

Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled & Children (EAEDC)

Fact Sheet 2021

How can EAEDC help me?

EAEDC is a program administered by the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) that provides cash and medical assistance to certain categories of needy individuals in Massachusetts.

Who qualifies for EAEDC?

To be eligible for EAEDC you must be:

- Physically or mentally disabled, or
- Aged 65 or older, or
- Caring for a disabled individual who would otherwise be institutionalized, and
- Have countable assets worth less than \$250.

The disability standards for EAEDC are not as strict as Social Security. They include having a condition that lasts at least 60 days and being unable to support yourself through work.

How much are EAEDC monthly benefits?

To be eligible for an EAEDC monthly benefit, your countable monthly income must be less than what you are entitled to, which is based largely on your living situation and marital status. The chart* below shows some common examples of different types of EAEDC monthly cash benefits, based on living situation and marital status:

Types of EAEDC Beneficiaries	Max Benefit
Single person (with shelter costs)	\$303.70
Each person in a married couple	\$202.50
Homeless person	\$92.80
Person in a rest home	\$72.80

www.masslegalhelp.org/eaedc

What kind of income doesn't impact EAEDC?

Some income will not impact your EAEDC monthly benefits, such as housing subsidies, most cash gifts, fuel assistance and the income of anyone who lives with you, if you are not married.

Are there other benefits tied to EAEDC?

Yes. Once approved for EAEDC, you will receive MassHealth coverage as well as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits, formerly known as Food Stamps.

How can I apply for EAEDC benefits?

You can apply at your local DTA office. You must sign the application at that time. If eligible, your benefits will begin from the date you signed.

Will work impact my EAEDC benefits?

Yes. To figure out your monthly cash benefits, DTA will first determine what your gross monthly income (before taxes) is, based on whether you are paid weekly or biweekly. Once determined, DTA will disregard the first \$90 of your gross monthly income; then any earnings over that will reduce your EAEDC benefits \$1 for every \$1 you earned from work, for the month.

Note: If you have dependent care costs for a disabled adult or child, you can deduct these, up to a maximum of \$175 per month from your work income.

Do I have to report my work income?

Yes. Report any income changes immediately to DTA to avoid overpayments, which you must pay back to the state. This is critical, so you don't jeopardize your eligibility for future benefits, should you need them.

For more info on EAEDC, visit or call:

www.mass.gov/eohhs/consumer/basic-needs/financial/emergency-aid-to-the-elderly-disabled-and-children.html

DTA Assistance Line 1-877-382-2363

For more information about **Work Without Limits Benefits Counseling** contact

1-877-YES-WORK (1-877-937-9675) or visit <http://www.workwithoutlimits.org/benefits-counseling/>