

General Assistance (GA) Program Fact Sheet

1. What is the General Assistance (GA) program?

The General Assistance Program provides limited state-funded cash assistance to adults (without dependent children) who are determined disabled and who are not eligible for assistance under a federally matched cash assistance program, such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

GA also provides limited state-funded cash assistance to children residing in the homes of unrelated adult caretakers who are not eligible for assistance under a federally matched cash assistance program, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

2. Funding

This program is state funded. HSD is reimbursed through the Interim Authorization Reimbursement (IAR) process with federal funds for GA recipients who are approved for retroactive SSI benefits.

SFY	GA Funding	GA Program Costs	IAR Recoupments
2017*	\$10,300,300	\$5,292,981	\$1,473,250
2016	\$9,942,600	\$9,783,868	\$2,895,525
2015	\$9,942,600	\$9,232,976	\$2,373,115
2014	\$9,942,600	\$9,440,798	\$2,112,018
2013	\$ 9,921,376	\$9,220,800	\$2,889,961
2012	\$ 9,862,215	\$9,850,873	\$2,779,871
2011	\$10,413,678	\$9,478,494	\$2,605,223
2010	\$9,891,500	\$9,354,843	\$2,855,850
2009	\$7,891,000	\$9,018,474	\$2,450,550
2008	\$8,491,500	\$8,482,105	\$2,990,871

*Though December 2016

3. GA Program Participants Totals (monthly average)

SFY	Caseload	Participants	Adults	Children
2017*	3,446	3,550	3,293	257
2016	3,264	3,361	3,113	248
2015	3,061	3,147	2,933	213
2014	3,114	3,219	3,014	205
2013	2,904	3,132	2,922	210
2012	2,816	3,055	2,835	220
2011	2,825	3,057	2,847	210
2010	2,343	2,515	2,344	171
2009	1,975	2,133	1,956	177
2008	1,940	2,112	1,935	177

*Though December 2016

4. Participant Eligibility

- ▶ Reside in New Mexico
- ▶ Citizenship or Qualified Legal Immigrant Status
- ▶ Social Security Number
- ▶ Low Income and Resources
 - Income
 - The benefit group’s countable gross earned and unearned income cannot equal or exceed 85% of the federal poverty guideline for the size of the benefit group. Any countable net income of the benefit group cannot equal or exceed the standard of need for the size of the benefit group.
 - Resources
 - \$1,500 or less in liquid resources, such as a bank account
 - \$2,000 or less in non-liquid resources, such as real property

Cash Assistance Standards

Household Size	85% FPG Poverty Gross Limit for Cash	General Assistance Standard of Need
1	\$ 827	\$245
2	\$1,114	\$329
3	\$1,403	\$412
4	\$1,690	\$496
5	\$1,977	\$580
6	\$2,265	\$664
7	\$2,553	\$748
8	\$2,840	\$849
For each additional member add:		
	+\$288	+\$ 84
Deductions:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Dependent Care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Dependent under age 2 = \$200 For Dependent 2 and over = \$175 Work Incentive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Earned Income Disregard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single Person = \$125 and ½ remainder Two Person = \$225 and ½ remainder 		

- Special Program Requirements
 - A determination of disability by the Incapacity Review Unit as supported by medical/mental health records and reports.
 - A Dependent needy child, or children, living in the home of a caretaker or caretakers who are not related within the 5th degree or relationship. The child must be ineligible for New Mexico Works (TANF).

5. Contact Information:

Samuel Peinado, Bureau Chief
 Policy & Program Development Bureau/Income Support Division
 Office: (505) 827-7219
 Fax: (505) 827-7259
 Email: Samuel.Peinado@state.nm.us