





# BabySteps Savings Plan



## 529 Plan: Impact on Public Benefits

Childcare 	Eligibility	Total Savings Allowed
Income Eligible Vouchers	Not Affected	
Head Start and Early Head Start	Not Affected	
Nutrition 	Eligibility	Total Savings Allowed
SNAP	Not Affected	
WIC	Not Affected	
National School Lunch Program (Free/Reduced Lunch)	Not Affected	
Healthcare 	Eligibility	Total Savings Allowed
Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) – Part of Medicaid	Not Affected	
MassHealth	Only affected for individuals <u>over age 65</u> , or <u>receiving long term care</u> .	For seniors: \$2,000 for individual, \$3,000 for couple
Medicare	<u>Only affects Medicare Savings Program</u>	Varies, but most often: \$15,720 for individuals, \$23,600 for married couple
Housing 	Eligibility	Total Savings Allowed
Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS)	Not Affected	
Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)	Not Affected	
Public Housing	Not Affected	
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	Not Affected	
Income Supports & Insurance 	Eligibility	Total Savings Allowed
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	<u>Affected</u>	Total of all investment income (including 529) for the year must not exceed \$3,500*
Emergency Aid to Elderly, Disabled, and Children (EAEDC)	<u>Affected</u>	\$250 for individual \$500 for family
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	<u>Affected</u>	Total countable assets must not exceed: \$2,000 for individual \$3,000 for family
Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC)	Not Affected	
Unemployment Insurance	Not Affected	

\*Investment income includes any dividends and interest from any investment vehicle

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## Links

### MassHealth:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/eligibility-figures-community-residents-aged-65-or-older-2/download>  
(Over Age 65)

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/eligibility-figures-for-residents-of-a-long-term-care-facility-1/download>  
(Long term care)

### Medicare:

<https://www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/get-help-paying-costs/medicare-savings-programs>  
(Click on relevant Medicare Savings Program)

### Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC):

[https://www.irs.gov/publications/p596#en\\_US\\_2018\\_publink1000297452](https://www.irs.gov/publications/p596#en_US_2018_publink1000297452)  
(search: investment income amount)

### Emergency Aid to Elderly, Disabled, and Children (EAEDC):

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/check-eaedc-eligibility-and-how-to-apply>  
(search: asset limits)

### Supplemental Security Income (SSI):

<https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-eligibility-ussi.htm>  
(search: limited resources)

For information on how 529 accounts may affect college financial aid, please contact the Office of Economic Empowerment via email at [info@babystepssavingsplan.org](mailto:info@babystepssavingsplan.org).