

From: Social Security Administration, Office of External Affairs <oea.net.post@ssa.gov>
To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov
Date: 10/15/2015 1:15:58 PM
Subject: 2016 Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Announcement

Dear Colleague:

Each year, Social Security calculates the automatic cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), if any, that our program beneficiaries will receive the following year. For years when there is a Social Security COLA, this adjustment is intended to keep inflation from eroding the purchasing power of Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits.

The law does not provide for a Social Security COLA for 2016. The Social Security Act requires us to base this calculation on changes in the [Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers](#), known as the CPI-W. Because the CPI-W has not increased, there will be no COLA for 2016.

For important details and related information concerning this announcement, please see our [press release](#).

I encourage you to share this information with your members, associates, and the public. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

J. Jioni Palmer
Associate Commissioner for External Affairs
(T) 410-965-1804

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