West. The Plaza West apartment building in Mount Vernon Triangle offers affordable housing to grandparents who are caring for their grandchildren. Fifty of the building’s 223 units are designated for “grandfamilies” with incomes from 30 to 40 percent of the AMI.⁶³

Agency: District of Columbia Housing Authority
Website: <https://www.dchousing.org/doc.aspx?docid=2018101212112341845>
Phone Number: (202) 535-1000

Heavy House Cleaning Program. The program, which is operated via the East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc., addresses the needs of seniors living in conditions that pose serious sanitation, safety, and health risks.⁶⁴ This is a one-time free service. To receive the heavy house cleaning service, an individual must be a D.C. resident, at least 60 years old, have an annual income of no more than \$20,000, live in unhealthy conditions, and not have a bed bug or roach infestation. Applicants must also be in danger of likely evictions, may have live writs, are in the Landlord and Tenant Court System, are at risk of losing Section 8 certification, or are unable to receive in-home services due to the need for heavy cleaning.⁶⁵

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living and East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc.
Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/publication/house-cleaning-program>
Phone Number: (202) 534-4880

Rental Assistance for Unsubsidized Seniors Program (Senior Citizen Shallow Subsidy). The program provides partial rental subsidies for households headed by seniors who do not receive other District or federal rental assistance.⁶⁶ District

residents who are at least 62 years old, have a household income below 60 percent of the AMI, and rent costs that exceed 30 percent of their monthly income may qualify for the subsidy.⁶⁷ The monthly subsidy is worth up to \$600. Due to funding, The D.C. Housing Authority (DCHA) estimated that 100 households could be assisted through this program in FY 2019.⁶⁸

Agency: District of Columbia Housing Authority

Website: None

Phone Number: (202) 535-1000

Local Rent Supplement Program (LRSP) Tenant-Based Vouchers, Senior Set Asides. LRSP provide ongoing rental subsidies to help extremely low-income households afford housing in the District. LRSP vouchers pay the difference between 30 percent of a household's adjusted income and their rent costs. To qualify for LRSP generally, households must have a gross income below 30 percent of the AMI, as adjusted for family size, their housing must be located in D.C., and they must be on the Federal Section 8 housing voucher waiting list.⁶⁹ However, the senior set aside is reserved for D.C. residents who are at least 62 years old and are a returning citizen, identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning, or have a disability.⁷⁰ About 49 LRSP tenant-based vouchers are set aside for seniors, although seniors can also qualify for one of the other 700 LRSP tenant-based vouchers that are not part of this set aside.⁷¹ In 2019, there were over 3,000 households participating in LRSP, with the majority located in Wards 7 and 8, and the average monthly subsidy payment made on behalf of these households was \$1,566.⁷²

Agency: District of Columbia Housing Authority

Website: <https://www.dchousing.org/topic.aspx?topid=2>

Phone Number: (202) 535-1000

Reverse Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program. The program provides a reverse mortgage to seniors who are at risk of losing their home due to foreclosure. It offers up to \$25,000 in interest free loans to older D.C. homeowners to cover the cost of overdue property taxes and property insurance.⁷³ To qualify, the homeowner must be in jeopardy of foreclosure with no ability to pay their outstanding property tax or insurance bills, be at least 62 years old, and have an income at or below 80 percent of the AMI for a four-person household, regardless of their actual household size.⁷⁴ In addition, the applicant must file for a reverse mortgage with a lender financial institution. The loan can be repaid by the homeowner, or if the homeowner passes, their heirs must either pay off the loan or allow the lender to sell the home and receive the difference between the remaining loan balance and the sale price of the home.⁷⁵ Between March and December 2019, 17 applications have been submitted, eight of which were approved for a total of \$85,071 in loans.⁷⁶

Agency: D.C. Housing Finance Agency

Website: <https://code.dccouncil.us/dc/council/code/sections/42-2703.07a.html>

Phone Number: (202) 777-1600

Safe at Home. Safe at Home provides seniors and people with disabilities with home safety adaptations for free or at a reduced cost. The program works to reduce the risk of falls by installing modifications such as handrails, shower seats, or chair lifts.⁷⁷ Safe at Home also offers a Private Security Camera Program. To qualify for both the home modifications and the security camera system, D.C. residents must be age 60 and older or disabled with an annual household income at or below 80 percent of the AMI.⁷⁸ To receive the safety adaptations at no charge, applicants' income must be below \$68,000 for individuals or \$77,700 for a two-person household. Higher income households can receive a 25 percent or 50 percent subsidy for adaptations that prevent falls, so long as they meet the income requirements.⁷⁹ For a 25 percent subsidy, applicants must not have an income over \$85,000 for a one-person household or \$97,100 for a two-person household. For a 50 percent subsidy, applicants must not have an income over \$87,390 for a one-person household or \$97,100 for a two-person household. Households are responsible for all adaption costs if they have an income above \$85,000 for a one-person household or \$97,100 for a two-person household. During FY 2018, over 1,000 residents received home adaptations.⁸⁰

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: <https://dacl.dc.gov/service/safe-home>

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Single Family Residential Rehabilitation Program (SFRRP). This program provides loans and grants worth up to \$75,000 for building repairs that eliminate threats to health and safety or improve accessibility.⁸¹ To qualify for a loan or grant, an

individual must own and have lived in their home for at least three years, be current on all D.C. and federal taxes, be unable to obtain private financing for the repairs, have an acceptable credit report, have current homeowners insurance, and meet income guidelines, \$67,950 for an individual and \$77,650 for a two-person household.⁸² There are five programs within SFRRP: Roof Repair Program, Handicapped Accessibility Improvement Program, Rehabilitation Loans, Lead-Based Hazards Program, and the Additional Benefit for Seniors Program.⁸³ The Roof Repair Program and the Additional Benefit for Seniors Program are only open to adults age 62 and older. SFRRP provides financing through 0 to 3 percent amortized loans for up to 20 years and deferred loans.⁸⁴ SFRRP had 81 applicants over the age of 62 between FY 2018 and February 2019.⁸⁵

Agency: Department of Housing and Community Development
Website: <https://dhcd.dc.gov/node/987732>
Phone Number: (202) 442-7200

MEDICAID & MEDICARE BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Medicaid. Medicaid is a national public health insurance program for low-income individuals. In 2019, almost 234,000 D.C. residents and a total of over 65 million Americans were enrolled in Medicaid.⁸⁶ Of the total District enrollment, 2,716 were seniors.⁸⁷

D.C. seniors can qualify for Medicaid if they are at least 65 years old, are a U.S. citizen, have an income of less than 100 percent FPL, and resources worth less than \$4,000 for an individual or \$6,000 for a couple.⁸⁸ Resources include cash, bank accounts, retirement accounts, stocks and bonds, cash value of life insurance policies, and other investments. The value of an individual's home, car, home furnishings, clothing, or jewelry is not counted towards the resource limitation.

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and D.C. Department of Health Care Finance
Website: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/node/892152>
Phone Number: (202) 442-5988

Medicare. Medicare is a federally operated health insurance program for seniors and some younger individuals with disabilities or certain illnesses. CMS administers these programs. There are four major components of Medicare, each with its own requirements and benefits. These components are: Medicare Part A, which is principally for hospital insurance; Medicare Part B, which is mostly for medical insurance; Medicare Part C, which is private insurance that takes the place of Part A and Part B and often offers prescription coverage; and Medicare Part D, which is primarily for prescription drug coverage.⁸⁹ In D.C., approximately 94,273 residents were enrolled in at least one part of Medicare and nationally there were approximately 61.8 million enrollees in November 2019.⁹⁰

There are also four main Medicare savings programs: the Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals Program,[§] Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program, Qualifying Individual Program, and the Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary Program. These programs help enrollees pay various Medicare costs, such as premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments.⁹¹ Some programs have subprograms that include more benefits and additional eligibility requirements. Around 24,000 D.C. residents were enrolled in at least one of the Medicare savings programs in FY 2018. Three Medicare savings programs, the Medicare Qualifying Individual Program, the Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program, and the SLMB Plus Program, are moot in the District due to the D.C. government setting income requirements at 300 percent FPL or less.

Medicare Part A. Medicare Part A helps seniors and disabled individuals pay for inpatient care in hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and hospice care. While it can be used to subsidize some home health care services, Medicare Part A does not cover custodial^{**} or long-term care.⁹² In 2019, approximately 75,000 District residents received coverage from Medicare

‡ This total does not include those enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program, only those enrolled in Medicaid.

§ The Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals Program will not be discussed in this report as it is not intended to serve seniors.

** Custodial care is nonmedical assistance with daily activities, such as bathing, dressing, or eating, and such care that could be safely performed by a non-licensed caregiver.

