



The Village Chicago Member-Plus Program: Financial Assistance for Applicants

The Village Chicago is committed to its Member-Plus program, which enables all neighbors, regardless of income, to join and participate fully in Village life. The Village recognizes the income needed to maintain independence and meet daily expenses varies based on life circumstances.

Member-Plus is offered to members age 50 or more based on income using the Illinois Elder Economic Security Standard Index as a guide*. Applicants who meet the income criteria are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. There are two levels:

Level One: An individual with income of less than \$28,000 pays \$100 for annual membership and receives \$200 worth of credit to spend on any request; a household of two with an income less than \$28,000 pays \$150 and receives \$300 worth of credit**.

Level Two: An individual with income of \$28,001 - \$45,000 pays \$200 for annual membership; a household of two with income of \$28,001 - \$50,000 pays \$300.

As a member, you can participate in our many programs and activities.

Volunteers and our strategic partners are often able to fulfill member requests at no charge – and we hope you'll consider being a volunteer too. When there is no volunteer who has the expertise for what you want or an appropriate no-charge service provider.

If you qualify for Member-Plus and wish to apply, please contact Dianne Campbell, The Village Chicago executive director, at 773.248.8700 or dcampbell@thevillagechicago.org. You will need to provide your most recent federal tax return or other proof that your income meets the criteria outlined here. All information is strictly confidential.

The Member-Plus program is supported by donations, bequest and other fund-raising activities. Since its inception, the Village has consistently enabled 20% or more of our members to participate in it.

*The *Elder Economic Security Standard Index* (June 2008) is a measure of the income required to meet the basic needs of elder households to age in place in their homes and to enable elders to continue to live in the community setting of their choice. The EEIS for Cook County/City of Chicago was developed by the Gerontology Institute-U. Mass, Boston and Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW), in partnership with Chicago's Health and Medicine Policy Research Group.

**Member credit can be used at the discretion of the member. The intention of the credit is to support members' wellbeing and can be used for Village programming or personal expenses. For further information, please contact the Village office.