

Do You Need Cash Assistance? You Might Be Eligible for General Assistance

If you apply for General Assistance and are turned down, you can appeal.

Community Legal Services can help with appeals. CLS takes new cases about cash assistance, SNAP (food stamps) and Medical Assistance on **Mondays and Wednesdays, and Fridays between 9:00 and noon.**

Our office is at 1410 W. Erie Ave. (Broad & Erie).

Because of a recent court decision, some individuals with very low income can now get Cash Assistance from the welfare office. People can qualify for General Assistance if they:

- have a temporary or permanent disability;
- are a minor child who is not living with a relative;
- are caring for an unrelated child under the age of 13 or are caring for someone who is ill or disabled;
- are victims of domestic violence (limited to 9 months in a lifetime); or
- are in a drug or alcohol treatment program that prevents them from working (limited to 9 months in a lifetime).

The maximum Cash Assistance for people with no other income is \$205/month for 1 person, or \$316/month for two people.



COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES
OF PHILADELPHIA

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Center City Office: 1424 Chestnut St. | Philadelphia, PA 19102-2505 | Telephone: 215-981-3700 clsphila.org
North Philadelphia Law Center: 1410 West Erie Ave. | Philadelphia, PA 19140-4136 | Telephone: 215-227-2400

How to Apply for General Assistance

How Do I Apply?

You can apply in person at the welfare office, or online at www.compass.state.pa.us. You can also get help applying by calling BenePhilly, at (844) 848-4376.

What Do I Need?

To prove disability you will need to get a welfare department medical form (Employability Assessment Form PA 1663) completed.

To prove domestic violence you will need to get a welfare department Domestic Violence Verification Form (PA Form 1747) completed.

If you are in a drug and alcohol treatment program, the program will need to fill out a welfare department form showing that you are actively participating.

If you are caring for someone who is disabled, you will need to get a medical form completed by their doctor, or a letter from their doctor.

If you are caring for a child who is not related to you, you will need to explain the situation to the welfare department and provide some proof that the child is living with you—for example, a letter from a neighbor or relative, or school or medical records.