Part A and B.⁹¹ Nationwide, Medicare Part A served 61 million people.⁹² To qualify for Medicare Part A, an individual must be at least 65 years old; eligible for Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance (Social Security) or the Railroad Retirement Board benefits; and a U.S. citizen or a permanent legal resident for at least five years.^{††}⁹³ Most beneficiaries do not pay a premium for Medicare Part A because they or their spouse paid into the system for at least 10 years through the Federal Insurance Contributions Act payroll deductions.⁹⁴ In 2020, the Medicare Part A premium for workers who paid FICA taxes for less than 7.5 years was \$458 month. Those who paid into the system for 7.5 to 9.75 years have a monthly premium of \$252. However, Medicare Part A recipients are responsible for a hospital inpatient deductible and coinsurance payments.⁹⁵ Medicare Part A deductibles and coinsurance in 2020 includes \$1,408 for inpatient hospital services, as well as \$352 daily coinsurance for hospital stays lasting more than 60 days and \$704 coinsurance for hospital stays that are longer than 90 days.⁹⁶ On average, CMS spent approximately \$3,040 on Part A services per enrollee in 2018.⁹⁷

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Website: <https://www.hhs.gov/answers/medicare-and-medicaid/what-is-medicare-part-a/index.html>

Phone Number: (800) 633-4227

Medicare Part B. Medicare Part B is a federally funded health insurance program that usually requires seniors to pay a monthly premium. Medicare Part B helps seniors afford physician services and outpatient care. It also covers certain other medical services, such as ambulance transportation, durable medical equipment, mental health services, and prescription drugs for certain medical conditions.⁹⁸ As previously noted, Medicare Part A and Part B provided coverage for about 75,000 D.C. residents in 2019.⁹⁹ Nationally, just Medicare Part B served approximately 55.9 million enrollees. The eligibility standards for Medicare Part B are the same as premium-free Medicare Part A.¹⁰⁰ Most individuals pay a monthly premium for Part B. Premium costs in 2020 range from \$144.60 per month for a single person with income at or below \$87,000 to \$491.60 per month for a single person with earnings above \$500,000.¹⁰¹ For couples filing taxes jointly, premium costs range from \$144.60 per month for those earning up to \$174,000, to \$491.60 per month for those earning above \$750,000. In addition to the premium, Medicare Part B participants are responsible for a \$198 deductible in 2020.¹⁰² After meeting their deductible, they are responsible for 20 percent of the costs of many health services, including doctor's visits. The average per enrollee amount spent by CMS for Part B services was approximately \$6,102 in 2018.¹⁰³

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Website: <https://www.hhs.gov/answers/medicare-and-medicaid/what-is-medicare-part-b/index.html>

Phone Number: (800) 633-4227

Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage Plans). Medicare Advantage plans, sometimes called "Part C" or "MA Plans," are a type of Medicare health plan that are offered through private insurance companies and provide all Medicare Part A and Part B benefits. Some of these plans also provide additional benefits that are covered under Medicare Part D, such as vision, hearing, dental care, and prescription drugs. While Medicare Advantage plans must follow certain rules, plan providers set their own fee schedules and rules, such as whether a referral is needed to see a specialist.¹⁰⁴ Approximately 19,000 D.C. residents and 22.8 million people nationwide enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan in 2019.¹⁰⁵ In 2018, less than 20 percent of Medicare beneficiaries in D.C. signed up for a Medicare Advantage plan, compared with 34 percent of beneficiaries nationwide.¹⁰⁶ To enroll in a plan, beneficiaries must be a U.S. citizen or resident, qualify for Medicare Part A and Part B, live in the plan's service area, and not have end-stage renal disease.¹⁰⁷ The federal government subsidizes Medicare Advantage plans, paying health insurers on a per enrollee basis.¹⁰⁸ On average, Medicare Advantage plans charged enrollees a premium of \$29 per month in 2019. That year enrollees' average out-of-pocket limit for in-network services was \$5,059 among Health Maintenance Organizations plans and \$8,818 for Preferred Provider Organizations.¹⁰⁹

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Website: <https://www.hhs.gov/answers/medicare-and-medicaid/what-is-medicare-part-c/index.html>

Phone Number: (800) 633-4227

Medicare Part D. Medicare Part D is an optional Medicare prescription drug coverage benefit used by over 40,000 D.C. residents and 45.8 million total beneficiaries in 2018.¹¹⁰ Individuals can get Part D coverage through a Medicare Advantage Plan or a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. Most drug plans charge a monthly premium. Individuals with higher incomes (\$85,000 and over for an individual or \$175,000 and over for a couple) may have to pay more for their Medicare Part D.¹¹¹

†† Younger individuals can also qualify for premium-free Medicare Part A if they have end-stage renal disease.

To enroll, one must be a U.S. citizen or resident, have Medicare Part A and B, and live in the plan's service area.¹¹² The 2020 national base beneficiary premium is \$32.74.¹¹³ The average amount spent by CMS for Part D services per enrollee in 2018 was approximately \$2,069.¹¹⁴ Most Medicare drug plans have a coverage gap, also called the "doughnut hole," which begins after the individual and the drug plan together have spent beyond a certain amount for covered drugs. In 2020, this amount was \$4,020.¹¹⁵ Those in the donut hole have to pay 25 percent of the plan's cost for both name-brand drugs and generic drugs. To escape the donut hole in 2020, an enrollee must spend \$6,350 out-of-pocket for prescriptions, which will then move them into catastrophic coverage.¹¹⁶

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Website: <https://www.hhs.gov/answers/medicare-and-medicaid/what-is-medicare-part-d/index.html>

Phone Number: (800) 633-4227

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage for People with Limited Incomes and Resources (Medicare Part D Extra Help or Low-Income Subsidy). The Medicare Part D Extra Help program assisted approximately 14 million Medicare beneficiaries with limited income and resources pay for prescription drug coverage in 2019.¹¹⁷ Eligible beneficiaries receive subsidized premiums, deductibles, and copayments. To enroll, an individual must have Medicare Part A or Part B, live in the U.S., have combined assets of not more than \$14,610 for an individual or \$29,160 for a couple, and an annual income limited up to \$18,735 for an individual or \$25,365 for a couple.¹¹⁸ Assets do not include a home, vehicles, personal possessions, life insurance, burial plots, irrevocable burial contracts or back payments from Social Security or SSI. Medicare Part D Extra Help automatically enrolls participants if they already participate in Medicare and SSI or Medicare and Medicaid. The Medicare Part D Extra Help plan is estimated to be worth about \$5,000 per year.¹¹⁹

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Social Security Administration

Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/prescriptionhelp/>

Phone Number: (800) 772-1213

Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) Program. The QMB Program is a Medicaid benefit that pays Medicare premiums and offers cost sharing. The program serves people who have incomes too high for Medicaid, but need some extra help paying the bills. The D.C. program helps pay for Part A and Part B premiums and Medicare deductibles for covered services, Medicare coinsurance for covered services, and prescription drug costs under Part D.¹²⁰ Federal law prohibits Medicare providers from collecting Medicare Part A and Part B coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles from those enrolled in the QMB Program, including those enrolled in Medicare Advantage and other Part C plans.¹²¹ There were 8,988 District residents and 1.7 million individuals nationwide enrolled in the QMB Program in 2018.¹²² To be eligible for the QMB Program in D.C., an individual must be a U.S. citizen or have eligible immigration status, be a D.C. resident, be eligible for Medicare Part A or Part B, and have an income up to 300 percent FPL.¹²³

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and D.C. Department of Health Care Finance

Website: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/service/qualified-Medicare-beneficiary-qmb>

Phone Number: (202) 994-6272

QMB Plus Program. The QMB Plus Program helps very low-income individuals afford health coverage. The Program provides the same benefits as the QMB program, but also includes full Medicaid benefits, which cover certain services Medicare does not, and may cover all or part of the cost-sharing amounts of enrollees.¹²⁴ There were over 15,000 QMB Plus beneficiaries in D.C. and almost 6.1 million throughout the U.S. in FY 2018.¹²⁵ To enroll in the QMB Plus Program, one must be a District resident and be eligible for Medicaid under the aged, blind, or disabled category. Further, one must meet all of the eligibility requirements for Medicaid and the QMB Program, with the exception that the FPL requirement is 100 percent instead of 300 percent.¹²⁶

Agency: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and D.C. Department of Health Care Finance

Website: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/service/qualified-Medicare-beneficiary-qmb>

Phone Number: (202) 994-6272

NUTRITION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

There are 14 nutrition-focused programs available to older adult residents. An average of 140,000 District residents participated in one or more nutrition programs in FY 2018 and 2019. At least 31,000 of these participants were seniors.

Community Dining Meal Services (Group Meals). The Group Meal Centers provide nutritious, well-balanced congregate meals daily in every ward and arranges for meals to be delivered to homebound individuals.¹²⁷ While there is no fee for these meals, contributions are encouraged. To qualify, an individual must be at least 60 years old or have a spouse who is at least 60 years old attending the center to receive a meal.¹²⁸ In FY 2018, 5,016 residents attended group meal centers where over 334,000 meals were served.¹²⁹

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living
Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/page/food-meals-and-nutrition>
Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Food & Friends. This program provides groceries, meals, and nutrition counseling to those suffering from life-changing illnesses.¹³⁰ To qualify, an individual must have a qualifying illness or must be receiving hospice care, have a compromised nutritional status, and have a limited ability to prepare meals.^{** 131} Applicants must have a referral from a healthcare provider. There are no age or income requirements. All meals are free, and the program operates every day, except Sunday. Participants receive four frozen prepared entrees, two frozen prepared soups and a protein pack of frozen fish and poultry, in addition to their packaged groceries. Forty-six percent, of their 2018 participants were suffering from cancer, 20 percent had HIV/AIDS, and the rest had another type of illness.¹³² In 2018, the program provided almost 905,600 meals to 3,127 enrollees.¹³³

Agency: D.C. Department Health and Food & Friends
Website: <https://foodandfriends.org>
Phone Number: (202) 269-227

Grocery Plus. The Grocery Plus program includes two federally established but D.C. administered nutrition programs, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.¹³⁴

- **Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).** CSFP works to improve the health of low-income District seniors by supplementing their diets with nutritious foods. The program provides 30 to 40 lbs. of shelf-stable groceries to more than 5,400 D.C. seniors each month.¹³⁵ To enroll in CSFP, an individual must be a D.C. resident, at least 60 years old, and have income at or below 130 percent FPL.¹³⁶ In the District the program is administered by the D.C. Department of Health and a local partner, Capital Area Food Bank.¹³⁷

Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture and D.C. Health
Website: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/wic-csfp-and-senior-farmers%E2%80%99-market-nutrition-programs>
Phone Number: (202) 442-5955

- **Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP or Get Fresh).** SFMNP is a U.S. Department of Agriculture program that provides fresh fruits and vegetables from May 1 through November 30th to seniors who participate in CSFP.¹³⁸ The program promotes awareness and use of farmers' markets and encourages the daily consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. Beneficiaries receive six checks valued at \$5 each, (or a maximum of \$40 per year) to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables. An individual must be at least 60 years old and receive CSFP benefits to qualify for SFMNP.¹³⁹ In FY 2018, 5,500 D.C. seniors redeemed SFMNP checks.¹⁴⁰

Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture and D.C. Health

^{**}Qualifying illnesses include: HIV/AIDS, cancer, poorly-controlled diabetes, stage 5 renal disease, congestive heart failure (NYHA class III or IV), chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder "COPD" (stage III or IV), multiple sclerosis (RRPS, SPMS, PPMS), ALS (middle or late stages), and Parkinson's (Stage III, IV or V).

