

TABLE 9
State-Funded SSI Replacement Programs

This table lists the state-funded programs that provide cash assistance to immigrants who are not eligible for coverage under the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. In many other states, General Assistance and similar programs may fill in some of the gaps for immigrants who are ineligible for federally funded Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The benefit levels, however, are generally much lower than those provided by SSI, and other restrictions and time limits may apply. *(Unless otherwise indicated, information updated March 2011)*

STATE	ELIGIBLE IMMIGRANTS
California	“Qualified” immigrants, PRUCOLs, victims of trafficking, U visa/interim relief applicants, and U visa holders who are ineligible for federal SSI. Benefit levels for individuals are \$10 less than the federal SSI and state SSI supplement. Eligibility for this program may be affected by deeming.
Hawaii	“Qualified” immigrant seniors and persons with disabilities can receive Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled (AABD), which provides \$418 per month.
Illinois	“Qualified” immigrants who were lawfully residing in the U.S. before Aug. 22, 1996, were not receiving SSI on that date, are 65 or older, and are determined ineligible for SSI because they do not have a disability. Eligibility for this program may be affected by deeming. Refugees, persons granted asylum or withholding of deportation/removal, Cuban and Haitian entrants, and Amerasian immigrants, who would be eligible for SSI, but for the expiration of the seven-year eligibility period, can receive up to \$500 per month under Illinois’ Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled Program.
Maine	“Qualified” immigrants and PRUCOLs who are ineligible for federal SSI. Benefit levels for individuals are equal to the federal SSI and state SSI supplement.
Nebraska	“Qualified” immigrants, regardless of date of entry into the U.S. Eligibility for this program may be affected by deeming.
New Hampshire	“Qualified” immigrants who entered the U.S. on or before Aug. 22, 1996, and those who entered after Aug. 22, 1996 who have been in “qualified” immigrant status for 5 years. Refugees, asylees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Amerasian immigrants and persons granted withholding of deportation/removal are eligible without regard to their date of entry into the U.S.

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Key Terms Used in Table

“Qualified” immigrants – are: (1) lawful permanent residents (LPRs); (2) refugees, asylees, persons granted withholding of deportation/removal, conditional entry (in effect prior to Apr. 1, 1980), or paroled into the U.S. for at least one year; (3) Cuban/Haitian entrants; and (4) battered spouses and children with a pending or approved (a) self-petition for an immigrant visa, or (b) immigrant visa filed for a spouse or child by a U.S. citizen or LPR, or (c) application for cancellation of removal/suspension of deportation, whose need for benefits has a substantial connection to the battery or cruelty. Parent/child of such battered child/spouse are also “qualified.”

“PRUCOL” or permanently residing in the U.S. under color of law – is not an immigration status, but a benefit eligibility category. The term, which generally means that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is aware of a person’s presence, but has no plans to deport/remove him or her, has been interpreted differently depending on the benefit program and jurisdiction.

Deeming – in some cases, a sponsor’s income and/or resources may be added to the immigrant’s in determining eligibility. Exemptions from deeming may apply.

NOTE: The information in this table is subject to change. Please check with your state or local social services agency or legal assistance office regarding the most current rules.