Understanding SSI and SSDI Work Incentives and Benefits

October 4, 2023
About the National Down Syndrome Society
Mission

The National Down Syndrome Society’s (NDSS) mission is to empower individuals with Down syndrome and their families by driving policy change, providing resources, engaging with local communities, and shifting public perceptions.

Vision

NDSS strives to ensure all individuals with Down syndrome are assured their human rights and valued by a more inclusive society.
NDSS supports and advocates for the Down syndrome community by focusing on three key areas of programming:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources &amp; Support</th>
<th>Advocacy &amp; Policy</th>
<th>Community Engagement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 1-800 Helpline (800-221-4602)</td>
<td>• Federal, State, and Local Advocacy</td>
<td>• Scholarships, grants, and awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Resource and information from birth to end of life</td>
<td>• Develop and improve laws and policies for individuals with Down syndrome, their families and caregivers</td>
<td>• National Buddy Walk®</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Education, employment, health and wellness, aging, caregiving, and more</td>
<td>• Legislative agenda spans the life experience of individuals with Down syndrome</td>
<td>• Times Square Video</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Athlete Ambassadors</td>
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<td>• Run for 3.21 Event</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Virtual Racing for 3/21 for WDSD</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Gala, golf, and more!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Employment Program

• Employment Policy and Advocacy
• Resource Development
• Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment
• Private-Sector Engagement
• Affiliate Support
• Highlighting Success
  • Share your loved one's success story!
Understanding SSI and SSDI Work Incentives and Benefits
Introductions

Milagros H. Rothwell  
Area Work Incentive Coordinator  
SSA Area 3  
Washington, DC

Vida Cyrus  
Professional Relations Officer  
DDS Fairfax, VA
What is SSI?
SSI is a federal program that provides monthly payments to people with disabilities and older adults who have limited income and resources.

Who can get SSI?
Adults and children might be eligible for SSI if they have:
• Little or no income, and
• Little or no resources, and
• A disability, blindness, or are age 65 or older.
Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

What is SSDI?
SSDI is a program to provide income supplements to people who are no longer able to work because of a significant disability.

Who can get SSDI?
People who are no longer able to perform substantial work activity may qualify if they:

• have a medical condition that’s expected to last at least one year or result in death,
• are younger than full retirement age (FRA) and earn less than the substantial gainful activity (SGA) limit,
• are blind and at least age 55 for certain individuals, and have earned a certain number of work credits.

Disability Benefits | SSA
# SSI vs. SSDI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplemental Security Income</th>
<th>Social Security Disability Insurance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payments come from the general treasury fund, NOT the Social Security trust funds. SSI payments are not based on a person’s earnings.</td>
<td>Payments come from the Social Security trust funds and are based on a person’s earnings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A needs-based public assistance program that does not require a person to have work history.</td>
<td>An insurance that workers earn by paying Social Security taxes on their wages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pays disabled individuals who are unable to work AND have limited income and resources.</td>
<td>Pays benefits to disabled individuals who are unable to work, regardless of their income and resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits for children and adults in financial need. Must have limited income and limited resources.</td>
<td>Benefits for workers and for adults disabled since childhood. Must meet insured status requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What Counts as Income for SSI

**Income Earned and Unearned**

- **Earned Income**
  - Work
  - Self-Employment
  - Shelter Workshop

- **Unearned Income**
  - Unemployment
  - Casino Winnings
  - VA Benefits
  - Pensions
  - Disability Payments
  - Child Support Payments (SSI only considers 1/3 of this payment)
What Counts as Income for SSI

Resources

SSI Disabled Adult: $2,000

SSI Couples: $3,000
- Bank Accounts
- Life Insurance with Cash Surrender Value
- Multiple Vehicles
- Boats/Antique Vehicles
- Stocks/Mutual Funds
- Saving Bonds

Note: If age 18, only disclose assets and resources under your name only. This has no bearing on work activity for SSDI purpose.
What Happens If You are Over the SSI Resource Limits

Avoid an Overpayment

• If resources are over the limit, then your SSI will be suspended
• If the record remains suspended for 12 months or more, then the case is terminated
• If the SSI is terminated, you will need to re-apply again
• Bank account balance should be under the $2000 resource limits for individuals; and
• Under $3000 for individual and spouse resource limits;
• Review your bank accounts for early deposits
• If the bank account balance is over by $50—SSA can apply a waiver and exclude the excess

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1, 2013</td>
<td>$2,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2013</td>
<td>$2,055  (Waiver not applicable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2013</td>
<td>$2,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Do not withdraw funds to reduce the account to the SSI resources limit, instead start a spenddown on things that he/she needs.
What Happens If You are Over the SSI Income Limits

Avoid an Overpayment

• If your income is deemed to be over the **SSI threshold for an individual**, your SSI benefits will be suspended
• If the record remains suspended for more than 12 months, your SSI benefits will be terminated
• If your benefits are suspended due to work activity, your case either can be deemed a 1634 (Medicaid eligible) or a 1619(b) Medicaid eligible
• If you stop working due to your medical condition, you can request an Expedite Reinstatement (EXR)

**Note:** When reporting work activity and wages, please also report any impairment-related work expenses such as transportation, etc. Keep copies of all documentation faxed or mailed to SSA.