Website: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/wic-csfp-and-senior-farmers%E2%80%99-market-nutrition-programs>

Phone Number: (202) 442-5955

Home-Delivered Meals. Some seniors living in their own homes are unable to shop or prepare food for themselves or travel to a community dining location.¹⁴¹ DACL delivers prepared meals to homebound adults 60 years of age or older. The spouses of homebound adults may also be eligible to receive these meals.¹⁴² The service is available seven days a week. Around 5,641 residents received home-delivered meals in FY 2018 and 5,659 in FY 2019.¹⁴³

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/page/food-meals-and-nutrition>

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Home-Delivered Nutrition Supplements. Nutritious, high calorie, high protein, nutrition supplements are delivered for free to D.C. residents who are at least 60 years old. To be eligible, seniors must be enrolled in the DACL home-delivered meals program and have a prescription. Further, they must self-report recent unintentional weight loss, have a nutritionist determines them to be frail or underweight, or have a medical or physiological condition that interferes with consistent and adequate nutritional intake.¹⁴⁴ There were 220 program enrollees in FY 2018 and 308 in FY 2019.¹⁴⁵

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: None

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Department of Aging and Community Living Partnerships to Provide Nutritious Foods. In FY 2018, DACL established new public and private partnerships to increase seniors' access to fresh fruits and vegetables and healthy foods for seniors.¹⁴⁶ These partnerships include Gleaning Tables, Hungry Harvest, and Share Food.

- **Gleaning Tables.** DACL partnered with faith-based organizations to provide gleaning tables for individuals who are at least 60 years old and qualify for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.¹⁴⁷ The Gleaning Table Program is available to 75 District seniors in Ward 8 on a first-come, first-serve basis.¹⁴⁸

Agency: Department of Aging and Community Living, the Kingdom Care Senior Village, and the True Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church

Website: None

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

- **Hungry Harvest.** Hungry Harvest delivers a box of fresh fruits and vegetables to homebound seniors.¹⁴⁹ There are no eligibility requirements to use the Hungry Harvest service. The program is available to 120 District residents in Wards 5, 6, 7, and 8, on a first-come, first-serve basis.¹⁵⁰ The program runs from May to September and participants receive a delivery every other week. In FY 2020, DACL increased funding to serve more clients, projecting that they would be able to serve an additional 240 clients.¹⁵¹

Agency: Department of Aging and Community Living and Hungry Harvest

Website: <https://www.hungryharvest.net/>

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

- **SHARE Food.** The program provides monthly SHARE Food boxes to low-income seniors. The boxes contain four to six pounds of frozen proteins and eight to twelve pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables, sometimes boxes also include seasonal grocery or dessert items.¹⁵² Boxes are purchased from Catholic Charities' SHARE Food Network Program.¹⁵³ The program is only available only to D.C. residents aged 60 years and older who are also enrolled in SNAP or CSFP.¹⁵⁴

Agency: Department of Aging and Community Living, the Kingdom Care Senior Village, and the True Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church

Website: None

Mobile Market. The Mobile Market program works to alleviate hunger in District neighborhoods with limited access to grocery stores by providing fresh fruits, vegetables, bread, and other items.¹⁵⁵ Mobile Markets are intended for people that are at risk of hunger; however, there are no eligibility restrictions. The food is distributed to anyone that wants to participate. The District operates the Mobile Market program through local non-profit partners, Arcadia's Mobile Markets and the Capital Area Food Bank. Arcadia's Mobile Markets offer locally grown and sustainably produced farm products at affordable prices and provide information on preparing the market's offerings in nutritious, cost-effective, and easy ways.¹⁵⁶ The Capital Area Food Bank brings no-cost pop-up markets into neighborhoods and offers monthly distribution of free fruits, vegetables, and other groceries to area residents. In FY 2018, Mobile Markets distributed over \$13,000 in fresh food to D.C. residents.¹⁵⁷

Agency: D.C. Health, the Capitol Area Food Bank, and Arcadia Mobile Market

Website: Capitol Area Food Bank - <https://www.capitalareafoodbank.org/what-we-do/direct-food-distribution-programs/mobile-markets/>

Arcadia Mobile Market - <http://arcadiafood.org/programs/mobile-market>

Phone Number: Capitol Area Food Bank (202) 644-9800 or Arcadia Mobile Market (571) 384-8845

Produce Plus. Produce Plus is a locally funded farmers' market incentive program designed to increase access to healthy and nutritious food options for income-eligible District residents.¹⁵⁸ The D.C. Department of Health partners with D.C. Greens to administer Produce Plus. Between June and September, eligible individuals can receive up to \$20 a week in fresh, local produce at farmers' markets throughout the area.¹⁵⁹ The \$20 benefit is divided between two visits in a week, with a beneficiary receiving \$10 per visit. To be eligible, an individual must be a D.C. resident and enrolled in one of the following programs: Medicaid; Medicare QMB; SFMNP; SNAP; SNAP for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); SSI Disability; or TANF.¹⁶⁰ In FY 2018, over 9,000 Produce Plus customers redeemed almost \$840,000 in benefits.¹⁶¹

Agency: D.C. Department of Health and D.C. Greens

Website: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/produce-plus-program>

Phone Number: (202) 442-5874

Produce Prescription Program (Produce Rx). Under Produce Rx, medical professions can prescribe fresh fruits and vegetables for patients with diet-related chronic illnesses who also are living in poverty.¹⁶² The program is a partnership between Giant Food, AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia, and the D.C. Department of Health. To participate, applicants must be a resident of Ward 8, over 18 years old, an AmeriHealth Caritas DC member,^{§§} a current patient at a participating clinic, and diagnosed with hypertension, pre-diabetes, or diabetes.¹⁶³ Produce Rx serves approximately 120 enrollees each year.

Agency: D.C. Department of Health, AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia, and Giant Food

Website: <https://www.dcgreens.org/produce-rx>

Phone Number: (202) 601.9200

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP, formerly known as food stamps, provides nutrition assistance to low-income households. With a swipe of an Electronic Benefit Transfer card, beneficiaries can purchase food items of their choice at participating grocery stores. Over 109,000 D.C. residents, including 15,000 seniors were enrolled in SNAP in 2019.¹⁶⁴ The program served a total of 34.5 million Americans that year.¹⁶⁵ In 2020, the maximum monthly SNAP benefit for a one-person household is \$194 and \$355 for a two-person household.¹⁶⁶ Households with seniors had an average monthly SNAP benefit of \$121 in FY 2018.¹⁶⁷ To qualify for SNAP benefits, households must have a maximum gross income at or below 200 percent FPL or receive TANF or SSI benefits.¹⁶⁸ Many District households meet the income qualifications to be considered an expanded categorically eligible household. An expanded categorically eligible household does not need to meet the regular maximum gross monthly income eligibility standard nor the maximum net monthly income eligibility standard. A household with an elderly person, defined as someone 60 years or older, does not need to meet either of the gross income standards.¹⁶⁹ A household with an elderly person only has to meet the net income test, which is 100 percent

^{§§} To qualify for membership with AmeriHealth Caritas DC, applicants must also be eligible for DC Healthcare Alliance Program, Medicaid, or SSI.

FPL.¹⁷⁰ The federal government includes both earned income and unearned income such as SSI and veteran, disability, and death benefits. Federally, households may have \$3,500 in countable resources if at least one member of the household is age 60 or older. However, in D.C. the resource limit for a household with an elderly member is \$3,250.¹⁷¹ The federal government considers the following as a resource: a recreational vehicle, vacation home, mobile home used recreationally, any vehicle with a value of \$4,650 or more (with some exceptions), and any savings account. The federal government does not consider the following a resource: a primary residence, resources of individuals receiving SSI or TANF, most retirement and pension plans, one vehicle per adult household member, or vehicles used for income-producing purposes, as a residence, or by a household member under 18 to drive to work, school, job training, or to look for work; needed for long distance travel for work, to transport a physically disabled household member, or to carry most of the household's fuel or water; or if the sale of the vehicle would be less than \$1,500.

Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture and D.C. Department of Human Services
Website: <https://dhs.dc.gov/snapinfo>
Phone Number: (202) 807-0405

Supplemental Food Assistance. This program is locally funded and administered and provides food assistance to District SNAP recipients. This assistance is intended to increase the food supplement to \$30 per month for D.C. residents who receive the minimum SNAP benefit, which was \$15 in 2019.¹⁷²

Agency: D.C. Department of Human Services
Website: None
Phone Number: (202) 807-0405

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Social Security, also known by its formal name of Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI), is a financial benefit provided to retirees and their spouses; workers who become disabled; and families that have lost a spouse, parent, or child.¹⁷³ This benefit is intended to replace a portion of a worker's pre-retirement income based on their lifetime earnings. If a beneficiary is entitled to more than one benefit, such as their own Social Security and a spouse supplement, they will receive the highest, not both.¹⁷⁴ This report discusses four types of Social Security benefits: OASDI, OASDI Spouse Supplement, OASDI Parent Survivor Benefits, and OASDI Widow or Widowed Survivor Benefits. Social Security is funded through payroll taxes. There were over 83,000 District residents and 62.9 million individuals nationwide receiving a Social Security benefit in 2018, resulting in over \$988 billion in benefit payments.¹⁷⁵ Of the over 83,000 District residents receiving Social Security benefits, almost 61,000, or 73.4 percent, are age 65 or older.¹⁷⁶ The national average monthly benefit across all OASDI categories was \$1,358 in November 2019.¹⁷⁷

Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) (Social Security Retirement Benefits). The OASDI program, also known as Social Security, provides monthly cash benefits to qualified retired workers.¹⁷⁸ As of December 2018, OASDI served 57,338 D.C. retired workers and approximately 43.7 million retired workers across the country.¹⁷⁹ Eligibility and benefit amounts are determined by the worker's contributions to Social Security and the age at which they begin withdrawing benefits. To qualify for OASDI, an individual must have at least 10 years of work history. Generally, the Social Security Administration (SSA) will send benefits to U.S. citizens living abroad so long as they are not living in certain countries.¹⁸⁰ Those who are entitled to an OASDI benefit but are not citizens of the U.S., must remain eligible, live in a country that SSA is able to send benefits to, and may have to meet further requirements depending on their specific situation. The youngest age to receive OASDI is 62, however withdrawing the benefits at age 62 results in lower payments.¹⁸¹ Full retirement age, meaning the age at which an individual would could receive their full benefits, is 66 for those born before 1954 and age 67 for those born in 1960 or later.¹⁸² Also, for each year that you delay receiving benefits, the monthly benefit value will increase. This is capped at age 70, when a retiree would receive 132 percent of their monthly benefit.¹⁸³ Retirees that still draw an income could have their monthly benefit reduced if it is above the threshold.¹⁸⁴ The 2020 threshold is \$18,240 for beneficiaries under age 62 and \$48,600 if they are age 62 and older.¹⁸⁵ The reduction is based on the beneficiaries age and income. The average monthly benefit for a retired worker was \$1,477 in November 2019.¹⁸⁶

Agency: Social Security Administration
Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/>

Phone Number: (800) 772-1213

OASDI Parent Survivor Benefits. This program provides an income supplement for parents of deceased workers.¹⁸⁷ If only one parent is entitled to the benefit they will receive 82.5 percent of the benefit that would have gone to the worker; but if both parents are entitled to the benefit, then they will each receive 75 percent of the deceased worker's benefit.¹⁸⁸ The average monthly benefit for parent survivors was \$1,249 in November 2019.¹⁸⁹ To qualify, parents must be 62 and older and were dependent on the deceased worker for at least half of their support. In December 2018, there was a combined beneficiary total of 4,111 of both widow or widower and parent beneficiaries in D.C. Across the U.S. there were 1,063 total U.S. parent only beneficiaries.¹⁹⁰

Agency: Social Security Administration

Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/planners/survivors/ifyou.html#h5>

Phone Number: (800) 772-1213

OASDI Spouse Supplement. This benefit provides an income supplement to a spouse of a retired worker. An individual may receive an OASDI supplement even if they have never paid Social Security taxes, so long as they are at least 62 years old and their spouse also receives an OASDI payment.¹⁹¹ However, if an individual applies for spousal benefits before reaching the full retirement age of 62, their benefits are reduced. The average monthly benefit for spouses of retired workers was \$772 in November 2019.¹⁹² In December 2018, 2,061 District residents and nearly 2.4 million people across the country received the retired worker spousal supplement. ***¹⁹³

Agency: Social Security Administration

Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/applying6.html>

Phone Number: (800) 772-1213

OASDI Widow or Widower Survivor Benefits. This program provides Social Security payments to the surviving spouse of a deceased worker. When a worker who is eligible for Social Security benefits dies before retirement, their surviving spouse may be eligible to collect their deceased relative's retirement benefits. Under certain circumstances, a surviving divorced spouse, a stepchild, grandchild, step grandchild, adopted child, or aged parent who was dependent on their deceased relative may collect OASDI Widow or Widower Benefits. Widows and widowers can begin collecting survivor benefits after age 60, but their monthly payment will be greater if they wait until they reach full retirement age, which is 66 years old.¹⁹⁴ Reduced widow(er) benefits range from 71.5 percent of the worker's benefit, if the widow(er) claims at the age of 60, to 100 percent of the worker's benefit, if the widow(er) claims the benefit at age 66. Widow(er)s receiving a benefit for their deceased spouse who was also disabled, will have different requirements and benefit allocation amounts and schedules. A one-time lump-sum death payment of \$255 can be paid to the surviving spouse if he or she was living with the deceased.¹⁹⁵ The national average monthly benefit in November 2019 was \$748 for disabled widow(er)s; \$1,399 for nondisabled widow(er)s; and \$1,019 for widowed mothers and fathers.¹⁹⁶ There were approximately 4,111 combined widow or widower and parent beneficiaries in D.C. in December 2018. Nationally, there were 4 million total U.S. widow or widower only beneficiaries.¹⁹⁷

Agency: Social Security Administration

Website: <https://www.ssa.gov/planners/survivors/ifyou.html#h2>

Phone Number: (800) 772-1213

TAX BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Older adults in D.C. have nine, age-related tax benefits available to them. Three tax benefits, all federally administered, provide an income benefit, while six, all District administered, provide property tax benefit. Five of the property tax benefits are exclusively for homeowners and one is for both homeowners and renters. No D.C. tax programs are focused on senior renters. Due to the District provided tax benefits, D.C. gave up approximately \$128.5 million in tax revenues in 2019.

*** The beneficiary numbers do not include spouses of disabled workers receiving a Social Security benefit.

INCOME TAX

Federal Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled (Schedule R). The Schedule R is a federal tax credit for low-income elderly and disabled individuals and couples. The tax credit can lower a filer's tax bills by \$3,750 to \$7,500 per year. It is not refundable, meaning that filers do not receive any excess credit as a refund.^{††† 198} To qualify, an individual must be at least 65 years old or retired on permanent and total disability and receiving taxable disability income for the tax year; a U.S. citizen or resident alien; and have an adjusted gross income or nontaxable income below certain caps. The income cap for individuals is an AGI under \$17,500 or a nontaxable income below \$5,000; \$20,000 AGI or \$5,000 nontaxable income for married couples filing jointly with only one qualifying spouse; and \$25,000 AGI or \$7,500 nontaxable income for a married couples filing jointly with two qualifying spouses.¹⁹⁹ D.C. residents filed 271 Schedule R returns in Tax Year (TY) 2017 and 179 in TY 2018, for a federal credit of \$29,341 in TY 2017 and \$18,641 in TY 2018.²⁰⁰ In TY 2017 there were over 63,000 total U.S. applicants for the credit and almost \$7.0 million was allocated nationally for the credit.²⁰¹

Agency: Internal Revenue Service

Website: https://www.irs.gov/publications/p554#en_US_2019_publink100043711

Phone Number: (202) 803-9000

Higher Tax Thresholds. Individuals and couples who have low incomes are not always required to file federal income taxes. U.S. citizens or resident aliens who are at least 65 years old at the end of the tax year have higher tax filing thresholds than those who are younger.²⁰² This means they can earn a higher income without having to file taxes. These higher thresholds were \$13,850 for an individual, \$25,700 for couples with one qualifying senior, \$27,000 for couples with two qualifying seniors, and \$25,700 for qualifying widow(er)s.²⁰³ The difference between the thresholds for those under age 65 and those age 65 and older are as follows: \$1,650 for an individual, \$2,600 for those married and filing jointly with both spouses qualifying, \$1,300 for those married and filing jointly with only one spouse qualifying, and \$1,300 for qualifying widow(er)s.²⁰⁴ Nationally, the total number of TY 2017 returns filed by individuals 65 years and older was almost 26 million.²⁰⁵

Agency: Internal Revenue Service

Website: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf>

Phone Number: (202) 803-9000

Standard Deduction for Seniors. The standard deduction is a portion of a tax filer's income that is not subject to taxes and can be used to reduce a senior household's tax bill if they do not itemize their deductions. Seniors receive a higher standard deduction on their federal income taxes than other filers.²⁰⁶ Taxpayers with a senior spouse or domestic partner may also benefit from this provision. To qualify, an individual must be at least 65 years old by the end of the tax year, not itemize deductions, and a U.S. citizen or resident alien.²⁰⁷ Qualified taxpayers are entitled to an additional deduction of \$1,300 (\$1,650 for single households).²⁰⁸ During TY 2015, 48,875 seniors living in the District and almost 15.1 million seniors nationwide claimed the exemption.²⁰⁹ The Office of Revenue Analysis indicated there was an estimated \$1.8 million loss in personal income tax revenue for the District in FY 2019 due to this deduction.²¹⁰ Prior to January 2018, the District did not conform to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Standard Deduction for Seniors.²¹¹

Agency: Internal Revenue Service

Website: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf>

Phone Number: (202) 803-9000

PROPERTY TAXES

Homeowner/Renter Property Tax Income Tax Credit (Schedule H or the Property Tax Circuit Breaker). The Schedule H credit is a property tax credit that is available to both homeowners and renters whose property taxes or rental payments exceed a certain percentage of their household income.^{††† 212} The amount of the credit varies based on the filer's household income, the amount of property taxes owed, age, and disability status.²¹³ To qualify a homeowner or renter must have been a D.C. resident for the past calendar year, rented or owned and lived in said residence for the full calendar year, and have a 2019 federal Adjusted Gross Income (including all claimed dependents) of \$55,000 or less (\$75,000 for applicants 70 and older).²¹⁴ Also they must not have rented from a landlord whose property was either exempt from real property taxes or

^{†††} For the Schedule R credit, nontaxable income includes: Social Security, pensions annuities, and disability income.

