
Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Supervisors

Legislation enacted in 1973 provides for cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs. With COLAs, Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits keep pace with inflation. In general, the COLA is equal to a percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index. If there is no increase in the Consumer Price Index, then there is no COLA. In 2010, Social Security/Supplemental Security Income benefits will not have cost of living adjustments due to the decline in consumer prices and the expected low inflation.

Most Medicare beneficiaries will continue to pay the same $96.40 Part B premium amount in 2010. Beneficiaries who currently have the Social Security Administration (SSA) withhold their Part B premium and have incomes of $85,000 or less ($170,000 or less for joint filers) will not have an increase in their Part B premium for 2010.

If you have any questions, please contact the Economic and Family Services Help Desk at (919) 334-1100.

Sincerely,

Dean Simpson, Chief
Economic and Family Services

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