



Alabama Benefit Checklist

Assembled by Jan Neal Law Firm, LLC

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SSI and Community Medicaid

Benefit	Eligibility Standard		Effective Date
SSI Retirement and Disability	Single Monthly Income/Resources \$994/\$2000	Married Monthly Income/Resources \$1491/\$3000	January 1, 2026
Medicaid at Home	SSI eligibility	SSI eligibility	
Medicare Buy-In for Medicare A, B & D	SSI eligibility	SSI eligibility	

Institutional Medicaid/Community Medicaid Waiver

Benefit/Penalty	Eligibility Standard		Effective Date
Nursing Home Medicaid	Single Person Income/Resources \$2982 (with income over \$2982 MQIT needed)/ \$2000	Married Couple Income/Resource Set Aside \$2982 (only income of spouse being institutionalized counts)/ First \$32,532.00 set aside for community spouse, resources over \$65,064.00, ½ set aside for spouse up to cap of \$162,660	Single Standard January 1, 2026 Married Spousal Resource Set Aside Standard January 1, 2026

			Effective Date
Monthly Spousal Allotment	\$2,643.73		July 1, 2025 (changes in July of each year)
Transfer Penalty	1 month for every \$8,200.00 transferred		January 1, 2026
Home exclusion	Equity at or below \$1,130,000.00		January 1, 2026
Medicare Savings Programs (MSP)			
Benefit	Eligibility Standard		Effective Date March 1, 2026
MSP Program	Single Income/Resources (includes \$20 disregarded)	Married Income/Resources (Includes \$20 disregarded)	
QMB Pays for: ~uncovered Medicare expenses to replace purchase of Medicare supplemental policy; ~Medicare Part B premium ~Medicare Part D premium up to State Standard*	\$1,350.00	\$1,824.00	
SLMB Pays for: ~Medicare Part B premium	\$1,616.00	\$2,184.00	

QI-1 Pays for: ~Medicare Part B premium	\$1,816.00	\$2,455.00		
Medicare				
Medicare Part	Premium	Deductible	Copayment	Effective Date
A	0 if eligible for SS (Retirement benefits; 24 months of disability) or RR or paid Medicare Tax with Civil Service; \$565 per month with fewer than 30 qtrs.; \$311.00 per month with 30 – 39 quarters	\$1,736 each benefit period	\$0 first 60 days of inpatient care for each benefit period; \$434 for day 61–90; \$868 for day 91-150 lifetime reserve \$0 first 20 days; SNF \$217.00 for day 21 –100; day 101 forward you pay all cost	January 1, 2026
B	\$202.90 per month standard premium Premium for higher income beneficiaries below	\$283.00	20% for most Part B services	

Medicare Part B Premium 2026 for Higher Income Beneficiaries Based on Two Year's Prior (2024) Yearly Reported Income

Individual Tax Return Filed	Joint Tax Return Filed	Married with Separate Tax Return	Part B Premium Amount	Effective Date January 2026
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$109,000 or less	Standard \$202.90	
Over \$109,000 up to \$137,000	Over \$218,000 up to \$274,000	N/A	\$284.10	
Over \$137,000 up to \$171,000	Over \$274,000 up to \$342,000	N/A	\$405.80	
Over \$171,000 up to \$205,000	Over \$342,000 up to \$410,000	N/A	\$527.50	
Over \$205,000 up to \$500,000	Over \$410,000 up to \$750,000	Above \$109,000 and less than \$391,000	\$649.20	
\$500,000 and above	\$750,000 and above	\$391,000 or above	\$689.90	
Part B Late Enrollment Penalty	10% per each full 12 – month period eligible without overage X cost of Medicare Part B premium at time of sign up = amount added to Monthly cost of Part B premium			Permanent

Medicare Part D Premium 2026 for Higher Income Beneficiaries Based on Two Year's Prior (2024) Yearly Reported Income

Individual Tax Return Filed	Joint Tax Return Filed	Married with Separate Tax Return	Part D Premium Amount	Effective Date January 2026
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$109,000 or less	Your plan premium	
Over \$109,000 up to \$137,000	Over \$218,000 up to \$274,000	N/A	\$14.50 + your plan premium	
Over \$137,000 up to \$171,000	Over \$274,000 up to \$342,000	N/A	\$37.50 + your plan premium	
Over \$171,000 up to \$205,000	Over \$342,000 up to \$410,000	N/A	\$60.40 + your plan premium	
Over \$205,000 up to \$500,000	Over \$410,000 up to \$750,000	Above \$109,000 Less than \$391,000	\$83.30 + your plan premium	
\$500,000 or above	\$750,000 and above	\$391,000 and above	\$91.00 + your plan premium	