^{†††} Or "rent constituting property taxes" in the case of renters.

who paid a percentage of rental income to D.C. instead of paying a real estate tax and they must not be claimed as a dependent on some else's income tax return, unless the applicant turned 65 on or before December 31 that year.²¹⁵ Also, the residence must not be part of a public housing dwelling. A Schedule H Credit cannot be claimed on behalf of a taxpayer who died on or before December 31 of that year. Only one person can claim the tax credit for a property. The maximum credit was \$1,200 in TY 2019.²¹⁶ In TY 2016, there were 840 standalone Schedule H submissions and 31,663 tax credit D-40 returns with Schedule H submissions.²¹⁷ During the same period, the Schedule H credit resulted in a \$18.1 million tax revenue loss for D.C. and almost \$21.4 million in FY 2019.^{§§§ 218}

Agency: D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue

Website: <https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/otr/publication/attachments/2019%20Schedule%20H.pdf>

Phone Number: (202) 727-4829

Homestead Deduction. This tax deduction reduces residential properties' tax assessed value by \$74,850.²¹⁹ By claiming this deduction, homeowners in D.C. can lower their real property tax liability by \$636.23 per year. To qualify, an individual must live in the property as their primary residence and be a D.C. resident. The property must be in D.C. and have less than five dwelling units. In TY 2017, almost 98,600 owner-occupied residential properties received the Homestead Deduction, leading to a \$62.6 million reduction in District revenue.²²⁰ In FY 2019, the District lost an estimated \$63.2 million in tax revenue due to the Homestead Deduction.²²¹

Agency: D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue

Website: <https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/homesteadsenior-citizen-deduction>

Phone Number: (202) 727-4829

Lower Income, Long-Term Homeowners Tax Credit (Schedule L). The Schedule L Tax Credit works to lower the income tax bill of long-term, low-income homeowners in the District. Eligible homeowners can claim a credit on their D.C. income tax equal to the difference between their current real property tax bill and 105 percent of their prior year's bill.²²² To qualify, an individual must be a D.C. resident, own and have paid real property taxes on a D.C. residence, have used the property as their principal residence for at least seven consecutive years, have a household income up to 50 percent of the AMI, and receive the Homestead Deduction.²²³ Household income includes the income of anyone who shares the housing, even someone who is unrelated to the taxpayer.²²⁴ In TY 2019, the household income limit was \$42,455 for an individual and \$48,520 for a two-person household.²²⁵ Only one credit is allowed per household. In FY 2018, the District forewent \$6,671 in tax revenue due to the 136 Schedule L credit recipients.²²⁶ In FY 2019, the District lost an estimated \$11,000 of tax revenue.²²⁷

Agency: D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue

Website: <https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/otr/publication/attachments/2019%20Schedule%20L.pdf>

Phone Number: (202) 727-4829

Tax Deferral for Low-Income Senior Property Owners (Property Tax Deferral for Low-Income Senior Property Owner). Low-income senior homeowners in D.C. have the option to defer paying real property taxes on their primary residence. The most that seniors can defer is 25 percent of their property's current assessed value plus any interest accrued from their previous tax deferrals.²²⁸ The District does not charge interest on the deferred property tax bill for homeowners that are age 75 years and older, have less than \$12,500 of household interest and dividend income, and have owned the residence for at least the last 25 years.²²⁹ To qualify, taxpayers must be 65 years of age or older, use D.C. as their principal place of residence, and have a household Adjusted Gross Income below \$50,000.²³⁰ The residence can have up to five dwelling units, and the senior tax filer must own at least half of the house or condominium. The homeowner must also complete home equity conversion mortgage counseling. The Tax Deferral for Low-Income Senior Property Owners is different than The Schedule L in that it covers the entire property tax bill, while the Schedule L limits annual property tax increases. In FY 2019, 256 property owners qualified for the Property Tax Deferral for Low-Income Senior Property Owners, of which 118 received deferrals and resulted in \$176,021 in lost tax revenue.²³¹

Agency: D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue

Website: None

^{§§§} A D-40 tax credit is the credit received when filing an individual income tax form for single and joint filers.

Owner-Occupant Residential Tax Credit (Senior Assessment Cap Credit). Homeowners who qualify for a Homestead Deduction are also eligible for a cap on how much their property tax assessment can increase from one year to the next. Eligible tax filers must be at least 65 years old and qualify for the Homestead Deduction and Senior Citizen or Disabled Property Owner Tax Relief.²³² This credit prevents a property's tax assessment from rising by more than 5 percent per year.²³³ In addition, the law provides that the taxable assessment of a property eligible for a Homestead Deduction cannot fall below 40 percent of the current tax year's assessed value.²³⁴ In FY 2019, 19,272 households claimed the Owner-Occupant Residential Tax Credit, costing the District \$9.1 million in foregone tax revenues.²³⁵

Agency: D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue

Website: <https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/other-credits-and-deductions>

Phone Number: (202) 727-4829

Senior Citizen or Disabled Property Owner Tax Relief. This tax benefit reduces low- and moderate-income senior or disabled homeowners' property tax bill by 50 percent.²³⁶ To qualify, an individual must be a D.C. resident who is aged 65 and older or disabled, own at least half of the property or cooperative unit and reside there, and have a TY 2018 federal Adjusted Gross Income of less than \$134,550 for everyone living in the property (excluding tenants). Also, the property must have less than five dwelling units and must be the principal residence of the applicant.²³⁷ During FY 2019, 19,272 property owners qualified for this tax benefit, and the District forewent \$32.8 million in tax revenue as a result.²³⁸

Agency: D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue

Website: <https://otr.cfo.dc.gov/page/homesteadsenior-citizen-deduction>

Phone Number: (202) 727-4829

TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The District provides seniors with seven transportation-focused benefit programs. Over 450,000 trips were made via these programs as an average of FY 2017, FY 2018, and FY 2019 data. There was an average of almost 104,000 total D.C. enrollees in FY 2019 and FY 2020.

Circulator. The Circulator is a bus service with routes primarily organized around the major tourist sights and neighborhoods in the District. Seniors receive a 50 percent fare discount, so they only pay \$0.50 per ride.²³⁹ The discount is available for anyone age 65 and older and is not restricted to D.C. residents. The service is provided through a partnership between the D.C. Department of Transportation, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and D.C. Surface Transit, Inc.²⁴⁰ The Circulator provides almost five million trips each year.

Agency: D.C. Department of Transportation, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and D.C. Surface Transit, Inc

Website: <https://www.dccirculator.com/>

Phone Number: (202) 671-2020

MetroAccess. MetroAccess is a shared ride^{****} public transportation service for people who are unable to use fixed-route public transit due to a disability.²⁴¹ The service is offered by WMATA and provides daily trips throughout the Washington metropolitan region's Transit Zone.^{****}²⁴² MetroAccess serves individuals with a disability that prevents them from being able to travel to a bus or rail station, those who need a ramp or wheelchair lift to board or exit a public transit vehicle, and people who do not have an accessible pathway to reach a bus or rail station.²⁴³ MetroAccess operates in the same service areas and has the same operating hours as Metrorail and Metrobus. Riders pay twice the fare on the fastest comparable trip if the trip was taken on a fixed-route transit service, but the fare is capped at \$6.50 per ride.²⁴⁴ During 2019, there were 9,200 certified MetroAccess riders in the District who made approximately 54,000 trips per month.²⁴⁵

**** Shared ride means that multiple passengers may ride together in the same vehicle.

**** The Transit Zone consists of D.C., the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's, the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington and Fairfax, and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church.

Agency: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Website: <https://www.wmata.com/service/accessibility/metro-access/customer-guide.cfm#what>

Phone Number: (301) 562-5360

Seabury Connector. Seabury Connector provides free transportation for D.C. residents age 60 years and older to wellness centers, adult day care, and for group shopping trips.²⁴⁶ Seabury Connector is provided by Seabury Resources for Aging in coordination with DAACL. In FY 2017, the program provided about 204,000 trips to older adults in D.C.²⁴⁷ Almost 60,000 of these trips were for medical reasons and over 144,000 were for group trips.²⁴⁸ There were 5,897 enrollees in FY 2018 and 2,355 enrollees in FY 2019.^{**** 249}

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living and Seabury Resources for Aging

Website: <https://www.seaburyresources.org/transportation>

Phone Number: (202) 289-5690

Seabury ConnectorCard Program. Seabury ConnectorCard provides subsidized transportation funds through a prepaid debit card to D.C. seniors so they can purchase transportation services via taxi and ride-sharing services. Participants must be D.C. residents, at least 60 years old, and have a valid form of identification.²⁵⁰ The program is operated through Seabury Resources for Aging in coordination with DAACL. About 350 D.C. older adults had a ConnectorCard in FY 2018 and FY 2019.²⁵¹

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living and Seabury Resources for Aging

