



## Assistance Programs

<i>Food and Nutrition Assistance</i>			
<b>Program &amp; People</b>	<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	<b>Authority</b>
Food Stamps 37,181 households (November 2013)	Average household allotment in FY 2013 was \$415	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Net income of not more than \$1,555 for an individual or \$2,100 for a couple; levels increase based on household size</li> <li>Not more than \$2,000 in assets per household, \$3,250 for a household who has at least one member who is disabled or over age 60</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program PL 110-246 (2008) 7 CFR. 271 – 274 AS 47.25.975 – 990 7 AAC 46.010 – 990
Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (SNAP ED)	Provide nutrition education information to Food Stamp eligible populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Net income of not more than \$1,555 for an individual or \$2,100 for a couple; levels increase based on household size</li> <li>Not more than \$2,000 in assets per household, \$3,250 for a household who has at least one member who is disabled or over age 60</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program PL 110-246 (2008) 7 CFR. 271 – 274 AS 47.25.975 – 990 7 AAC 46.010 – 990
WIC 21,916 households (October 2013)	Provides nutrition education, referrals, breastfeeding support and checks to purchase supplemental foods designed to address nutrient inadequacies and nutrition education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Must have a nutrition risk</li> <li>Pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age</li> <li>Must meet income criteria or must be within 185% of poverty</li> <li>Yearly income of \$26,548 for a 1 person household, \$35,853 for a 2 person household (2013). USDA updates income guidelines annually (April).</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program PL 111-296 (2010) 7 CFR 246



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Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Program	Provides breastfeeding support through a peer-to-peer counseling structure to WIC pregnant and breastfeeding women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Must have a nutrition risk</li> <li>Pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age</li> <li>Must meet income criteria or must be within 185% of poverty</li> <li>Yearly income of \$26,548 for a 1 person household, \$35,853 for a 2 person household (2013). USDA updates income guidelines annually (April).</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 111-296 (2010) 7 CFR 246
Commodity Supplemental Food Program  1,776 households (October 2013)	Provides supplemental foods designed to address nutrient inadequacies. Includes nutrition education. Cannot have concurrent participation in WIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants and children up to six years of age or age 60 or older</li> <li>Yearly income for woman, infants, and children for family of two- \$35,853 or one person household of \$18,655 for senior citizens (2013)</li> <li>Only available in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, and Fairbanks and limited outlying areas.</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 111-296 (2010) 7 CFR 247
WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program  15,100 participated during June – October harvest season	Provide checks for purchase of fruits and/or vegetables. Provide nutrition education materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska Resident</li> <li>Current WIC participants</li> <li>Only available in Anchorage, Eagle River, Mat –Su area, Delta Junction, Kenai Peninsula, Dillingham, Fairbanks area, Valdez, Copper Center, Bethel and Sitka</li> <li>Yearly income of \$25,845 for a 1 person household, \$35,002 for a 2 person household (FY 2013). USDA updates income guidelines annually (April).</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 11-296 (2010) 7 CFR 248



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Senior Farmers Market Nutrition  Estimated 3,400 participants	Provides checks for purchase of fresh fruits and/or vegetables from local farmer's markets. Provides nutrition education materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Age 60 or older</li> <li>Participation in CSFP, TEFAP, Public Assistance, NEOP, or household participation in WIC, CSFP, or Free or Reduced School Meals OR</li> <li>Yearly income \$26,548 for one person household, \$35,853 for two person household (2013)</li> <li>Available in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, Fairbanks, and limited outlying areas.</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 111-296 (2010) 7 CFR 249
<i>Medical Assistance</i>			
Medicaid  Estimated 69,028 recipients (November 2013)	Provides medical assistance to needy individuals and families. Basically, it is intended to provide medical coverage for needy families with children, pregnant women, and aged, blind and disabled persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be eligible, recipients must meet certain income and/or resource criteria. These criteria vary depending on the particular Medicaid category for which the recipient is eligible for</li> <li>Eligibility criteria for aged, blind, and disabled persons are based on eligibility criteria used for the Adult Public Assistance program</li> <li>Eligibility criteria for parents and other caretaker relatives, pregnant women, children under age 19, under 21 Medicaid, and former foster children up to age 26 are based on the eligibility criteria created by the Affordable Care Act</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 112-238 (2012) 42 USC 1396  AS 47.07 7 AAC 100.001 - 990



## Assistance Programs

Program & People	Benefit	Eligibility Criteria	Authority
Chronic and Acute Medical Assistance	Provides emergency medical coverage for persons who do not qualify for Medicaid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 18 or older</li> <li>• Lack of other medical resources</li> <li>• Covered medical needs only include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ A terminal illness</li> <li>➢ Cancer requiring chemotherapy</li> <li>➢ Diabetes and diabetes insipidus</li> <li>➢ Seizure disorders</li> <li>➢ Chronic mental illness</li> <li>➢ Hypertension</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Countable income of not more than \$300 for an individual or \$400 for a couple</li> <li>• Assets that do not exceed \$500</li> </ul>	State Program  AS 47.08.150 7 AAC 48.500 - 900
<i>Assistance for Seniors &amp; Disabled</i>			
Adult Public Assistance (including Interim Assistance and Old Age Assistance)  18,899 households (November 2013)	Maximum \$362/month; combined with SSI max is \$1,072/month	The Adult Public Assistance program is designed as a State supplement to the Federal Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI). As such, it confers Medicaid eligibility to its recipients. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 65 or older, blind or disabled</li> <li>• Alaska resident</li> <li>• Less than \$2,000 (single) \$3,000 (couple) in assets excluding house, one vehicle, burial fund</li> <li>• Monthly income below \$1,339 for an individual, \$1,983 for a couple, both eligible</li> </ul>	State Program  AS 47.25.430 – 615 7 AAC 40.020 – 900



