



October 2022

SOCIAL SECURITY COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT RELEASED

Last week, the Social Security Administration announced an 8.7% increase in Social Security benefits (a cost of living adjustment, or COLA) for older adults in 2023 in response to growing inflation. This increase will amount to roughly \$145 per month on average. This is the largest annual increase in Social Security payments in about four decades. This increase is coupled with a decrease of 3% both in Medicare Part B premiums and in Medicare Part B deductibles, meaning that the Social Security payment increase will not be offset by any Medicare payment increases.

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

The 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health was held on September 28 with a livestream for advocates across the country. Several advocates for older adults attended the in-person event. The White House released a [national strategy](#) and companies have started releasing their [commitments](#) to carrying out the national strategy. The strategy made specific policy recommendations related to the unique nutritional and health needs of older adults including increasing funding for Older Americans Act (OAA) nutrition programs, making the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) online shopping pilot program permanent, developing an older adult nutrition research agenda with external and federal partners, and launching a pilot program to test providing medically tailored meals for traditional Medicare beneficiaries with diet-related health conditions. The work to implement the national strategy has already started and more commitments to action will likely be released in the coming months.

To hear more about the national strategy from the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health, join us for a webinar on December 15 from 1 - 2 p.m. [Register here](#).

FUNDING UPDATE

Just before the start of the new fiscal year, starting October 1, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) which means federally-funded programs will remain at FY 2022 funding levels through December 16th—including Older Americans Act programs. It is expected that legislators will reengage in funding negotiations after the November midterm elections.

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback!

Please share questions,
suggestions or concerns.

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ELDER PRIDE ACT INTRODUCED

The Elder Pride Act was introduced by Reps. Suzanne Bonamici, Mark Pocan and Sharice Davids last week. The bill would increase access to needed services and resources for LGBTQI+ seniors who live in rural areas through providing grants to bolster the capacity and ability of Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) located in rural communities to better serve and support LGBTQI+ seniors. A fact sheet on the legislation can be found [here](#), and the full text can be found [here](#).

MIDTERM ELECTIONS:: PROSPECTS AND IMPLICATIONS

Join us on November 17 from 1 - 2 p.m. for an up-to-date virtual discussion on developments in Washington DC following the mid-term elections. We will provide a preview into key aging policies, equity issues in health care and services, and prospects for new legislation. [Register now!](#)