Website: <https://www.seaburyresources.org/transportation>

Phone Number: (202) 289-5690

Senior MedExpress. Senior MedExpress provides free transportation to essential, non-emergency, medical appointments and appointments for health-related public benefits.²⁵² The service is provided through D.C. Yellow Cab in coordination with DAACL. Trips are allocated on a first come, first served basis, with priority given to recurring trips for dialysis and chemotherapy treatments.²⁵³ Once the trip volume is reached for the day or a given period, no more rides can be scheduled. Senior MedExpress operates from 6:00AM to 6:00PM Monday to Saturday, excluding holidays. To utilize Senior MedExpress, individuals must be D.C. residents, age 60 years and older, and have a medical condition that requires life-sustaining medical appointments. Medicaid clients are ineligible for the program.²⁵⁴ In FY 2019 the program had 3,855 enrollees but only 1,628 riders.²⁵⁵

Agency: D.C. Department of For Hire Vehicles and D.C. Yellow Cab^{SSSS}

Website: <https://dcyellowcab.com/senior-medexpress/>

Phone Number: (202) 420 7533

Transport D.C. Transport D.C. provides an alternative transportation option to MetroAccess customers.²⁵⁶ Customers can receive transportation to and from anywhere in the District. The program also offers curb-to-curb taxicab or wheelchair accessible vehicle services. While Transport D.C. operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, unrestricted rides are only permitted for the first 15 days of the month. From the 16th of the month onwards, Transport D.C. only provides rides for employment and medical services.²⁵⁷ Riders pay \$5 per one-way trip, and they must provide payment prior to starting the trip. If an individual qualifies for MetroAccess and is a D.C. resident, they may participate in Transport D.C. In FY 2018, Transport D.C. provided over 194,000 trips.²⁵⁸

Agency: DC Department of For-Hire Vehicles

Website: <https://dfhv.dc.gov/service/transport-dc>

Phone Number: (844) 322-7732

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Reduced Fare. Older adults age 65 and older qualify for reduced fares on Metrorail and Metrobus rides.²⁵⁹ Seniors may ride for half the peak fare on Metrorail and \$1 on regular Metrobus routes.

**** FY 2018 includes data for all Seabury Services, including medical trips. FY 2019 includes data for all Seabury Services, except essential medical transportation as this component was transferred to Yellow Cab effective FY 2019.

SSSS Senior MedExpress was previously under DAACL administration, but the program was transferred in FY 2020 to the D.C. Department of For Hire Vehicles.

To receive the discounted fare, seniors must purchase a Senior SmarTrip card or show bus operators a government-issued photo I.D. that includes their date of birth.²⁶⁰ In January 2020, there were almost 88,000 Senior SmarTrip cards registered in D.C.; however this total may include cards registered to non-residents.²⁶¹

Agency: Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Website: <https://www.wmata.com/fares/reduced.cfm>
Phone Number: (202) 637-7000

UTILITY BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Seniors in the District can qualify for nine utilities-related programs. The average number of eligible District residents for these programs ranged from 177 to around 50,000, depending on the program.

Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) - Utility Allowance. Households with a HCVP can receive a utility subsidy. The value of the subsidy—known as the utility allowance—is set by the D.C. Housing Authority.²⁶² The utilities for which allowances may be provided include electricity, natural gas, propane, fuel oil, wood or coal, and water and sewage service, as well as garbage collection. The functions, or end-uses, covered by an allowance may include space heating, water heating, cooling, refrigeration, lighting, or appliances. Allowances are not provided for telephone service. Whether a household receives an allowance depends on the way their building meters utilities.^{***** 263} To qualify, an applicant must be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen, have a household income at or below 50 percent of the AMI, and must be a family.^{+++++ 264} Almost 12,000 District families participated in HCVP in 2019.²⁶⁵ The average total monthly subsidy payment, including both rent and the utility allowance, made on behalf of households in the HCVP program in FY 2018 was \$1,360 and \$1,431 in FY 2019.²⁶⁶ The estimated 2019 monthly utility allowance in D.C. for a one-bedroom unit for an individual who pays for some utilities is \$129; if the individual pays for water and sewer it is \$181; if the individual also pays for heat it is \$248 for electric, \$181 for gas, and \$248 for oil.²⁶⁷

Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the District of Columbia Housing Authority
Website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/phecc/allowances
Phone Number: (202) 708-1112

Lifeline. Lifeline provides subsidized phone and internet services to low-income households, regardless of age.²⁶⁸ Lifeline participants pay \$9.25 per month for a wireline or wireless phone service or broadband internet service. To participate in the program, households must either have an income that is at or below 135 percent FPL or participate in certain assistance programs, such as Medicaid, SNAP, or SSI.²⁶⁹ Only one Lifeline service is permitted per household. In 2018, there were approximately 21,302 households in the District receiving Lifeline services and 9.6 million throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.²⁷⁰ However, after the Federal Communications Commission changed its Lifeline enrollment process, participation has plummeted. Between 2018 and 2019, the number of Lifeline enrollees in the District fell by 49 percent.²⁷¹

Agency: Federal Communications Commission
Website: <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/lifeline-support-affordable-communications>
Phone Number: (888) 225-5322

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP assists low-income District households with heating and cooling-related energy costs.²⁷² Eligible D.C. households can receive \$250 to \$1,800 in one-time cash assistance. The value of the benefit is based on household size, household income, heating source (electric, gas, or oil), and type of residence. To qualify for the program in 2020, an individual may have an income up to \$32,814, or \$42,911 for a two-person household.²⁷³ Emergency assistance is available to District residents, 55 or older or residents who are on breathing apparatuses or life support machines requiring electricity and have received a disconnection notice for or have been disconnected from electric or gas services.²⁷⁴ Assistance is also available to residents without home heating oil. Emergency assistance is only available to a household once in a year. In FY 2018, over 20,000 households received LIHEAP benefits.²⁷⁵ The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) administers LIHEAP, with the majority of the funding being provided by the U.S. Office of

***** Allowances are provided for checkmetered or individually metered utilities, but not for master-metered utilities.

+++++ Family is defined as a single person or a group of persons residing together, with or without a child(ren).

Agency: The U.S. Office of Community Services and the D.C. Department of Energy and Environment

Website: <https://doee.dc.gov/liheap>

Phone Number: (202) 535-2600

Solar For All (SFA). SFA installs solar panels with the aim of providing solar energy to 100,000 low- and moderate-income District households.²⁷⁶ Through the program, DOEE installs solar panels on single-family homes and develops community solar projects to benefit residents of multi-family buildings. The installations are designed to cut participants' electricity bills in half. D.C. residents can qualify if their annual income is below \$67,950 as an individual or \$77,650 as a two-person household, and they are electricity utility customers.²⁷⁷ The total number of solar installations subsidized through SFA between FY 2018 and February 2019 was 445.²⁷⁸ DOEE aims for 500 new solar installations in FY 2020.²⁷⁹

Agency: D.C. Department of Energy and the Environment

Website: <https://doee.dc.gov/solarforall>

Phone Number: (202) 535-2600

Utility Discount Programs (UDP). UDP assists low-income District residents by reducing their utility costs. These programs include: the Customer Assistance Program, Economy II, the Residential Aid Discount Program, and the Residential Essential Services Program.²⁸⁰

- **Customer Assistance Program (CAP).** CAP furnishes low-income D.C. residents with a discounted water bill.²⁸¹ In FY 2018, CAP assisted 4,324 customers and provided \$1,188,574 in discounts.²⁸² CAP has three income-dependent tiers that each provide a different combination of subsidies:
 - Level 1 (CAP1) provides eligible D.C. Water customers with a discount on the first 3,000 gallons of water and sewer services that they use each month. In addition, participants receive a 50 percent reduction on their monthly Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (CRIAC) and a waiver on their Water Service Replacement Fee. The maximum income for qualifying for CAP in 2020 is \$32,814 for an individual or \$42,911 for a two-person household. The discount is worth approximately \$800 per year.²⁸³
 - Level 2 (CAP2) provides eligible customers with a discount on the first 2,250 gallons of water and sewer services used each month (with some exceptions) and a 50 percent reduction on their CRIAC. To qualify for CAP2 in 2020, an individual may have an annual income up to \$67,950 and two-person households qualify if their income is up to \$77,650. The annual discount is worth approximately \$550.²⁸⁴ and
 - Level 3 (CAP3) provides eligible customers with a 75 percent discount on their CRIAC. To qualify for CAP3, an individual may have a 2020 annual income of no more than \$84,900 or \$97,050 for a two-person household. The average annual discount is worth approximately \$188.²⁸⁵

Agency: D.C. Department of Energy and Environment and D.C. Water

Website: <https://www.dewater.com/customer-assistance>

Phone Number: (202) 354-3600

- **Economy II.** Economy II offers discounted wire line local telephone service to qualified D.C. customers.²⁸⁶ This is the D.C. government discount program offered by Verizon. Customers 65 years of age or older pay \$1 per month, while younger customers pay \$3 per month. Economy II offers unlimited calling in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area.²⁸⁷ It is a non-transferable benefit and only one Lifeline service discount is available per household. Qualified customers must be D.C. residents, have an income below 135 percent FPL, or participate in certain assistance programs, such as federal public housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, or SSI.²⁸⁸ During 2019, 400 of the 554 total enrollees were age 65 and older.²⁸⁹

Agency: Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia and Verizon

Website: https://dcpsc.org/getmedia/1f64de78-ac29-44a9-9e83-137733b2981e/UDPFactSheet_FY2020_English.aspx

Phone Number: (202) 626-5100

- **Residential Aid Discount (RAD) Program.** This program provides electricity discounts to low-income electricity

customers. To qualify, the applicant must be a District resident and meet income eligibility standards. One-person households can only qualify if their annual income is at or below \$32,814, and the ceiling for two-person households is \$42,911.²⁹⁰ RAD provides households with a discount of up to \$475 per year on electric bills or \$300 per year if the recipient does not use electric main heat.²⁹¹ The discount lasts 18 months and participants can reapply annually. In 2016, almost 52,000 District households were income-eligible for RAD.²⁹²

