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**Subject:** SSI vs SSDI: Understand the difference

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## SSA vs. SSDI: Know the difference

Social Security offers two income support programs for people living with disabilities. Read our blog to get the facts on who's eligible for these programs, how to apply, and what are the average and maximum benefits.

[Learn More](#)

*April 19, 2017*

## Feedback sought on “Welcome to Medicare” packets

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is seeking feedback on packages sent to people newly eligible for, and automatically enrolled in, Medicare. There are three “Welcome to Medicare” packages that CMS mails to recipients—one for those living in the U.S., one for those living abroad, and one for residents of Puerto Rico, in Spanish. Feedback is requested by May 5.

[View the materials and provide comments](#)

## Get our guide to using the Elder Index

What does it take for a senior in your community to be economically secure? The Elder Economic Security Standard™ Index (or Elder Index) presents local expenses, savings requirements, and what incomes are needed to achieve economic security by family type, and at the city, county, and state levels. We’ve developed a new guide to using the Elder Index, and will be hosting a webinar with U-Mass Boston on April 26 to illustrate how to apply it in your work.

[Get all of the details](#)

## CMS finalizes 2018 MA and Part D plan payments

On April 3, CMS released final updates to the Medicare Advantage and Part D programs through the 2018 Rate Announcement and Call Letter. The final benefits parameters outlining costs in Part D plans in 2018 begin on p. 48.

[Read more](#)

### *Did you miss these?*

- **MSP eligibility in 2017:** Get the income and asset eligibility criteria, state by state, in this chart updated for 2017.
- **Toll-free debt hotline:** Share this number with your clients who could benefit from speaking with a certified debt counselor: 1-866-217-0543.

- **9 Free Resources to Take Control of Your Money:** Point clients to this blog post showcasing the many tools available on EconomicCheckup.org.

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