## *Assistance Programs*

Program & People	Benefit	Eligibility Criteria	Authority
Senior Benefits Program (100% State Funded)  11,083 households (November 2013)	Monthly payment of \$125, \$175 or \$250 depending on income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 65 or older</li> <li>• Alaska resident</li> <li>• Effective March 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014 -- Yearly income of below \$25,113 for an individual or \$33,915 for a couple</li> <li>• Effective March 1, 2014 – February 28, 2015 -- Yearly income of below \$25,515 for an individual or \$34,405 for a couple</li> </ul>	State Program  AS 47.45.300 – 309 7 AAC 47.545 - 599
<i>Heating Assistance</i>			
Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP – federally-funded)  6,728 households (January 2014)	Provides help paying for home heating costs  \$1,256/year average per household in FY2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual home heating costs must exceed \$200</li> <li>• Gross income at or below \$1,792 for an individual, \$2,422 for a couple (150% of federal poverty level)</li> <li>• Household with a person age 60 or older, disabled, or under the age of 6, is considered a priority population. Households receive one additional heating point toward their benefit calculation</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 97-35 (1981) 45 CFR 96.80 - 89  AS 47.25.621 – 626 7 AAC 44.010 – 900
Alaska Affordable Heating Program (100% state-funded)  1,140 households (January 2014)	Provides help paying for home heating costs  \$631/year average per household in FY2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual home heating costs must exceed \$200</li> <li>• Gross income between 151% to 225% of federal poverty level or \$2,688 for an individual, \$3,633 for a couple</li> <li>• Household with a person age 60 or older, disabled, or under the age of 6, is considered a priority population. Households receive one additional heating point toward their benefit calculation</li> </ul>	State Program  AS 47.05.010 AS 47.25.621 - 626 7 AAC 44.200 - 900



## Assistance Programs

Assistance for Families with Dependent Children			
Program & People	Benefit	Eligibility Criteria	Authority
Alaska Temporary Assistance Program  4,878 households (November 2013)	Maximum cash benefit of \$821 for a family with 1 child, \$923 for a family with 2 children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alaska resident</li> <li>• Families with dependent children under age 18</li> <li>• Child support cooperation</li> <li>• 60-month time limit               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 32 States have a 60 month lifetime limit</li> <li>➢ 17 States have a shorter time lifetime limit</li> <li>➢ 2 States have no lifetime limit</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Participation in work activities and family self-sufficiency planning</li> <li>• Not more than \$2,000 in assets per household, \$3,000 for a household who has at least one member who is over 60</li> <li>• Net income of not more than \$1,564 for a family with 1 child, \$1,738 for a family with 2 children</li> <li>• Benefit amount based on income (lower if more income or less need)</li> <li>• 25% are "Child Only" Cases (non-needy caregiver)</li> <li>• 75% include a parent and are subject to work and time limits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 59% have used less than 2 years</li> <li>➢ 17% have used between 2 and 3 years</li> <li>➢ 11% have used between 3 and 4 years</li> <li>➢ 7% have used between 4 and 5 years</li> <li>➢ 6% have used more than 5 years (on extension)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  42 USC 602 – 608 45 CFR 200 – 499  AS 47.27.005 – 990 7 AAC 45.150 – 990



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Program	Benefit	Eligibility Criteria	Authority
Child Care Assistance  2,760 families (October 2013)	Provides monthly subsidy to help low income families pay for child care. Benefit is paid to the child care provider based on geographic location, type of care and age of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be eligible, the parent(s) in the family must be participating in work, seeking work, in school or training activities, and meet income criteria. Countable income is dependent on the household size.</li> <li>Child(ren) must be under the age of 13 or under the age of 19 if developmentally disabled</li> <li>Income limits are set at 75% of 2008 median income for Alaska: \$4,524 for household of 3, \$4,614 for a household of 4, etc.</li> </ul>	Federal/State Program  PL 112-74 (2011) 42 USC 9858 45 CFR 98 – 99  AS 47.25.001 – 095 7 AAC 41.010 – 990
<i>Other Assistance</i>			
General Relief Assistance	Provides for emergent basic needs for shelter, utilities, food, clothing or burial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alaska resident</li> <li>Have an emergent need for shelter, food, clothing, or burial</li> <li>Assets that do not exceed \$500</li> <li>Countable income of not more than \$300 for an individual or \$400 for a couple</li> </ul>	State Program  AS 47.05.010 AS 47.25.170 7 AAC 47.050 - 290



## *Assistance Programs*

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### ACRONYM KEY

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<b>AAC</b>	Alaska Administrative Code
<b>APA</b>	Adult Public Assistance
<b>AS</b>	Alaska Statute
<b>ATAP</b>	Alaska Temporary Assistance Program
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>CSFP</b>	Commodity Supplemental Food Program
<b>DKC</b>	Denali Kid Care
<b>LIHEAP</b>	Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program
<b>NEOP</b>	Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
<b>PL</b>	Public Law
<b>POMS SI</b>	Social Security Administration Program Operations Manual System - Supplemental Security Income
<b>SSI</b>	Supplemental Security Income
<b>TEFAP</b>	The Emergency Food Assistance Program
<b>USC</b>	United States Code
<b>USDA</b>	U.S. Department of Agriculture
<b>WIC</b>	Women, Infants, and Children

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