Agency: Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia and Pepco

Website: https://dcpsc.org/getmedia/1f64de78-ac29-44a9-9e83-137733b2981e/UDPFactSheet_FY2020_English.aspx

Phone Number: (202) 626-5100

- **Residential Essential Services (RES) Program.** Washington Gas offers low-income customers a discount on the distribution portion of their gas bill from November through April.²⁹³ RES reduces participating customers' gas bills by about 25 percent, or up to \$276 per heating seasons.²⁹⁴ In addition, RES provides an automatic short-term increase in the discount to certain portions of the bill when gas prices rise above a specified historic percentage.²⁹⁵ The cost of these avoided surcharges^{****} is at least \$2.10 per month, assuming an average RES monthly usage of 110 therms.²⁹⁶ Customers can enroll in the RES program year-round beginning on October 1. To qualify for RES, an individual must be a D.C. resident, the utility bill must be in the applicant's name, and the applicant cannot have a 2020 annual income above \$32,814 or \$42,911 for a two-person household. Participants must reapply for certification each year.²⁹⁷ In 2016, approximately 23,000 D.C. households met RES's income eligibility standards.²⁹⁸

Agency: Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia and Washington Gas

Website: https://dcpsc.org/getmedia/1f64de78-ac29-44a9-9e83-137733b2981e/UDPFactSheet_FY2020_English.aspx

Phone Number: (202) 626-5100

Weatherization for All Program (WAP). WAP provides low-income residents with technical and financial assistance to help make their homes more energy efficient.²⁹⁹ Weatherization services are available to both single and multi-family, but what can be done varies based on type of residence. Typical weatherization measures include insulation, duct sealing, heating and cooling system repairs or replacement, air infiltration mitigation, and installing ENERGY STAR lighting and appliances.³⁰⁰ In addition, single family homeowners can receive assistance with inoperable mechanical systems.³⁰¹ In the District, WAP is administered through selected community-based organizations and non-profits that hire local contractors to install the audit recommendations. D.C. residents can qualify for WAP if their 2020 annual income is no more than \$32,814 for an individual or \$42,911 for a two-person household. In 2019, WAP weatherized an estimated 177 residential units.³⁰² It cost the program an average of \$2,022 to weatherize each residential unit in 2019.

Agency: D.C. Department of Energy and Environment and the U.S. Department of Energy

Website: <https://doee.dc.gov/service/weatherization-assistance-program>

Phone Number: (202) 299-3316

VETERAN BENEFIT PROGRAMS

Seniors in D.C. can qualify for seven veteran-related benefit programs. There were 28,000 total District veterans in 2018, of which approximately 12,300 were seniors.³⁰³ All of whom could potentially qualify for these programs.

TRICARE for Life (TFL). TFL is a health care program for uniformed service members, retirees, and their families. TFL provides Medicare-wraparound coverage, which covers services and costs that Medicare does not typically cover, for TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries who are enrolled in Medicare Part A and B.³⁰⁴ While there are no enrollment fees or premiums for TFL, beneficiaries are still responsible for their Part B premiums. Uniformed service members and their families, members of the National Guard or Reserves and their families, survivors, former spouses, Medal of Honor

**** RES customers are exempt from paying the RES surcharge, the Sustainable Energy Trust Fund surcharge, and the Energy Assistance Trust Fund surcharge.

recipients and their families, and others registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, qualify for TRICARE. §§§§§ 305 In the District an estimated 5,000 veterans could qualify for TFL.³⁰⁶ The vast majority of TFL recipients are seniors. Of the total 2.1 million TFL enrollees, almost 2 million are age 65 or older.³⁰⁷

Agency: U.S. Defense Health Agency
Website: <https://www.tricare.mil/Plans/HealthPlans/TFL>
Phone Number: (866) 773-0404

Veterans Administration (VA) Health Care. This program provides health care coverage for almost 7.1 million veterans in 2020, including 3.5 million veterans who are age 65 and older.³⁰⁸ In the District, almost 4,000 senior veterans participated in VA Health Care in 2019.³⁰⁹ The specific health care coverage a beneficiary receives is unique to their situation, but all plans provide coverage for most care and services.³¹⁰ Copay rates depend on the veteran's income, disability rating, and military service history.³¹¹ While most veterans are required to receive care at a VA location, some may be able to do so through a local provider if the VA facility cannot provide the needed care or the veteran is not located near a facility.³¹² There are currently three VA health centers located within the District.³¹³ To qualify for VA Health Care, veterans must have served prior to September 1980 or enlisted before September 1980 and have 24 continuous months of service or their full active duty period. Exceptions are made for veterans who were discharged for a disability that was caused or made worse by the active duty service, discharged for a hardship, or an "early out."³¹⁴ Members of the Reserves or National Guard can also qualify if they were called to active duty by a federal order and completed the entire active duty period. Veterans can receive VA health care coverage even if they are already enrolled in an Indian or Tribal Health plan, Medicaid, Medicare, a private insurance plan, or a TRICARE plan.³¹⁵

Agency: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Website: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/about-va-health-benefits/>
Phone Number: (844) 698-2311

VA Long Term Care. The VA Long Term Care program provides a variety of long-term care services to low- and moderate-income veterans who suffer from service-related medical conditions or disabilities. These services include 24/7 nursing and medical care, physical therapy, help with daily tasks, comfort care, pain management help, and support for caregivers.³¹⁶ Approximately 450,000 veterans across the country receive VA Long Term Care. To qualify, veterans living in D.C. must have an annual income in 2020 of no more than \$59,785 if they are single, \$68,310 with one dependent, or \$76,835 with two dependents.³¹⁷ The VA defines dependent to include a spouse, unmarried children, and a parent under certain circumstances.³¹⁸ Further, veterans must be enrolled in VA Health Care, have met the active-duty requirements; were discharged for a disability that was caused or made worse by active-duty service, a hardship, or "early out"; or served prior to September 1980.³¹⁹ Members of the Reserves or National Guard must have been called to active duty by a federal order and completed the entire active duty period.³²⁰

Agency: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Website: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/about-va-health-benefits/long-term-care/>
Phone Number: (844) 698-2311

VA Veterans Pension. The Veterans Pension is a tax-free supplemental income payment to low-income wartime veterans.³²¹ The average 2018 annual pension benefit for D.C. veterans was approximately \$10,152.³²² Nationally, the maximum annual benefit, as of December 2019, was \$13,752 for veterans with no dependent and no additional benefits and \$18,008 for veterans with at least one dependent and no additional benefits.³²³ Just over 600 D.C. residents and nearly 444,000 individuals across the country receive a Veterans Pension.³²⁴ Of the over 600 D.C. veterans, 437 were age 65 and older in 2018.³²⁵ To qualify for a pension, a veteran must have at least 90 days of active duty service, with at least one day of wartime service. Veterans who entered active duty after September 7, 1980 must meet a different qualification standard.³²⁶ A veteran must also meet one of the following qualifications: be at least 65 years old, totally and permanently disabled, a patient in a nursing home receiving skilled nursing care, receiving social security disability insurance, or receiving SSI.³²⁷ A veteran with no dependents must have an income at or below \$13,752, and a veteran with one dependent must have an income at or below \$18,008.³²⁸ In addition, veterans must have a net worth below \$129,094 as of December 2019.³²⁹ Net worth includes all of a veteran's personal property except their house, car, and most home furnishings.

§§§§§ TRICARE eligibility requirements vary for each of these categories.

Agency: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Website: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/vetpen.asp>
Phone Number: (844) 698-2311

VA Aid and Attendance (A&A) and Housebound Benefits. The A&A and Household Benefits provide qualifying individuals with supplements to their Veterans Pension benefit.³³⁰ To receive the A&A supplemental payment, a veteran must meet at least one of the following conditions: require the aid of another person in order to perform basic personal functions; be bedridden; is a patient in a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity; or have limited eyesight.³³¹ To qualify for the Housebound Benefit, a veteran must be substantially confined to their immediate premises because of permanent disability.³³² There were 106,579 A&A and 4,311 Housebound total U.S. beneficiaries in FY 2018.³³³ The 2018 average individual amount paid for A&A was \$17,204 and \$10,983 for a survivor with A&A pension status.³³⁴ The Housebound 2018 benefit amounts were \$10,385 for an individual and \$5,987 for a survivor.³³⁵

Agency: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Website: https://benefits.va.gov/pension/aid_attendance_housebound.asp
Phone Number: (844) 698-2311

VA Veterans Transportation Service (VTS). VTS provides transportation to veterans who require assistance traveling to and from VA health care facilities and authorized non-VA health care appointments.³³⁶ This program offers transportation services at little or no costs to eligible veterans and is operated via three services: Beneficiary Travel, Veterans Transportation Service, and Highly Rural Transportation Grants. VTS also partners with service providers in local communities to help reach more veterans.³³⁷ Veterans must be eligible for VA health care benefits and have a VA-authorized appointment to qualify for transportation through the VTS program.^{***** 338} Each local VA authorized facility may establish their own ridership guidelines in addition to the general eligibility criteria.