**Avoid Overpayments with Prompt Wage Reporting - Ticket to Work - Social Security (ssa.gov)**
What are Work Incentives?

- Employment support provisions that assist beneficiaries in moving from benefit dependency to independence

- Designed to help beneficiaries enter, re-enter or stay in the workforce by protecting their eligibility for cash payments and/or health care
Substantial gainful activity (SGA) is a term to describe a level of work activity and earnings. Consistently being above this level could lead to ineligibility for disability benefits. We generally use earnings guidelines to evaluate whether you work activity is SGA.

- If the impairment is anything other than blindness, earnings in 2023 averaging over $1,470 a month generally demonstrate SGA.

- The SGA amount in 2023 for blind SGA is $2,460.

- **SSI** only uses SGA as a measure of work during initial claims.

- **SSDI** uses SGA throughout the life of the claim.
### Overview of SSI & SSDI Work Incentives and Employment Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SSI &amp; SSDI</th>
<th>SSDI Only</th>
<th>SSI Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ticket to Work (TTW)</td>
<td>Trial Work Period</td>
<td>Earned Income Exclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE)</td>
<td>Extended Period of Eligibility</td>
<td>Student Earned Income Exclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidies and Special Conditions</td>
<td>Continuation of Medicare Coverage</td>
<td>Special SSI Payments for People Who Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsuccessful Work Attempts (UWA)</td>
<td>Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work</td>
<td>Continued Medicaid Eligibility (Section 1619 (b))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expedited Reinstatement (EXR)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reinstating Eligibility Without a New Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Continued Payment Under a Vocational Rehabilitation Program (Section 301)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABLE Accounts</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Averaging</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="#">Learn more about SSA Work Incentives</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How is SSI different from SSDI for People with Disabilities?

Initial Claim and Post-Entitlement Differences

- **SSI** counts your wages when is received (on Pay Date)
  - You must report wages monthly (keep copies)
  - You should wait until the end of the month and submit all wages for the current month
  - You can report wages via online, phone, and other SSI wage reporting

- **SSDI** counts your wages (work activity) when is earned (Pay Period Ending Date)
  - You should report your new job at least within 3 months of your start date
  - You should also complete the SSA-821 or SSA-820 (if SE)
  - You can report wages online
  - SSA will likely initiate a work review to see if you are making under or over SGA

Note: **Trial Work Period** amount is $1,050 gross amount per month and the **Extended Period of Eligibility** is $1,470 gross amount per month.
# SSI Work Incentives and Employment Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SSI Work Incentives and Employment Supports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ticket to Work (TTW)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Earned Income Exclusion</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (when working)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Continued Payment under Vocational Rehabilitation or Similar Programs (Section 301)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unsuccessful Work Attempt (UWA)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Initial application</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expedited Reinstatement (EXR)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ABLE Account</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Disabled before age 26</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post-entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subsidies and Special Conditions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Initial</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Post entitlement (after initial application)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medicaid While Working - Section 1619(b) - Section 1634</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SSI Only Employment Supports</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SSA and Work Incentives Programs

SSA reviews and applies work incentives such as:

**Initial Application SSI/SSDI:**
- Averaging
- Unsuccessful Work Attempt (UWA)
- Subsidy & Special Conditions (SSA-3033)
- Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE)

**Post-Entitlement SSI:**
- Expedited Reinstatement (EXR)
- Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)
- Section 301 (SSA-4290)
- Medicaid for Working Disabled (Section 1619(b))

**Post-Entitlement SSDI:**
- Trial Work Period (TWP)
- Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE)
- Expedited Reinstatement (EXR)
- Section 301 (SSA-4290)
Ticket to Work (TTW) – SSI & SSDI

Medical Review Protection – Services for the SSI/SSDI Beneficiary

TTW is an innovative program for persons with disabilities who want to work and participate in planning their employment.

It increases your available choices when obtaining employment services, vocational rehabilitation (VR) services, and other support services you may need to get or keep a job.

It is a free and voluntary service.

You can use the Ticket if you choose, but there is no penalty for not using it.

- State VR Agencies - yourtickettowork.ssa.gov
- Employment Networks - yourtickettowork.ssa.gov
- Choose Work! - Ticket to Work - Social Security (ssa.gov)
ABLE Accounts – SSI & SSDI

What are ABLE Accounts?

