

Social Security



2 Programs



Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

It is a needs based program.

- **Based on income and assets** (how much money you have in the bank)
- **You could also get Medicaid, SNAP benefits, and Fuel Assistance.**
- **Asset limit** means the **most money or savings you are allowed to have** and still get certain benefits, like SSI or Medicaid.
- **SSI Counts wages when you earn them not when you get paid**



When you hear someone say, "If I work I will get less money."

This is not true.

*Yes your SSI check is smaller **BUT** you get so much more money from working*

Meet Ed.

NOT WORKING

He gets SSI. His SSI check is \$914.00

Last year he lost his job. His total money was from SSI. He only had \$914

WORKING

This year he got a new job.

He still gets SSI.

He gets money from his job AND he gets money from SSI. Each month he makes \$1,249.00. He gets more money when he works.





Here Is Why You Make More Money If You Work And Get SSI

A. Amount you earn from work a month		\$585
B. You keep the first \$85 of your pay The first \$85 you earn does not affect your SSI; the remainder does.	—	\$85
C. Amount of income that affects your SSI <i>(subtract row B from row A)</i>	=	\$500
D. Divide this amount in half	÷	2
E. Amount that will be taken from your SSI <i>(divide row C by 2)</i>	=	\$250



Here Is Why You Make More Money If You Work And Get SSI

Calculate your SSI amount if you work

F. Amount you now get from SSI every month		\$ 914.00
G. Subtract amount taken from your SSI <i>(amount from row E)</i>	−	\$ 250.00
H. SSI amount if you work <i>(subtract row G from row F)</i>	=	\$ 664.00

Calculate your total income

I. Amount you earn from work a month		\$ 585.00
J. SSI amount if you work <i>(amount from row H)</i>	+	\$ 664.00
K. Total amount you will take home per month <i>(add row I to row J)</i>	=	\$ 1,249.00

Stick to the Facts!

- Ed brings home **\$914** a month when he **does not work**.

- Ed brings home **\$1,249** a month when he **works**.

You tell me, which monthly income is better?

You always make out better by working!!!





SSI Marriage Penalty

- Cut in their benefits of 25%.
- Marry someone with/or without a disability!
- This has been challenged in court
- Causes a financial hardship on people who live in poverty.
- The asset limit for married people with disabilities is \$3000.
- Many advocacy groups and people have started petitions to work toward eliminating this work **DISINCENTIVE.**

Social Security Disability Insurance - (SSDI)

There are 2 ways to get SSDI

#1 From your parent's, based on their work history.

If you got your disability before age 22, you may be eligible.

You start receiving this benefit when your parents die or retire.

#2 From your work history. and having a medical condition that meets Social Security's strict [definition of disability](#).

Social Security looks at your work history. For example, you earn 1 credit for each \$1,640 in wages or self-employment income. When you've earned \$6,560 you've earned your 4 credits for the year.

Generally, you need 40 credits, 20 of which were earned in the last 10 years ending with the year your disability begins.

Social Security Disability Insurance - (SSDI)

- **No Asset Limit (could change) That means there is no saying you can only have \$2,000 in the bank**
- **Must be younger than 65**
- **If you are under 24 you must have worked a 1 ½ years to be eligible.**
- **You will get Medicare after you are on SSDI for 2 years**
- **NOW LET'S TAKE YOUR QUESTIONS FOR AWHILE BEFORE WE SHOW SLIDES ABOUT WORK INCENTIVES**



Trial Work Period (TWP)

- Lets you test your ability to work for 9 months
- You get your full SSDI benefit
- You need to report your earnings
- Begins when you start working
- Continues until you have worked 9 months in a 5 year period
- After the TWP , you begin a Extended Period of Eligibility(EPE)

Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE)



- Starts the month after TWP ends
- 36 months
- Paid SSDI for any month your earnings are not over the Substantial gainful activity (SGA)



Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)

- Substantial- means doing physical and/or mental activities
- Full-time or part-time
- Gainful work that is paid
- Earnings over \$1,470 a month

Work Incentives for BOTH - SSI and SSDI



Ticket to Work



- Program to get services from VR or approved provider
- Available all over the U.S.

Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE)

- Things that you need to assist you in maintain a job because of your disability. For example:
- Transportation cost
- Attendant Services that are done to prepare for work. Like getting ready for work in the morning.
- Medical Devices like wheelchairs, braces, walker, respirator etc.
- Residential modifications for access
- Prescription Medications and Doctor Co-Pays like anti-seizure and office visit fees.

SSDI Subsidy & Special Conditions

- A subsidy is a support or service that can result in a person being paid more than the actual value of the services or work that you perform for an employer.
- Special Conditions refers to a type of support that your employer provides or is provided by someone other than your employer. For instance Job Coaching is a special condition that I get at GMSA. I get to keep all of my SSDI check because I have a job coach at work.
- This does Not apply to people who work as a subcontractor or independent contract.

Subsidy Application Process



- There is a 7 page application that your employer will fill out.

Plan to Achieve Self Support (PASS)

- Allows you to save money to achieve a work goals
- You are required to have 2 incomes
- submit your work goal to the SSA PASS Cadre
- Writing a PASS Plan

PASS PLAN APPROVED!

Now what?

- open a separate checking or savings account
- you deposit your SSDI
- And
- ½ of your work earnings
- \$\$ does not count toward SSI or SSDI



**Individual Development Accounts
Tangible Assets (IDA) this is a matched savings
better than ABle accounts which are not matched**

What are You Saving For?



Individual Development Account- Tangible Assets (IDA)

- A special joint savings account
- Associated with a bank that your local Community Action Agency partners with.
- Must have income from a job .
- Be low to moderate income.
- Deposit up to \$500 the first and second years
- Tangible Assets contributes double what you contribute

Example:

You deposit \$500 a year for 2 years = \$1000

Tangible assets deposits \$1000 for 2 years = \$2000

$\$1000 + \$2000 = \$3000$

You now have \$3000

Where can I get help?