Agency: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Website: https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/vtp/veterans_transportation_service.asp
Phone Number: 202-745-8000

VetsRide. VetsRide is a partnership between the Department of For-Hire Vehicles and the Mayor's Office of Veteran Affairs that provides transportation for veterans in D.C.³³⁹ Program eligibility is restricted to veteran residents of D.C. with annual incomes under \$30,000.³⁴⁰ In 2018, there were 341 enrollees in the program and the monthly cost for the program was \$38,475 in November and \$77,950 in December 2018.³⁴¹ VetsRide participants receive four, one-way ride vouchers per month with the options of rolling over two unused vouchers each month.³⁴² The program operates from Monday to Friday 6:00am to 10:00pm within the District. Program participants can only use rides for medical treatment or appointments, educational opportunities, job interviews, and housing appointments.³⁴³

Agency: Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs
Website: <https://ova.dc.gov/service/vetsride>
Phone Number: (202) 724-5454

OTHER BENEFIT PROGRAMS

There are seven benefits in the "Other" category. These programs cover a variety of benefits that do not fit into the former categories. Over 1,100 District residents participated in at least one of the following programs in FY 2019.

Back to Work 50+ (BTW50+). BTW50+ is an initiative launched by the Department of Employment Services (DOES) in collaboration with the AARP that provides job training and helps mature D.C. resident job seekers find employment opportunities.³⁴⁴ To qualify, an individual must be between 50 and 64 years old, have a high school diploma or General Educational Development, have permission to work in the U.S., and have been employed within the last five years.³⁴⁵ There were 104 enrollees in FY 2018 and 62 in FY 2019.³⁴⁶

***** Veterans not enrolled in VA health care system may also be eligible for VTS under certain circumstances.

Agency: D.C. Department of Employment Services and AARP

Website: <https://www.aarp.org/aarp-foundation/our-work/income/back-to-work-50-plus/>

Phone Number: (855) 850-2525

Club Memory. Club Memory is a social club for people with early-stage Alzheimer's, mild cognitive impairment, or other forms of dementia, and their spouses, partners, and caregivers.³⁴⁷ Sessions and community outreach activities are offered at a variety of facilities, including Sibley Memorial Hospital. Five hundred District seniors were enrolled in the program in April 2018, and 782 were enrolled in 2019.³⁴⁸

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/sibley-memorial-hospital/community-health/senior-wellness/club-memory.html>

Phone Number: Wards 2 and 3 - (202) 660-7104; All Other Wards – (202) 660-6957

Cluster Care. Cluster Care assists adult day health and wellness center attendees who need extra help in the morning with personal care, such as dressing, grooming, and light meal preparation.³⁴⁹ This free service provides personal care aide services to people who live in high-density residential communities and coordinates transportation to and from adult dayhealth. To participate, an individual must be at least 60 years old, a D.C. resident, live alone, have mild to moderate dementia or memory loss, need minimal assistance with prompting or cueing, and have an interest in attending an adult day health and wellness center program.³⁵⁰

Agency: Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: None

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

D.C. Subsidized Geriatric Assessment and Case Management Agencies. These agencies deliver direct services to older adults, including meals, health promotion, counseling services, case management, recreation, socialization, activities, and medical transportation.³⁵¹ The lead agencies include the East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc., Family Matters of Greater Washington, Iona Senior Services, Seabury Resources for Aging, and Terrific, Inc.³⁵² Each agency is responsible for a specific ward or group of wards and may only allow applicants from such ward(s) into programs. Qualified individuals must generally be a D.C. resident and at least 60 years old. Some programs may have further eligibility requirements.³⁵³

Agency: Department of Aging and Community Living, East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc., Family Matters of Greater Washington, Iona Senior Services, Seabury Resources for Aging, and Terrific, Inc.

Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/service/senior-service-network-lead-agencies>

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

Money Management Program (MMP). MMP assists low-income older adults experiencing memory loss manage their personal finances and monthly bills.³⁵⁴ This service is provided by Iona Senior Service, with funding provided by DACL.³⁵⁵ There are three service categories within MMP: Money Management,³⁵⁶ Organizational Representative Payee,³⁵⁷ and Education Outreach.³⁵⁸ An individual must be a D.C. resident, at least 60 years old, live alone, be experiencing mild to moderate dementia or memory loss, and have a yearly net income of less than \$29,425 to participate in the program.³⁵⁹ In FY 2019, there were a total of 153 participants each month; with 40 participants in the money management category, 11 in the organizational representative payee category, and an average of 102 monthly participants in the educational outreach category of the program.³⁶⁰

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living and Iona Senior Service

Website: <https://dcoa.dc.gov/node/1044082>

Phone Number: (202) 895-9448

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). SCSEP helps older District residents get back into or remain active in the workforce.³⁶¹ It provides part-time career skills training through on the job training in community-based organizations in industries selected by DOES. SCEP places participants in a wide variety of non-profit and public facilities.

During the training, participants are paid the state or federal minimum wage level, whichever is higher. Assignments or training activities may not exceed 20 hours per week.³⁶² SCSEP also works with business leaders to identify employers who are interested in hiring qualified, trained mature workers. Qualified applicants are at least 55 years old, D.C. residents, have an annual income of no more than 125 percent FPL, eligible to work in the U.S., have the mental and physical capacity to perform training-related activities for at least 20 hours a week, are unemployed, not job-ready, and have low employment prospects.³⁶³ The program had 45 enrollees in FY 2018 and 41 in FY 2019.³⁶⁴

Agency: D.C. Department of Employment Services

Website: <https://does.dc.gov/service/senior-community-service-employment-program>

Phone Number: (202) 698-5700

UDC Senior Tuition Program. A D.C. resident, who is 65 or older, and accepted into a UDC degree program can obtain a degree while paying half the tuition and fees associated with that program.³⁶⁵ There is no charge for a qualifying individual to audit classes and D.C. residents, aged 65 and over, may attend two free classes every semester. Courses are available at the UDC Community College and Van Ness Campus.³⁶⁶ The program enrolled 148 seniors in FY 2018 and 150 in FY 2019.³⁶⁷

Agency: University of the District of Columbia

Website: <https://www.udc.edu/causes/land-grant/the-center-for-nutrition-diet-and-health/institute-of-gerontology/>

Phone Number: (202) 274-6697

HELP FOR CAREGIVERS BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The District provides two benefit programs that support caregivers of older adults. There were almost 420 enrollees in both programs in FY 2019.

D.C. Caregivers' Institute (DCCI). DCCI supports unpaid caregivers residing in D.C. who have primary responsibility for older, vulnerable D.C. residents.³⁶⁸ It serves as a centralized resource to help caregivers make critical decisions, develop and implement a caregiving support plan, advocate for themselves and the person they are caring for, and participate in personal rejuvenation activities. DCCI aims to help caregivers make informed decisions about their present and future circumstances. Services include educational activities; financial reimbursement for caregiving-related expenses through a monthly flex account; caregiver counseling services; and in-home assessments.³⁶⁹ DCCI also offers a monthly telephone caregiver telephone support group. A caregiver is qualified to participate if they are responsible for the care of an individual who is 60 or older. The individual under their care must also have either physical or mental limitations or has a low to moderate income and needs the caregiver's assistance to avoid moving into a nursing home or assisted living facility. The caregiving must be creating a financial burden and causing stress for the caregiver, as well.³⁷⁰ DCCI had 501 enrollees in FY 2018 and 406 in FY 2019.³⁷¹

Agency: U.S. Administration on Aging and D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: <http://dccaregivers.org/about/index.asp>

Phone Number: (202) 464-1513

Saturday Respite Program. The program provides caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's or related disorders with a four-hour break on certain Saturdays throughout the year.³⁷² The program offers an adult day care-like setting to those with dementia and provides interactive and stimulating activities. To participate in the program, the individual requiring care must be a D.C. resident, at least 60 years old, have low to moderate income, have mild to moderate dementia or memory loss, and need minimal assistance with prompting or cueing.³⁷³ Eight people enrolled in the program in FY 2018, and 11 people were enrolled in FY 2019.³⁷⁴

Agency: D.C. Department of Aging and Community Living

Website: None

Phone Number: (202) 724-5626

3. GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Adjusted gross Income (AGI)
Aid and Attendance (A&A)
Area Median Income (AMI)
Back to Work 50+ (BTW50+)
Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS)
Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS)
Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (CRIAC)
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
Community Dining Meal Services (Group Meals)
Customer Assistance Program (CAP)
D.C. Caregivers' Institute (DCCI)
D.C. Housing Authority (DCHA)
Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL)
Department of Employment Services (DOES)
Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)
Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF)
Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)
District of Columbia (D.C. or the District)
Elderly and Persons with Disabilities (EPD)
Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)
Federal Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled (Schedule R)
Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS)
Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
Fiscal Year (FY)
Grandparent Caregivers Program (Grandparent Subsidy or GCP)
Homeowner/Renter Property Tax Income Tax Credit (Schedule H or the Property Tax Circuit Breaker)
Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP)
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
Lower Income, Long-Term Homeowners Tax Credit (Schedule L)
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Low-Income Senior Property Owners (Property Tax Deferral for Low-Income Senior Property Owner)
Money Management Program (MMP)
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI or Social Security)
Optional State Supplement Payment (OSP)
Owner-Occupant Residential Tax Credit (Senior Assessment Cap Credit)
Produce Prescription Program (Produce Rx)
Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)
Rental Assistance for Unsubsidized Seniors Program (Senior Citizen Shallow Subsidy)
Residential Aid Discount (RAD)
Residential Essential Services (RES)
Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)
Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP or Get Fresh)
Senior Low Rent Supplement Program (LRSP)
Single Family Residential Rehabilitation Program (SFRRP)
Social Security Administration (SSA)
Solar For All (SFA)
Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB)
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Tax Year (TY)
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

TRICARE for Life (TFL)

University of the District of Columbia (UDC)

Utility Discount Programs (UDP)

Veterans Administration (VA)

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

Weatherization for All Program (WAP)

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