Part D Late Enrollment Penalty	1% of the “national base beneficiary premium” (\$38.99 in 2026 x the number of full, uncovered months eligible without coverage or creditable coverage = amount added to monthly cost of Part D	Permanent
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**Medicare Part B Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage Only
Premium 2026 for Higher Income Beneficiaries
Based on Two Year's Prior (2024) Yearly Reported Income**

Individual Tax Return Filed	Joint Tax Return Filed	Married with Separate Tax Return	Monthly Part B Premium Amount	Effective Date January 2026
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$109,000 or less	\$ 121.60	
Over 109,000 up to \$137,000	Over \$218,000 up to \$274,000	N/A	\$202.70	
Over \$137,000 up to \$171,000	Over \$274,000 up to \$342,000	N/A	\$324.30	
Over \$171,000 up to \$205,000	Over \$342,000 up to \$410,000	N/A	\$445.90	
Over \$205,000 up to \$500,000	Over \$410,000 up to \$750,000	Over 109,000 and less than \$391,000	\$567.50	
Greater than or equal to \$500,000	Greater than or equal to \$750,000	Greater than or equal to \$391,000	\$608.10	

2026 LOW INCOME SUBSIDY (Extra Help Purchasing Medicare Part D)

ALLOWABLE RESOURCES			
SUBSIDY (150%)		If intend to use some of resources for burial	
Single	\$16,590	Single	\$18,090
Married	\$33,100	Married	\$36,100

ALLOWABLE INCOME					
FAMILY SIZE	PERCENTAGE OF POVERTY GUIDELINE				
	100%	135%	140%	145%	150%
1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2025.00
2					2735.00
3					3445.00
4					4155.00
5					4865.00
6					5575.00
7					6285.00
8					6995.00
Each Additional Person					+710.00

Social Security Normal Retirement Age (NRA)

Born	NRA	Effective Date/Change Date
		Permanent
1937 and prior	65	
1938	65 and 2 months	
1939	65 and 4 months	
1940	65 and 6 months	
1941	65 and 8 months	
1942	65 and 10 months	
1943 – 1954	66	Note: Persons born on January 1 of any year should refer to the normal retirement age of the previous year.
1955	66 and 2 months	
1956	66 and 4 months	
1957	66 and 6 months	
1958	66 and 8 months	
1959	66 and 10 months	
1960 and later	67	

SS Early Retirement Benefit Reduction

Category based on NRA	Reduction of benefits when retire at 62	Reduction of benefits when retire at 63	Reduction of benefits when retire at 64	Reduction of benefits when retire at 65	Effective Date/Change Date
NRA 67 (born 1960 or later)	30%	25%	20%	13.3%	January 1, 2026
					These reductions are permanent.

Early Retirement Earned Income Offset

Category Based on NRA	Exempt Amount	SS Offset Penalty	Effective Date
Exempt Earnings for early retirees/workers whose NRA IS NOT in 2026	\$24,480 or \$2,040. month	Withholding of \$1.00 in benefits for every \$2.00 earned over \$24,480	January 1, 2026
Exempt Earnings for early retirees/workers whose NRA IS in 2026 and earnings predated reaching NRA	\$65,160 or \$5,430 month	Withholding of \$1.00 in benefits for every \$3.00 earned over \$65,160	

SSD Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)

Category Based on Disability	Allowable Monthly Earnings	Effective Date
Non-blind	\$1,690.00	January 1, 2026
Blind	\$2,830.00	

Alabama Elderly Simplified Application Project (AESAP) Food Assistance for 60+

Household Size	Gross Income Limit	Net Income Limit	Effective Date
1	\$1696	\$1305	October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
2	\$2292	\$1763	
3	\$2888	\$2221	
4	\$3483	\$2680	
5	\$4079	\$3138	
6	\$4675	\$3596	
7	\$5271	\$4055	
8	\$5867	\$4513	
Each Additional Member	\$596	\$459	
Gift and Estate Tax			
Federal Estate Tax Exemption and Lifetime exclusion for gifts	\$30 million per couple \$15 million per individual		January 1, 2026
Annual Gift Exclusion	\$19,000 Unchanged in 2026 from 2025		January 1, 2026