• A tax-advantaged account for saving funds for qualified disability-related expenses: education, housing, transportation, health, employment training, technology, funeral, and basic living costs

• Contributions to the account can be from anyone, up to $17,000 in 2023. The eligible individual can contribute an additional capped amount from earnings.

• Any balance up to $100,000 is excluded as a resource for SSI/SSDI.

Note: In order to be eligible to own an ABLE account, a beneficiary must have a disability that began before age 26.

Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE)
ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) Act

- Signed into law December 2014
- Allows certain individuals with disabilities and their families to save money in a tax advantaged savings and investment account, similar to a 529 College Savings Account
- Limits eligibility to individuals who became disabled before turning 26
- Account must be administered by a qualified ABLE program which is available in most states.
Currently, 40 states and Washington, DC have established ABLE programs.

Beneficiaries can enroll in an ABLE program in their state or another state that accepts out-of-state residents.

Visit our websites to learn more about ABLE accounts.
  - Spotlight on ABLE
  - Getting to Know the ABLE Act
Save up to $100,000 without affecting benefits.

Money in ABLE accounts can cover qualified disability expenses.

Some of these expenses include:
  a. Housing
  b. Education
  c. Healthcare
  d. Transportation
  e. Assistive technology
  f. Personal support services
  g. Job training
If you have been ineligible for SSI payments due to your work, you may be able to restart your SSI cash benefits again without a new application.

If you have been ineligible for SSI and/or Medicaid for any reason other than work or medical recovery, you may be able to restart your SSI cash payment and/or Medicaid coverage within 12 months without a new application.

When your situation changes, contact us and ask about how you can restart your SSI benefits and or Medicaid.
If you are under age 22 and regularly attending school, we do not count up to $2,220 of your earned income per month when we figure the SSI payment amount. The maximum **yearly exclusion for 2023 is $8,950.** 

“Regularly Attending School” means:
- in a **college or university** for at least 8 hours a week, or
- in **grades 7-12** for at least 12 hours a week, or
- in a **training course to prepare for employment** for at least 12 hours a week (15 hours a week if the course involves shop practice), or
- for less time than indicated above for reasons beyond the student’s control, such as illness, or
- home schooling, if instructed in grades 7-12 for at least 12 hours a week.
Types of Income for SSI Purposes

**Earned Income** is wages, net earnings from self-employment, certain royalties, honoraria, and sheltered workshop payments.

**Unearned Income** is all income that is not earned such as Social Security benefits, pensions, State disability payments, unemployment benefits, interest income, dividends and cash from friends and relatives.

SSA does not count the first $65 of the earnings received in a month, plus one-half of the remaining earnings. This means we count less than one-half of earnings when we figure the SSI payment amount.

We apply this exclusion in addition to the $20 general income exclusion.

We apply the $20 general income exclusion first to any unearned income received.

[Income Exclusions for SSI Program (ssa.gov)](https://www.ssa.gov)
Earned and Unearned Income Exclusion

How SSI Determines Your Payment While Working

Example of Deeming Earned Income:

You earned: $1,000 Gross Amount per Month
- $20 General Income Exclusion
- $65 Earned Income Exclusion
$915/2 This is divided by 2
$457.50 This is the amount that will be used to reduced your SSI

$914.00 SSI Full Benefit Rate (FBR)
- $457.50 (Earned Income)
$456.50 SSI Payment

Example of Deeming Unearned Income:

You receive: $500 Unemployment per Month
- $20 Unearned Income Exclusion
$480 This will be the amount used to reduced your SSI

$437 SSI Payment

Note: The individual can submit impairment-related work expenses (IRWES) such as transportation (Lyft/Uber/Metro, etc.).
Section 1619(b) & 1634

Under Section 1619(b), a beneficiary can retain their Medicaid, and SSI eligibility, even if their work earnings—alone, or in combination with other income (ex. SSDI)—make them ineligible for an SSI cash payment.

To qualify you must:

• Meet the 1619(a) eligibility criteria, and
• Need Medicaid coverage to continue working, and
• Have earnings that are under your state's threshold amount

SSA - POMS: SI 01715.010 - Medicaid and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program - 10/02/2017

SSA - POMS: SI 01715.020 - List of State Medicaid Programs for the Aged, Blind and Disabled - 08/02/2016
After you return to work, Medicaid coverage can continue, even if your earnings become too high for an SSI cash payment.

To qualify, a beneficiary must meet **ALL** of the following:

- Was eligible for an SSI cash payment for at least 1 month
- Would be eligible for cash payment except for earnings
- Still be disabled (meaning eligible beneficiary has not received an unfavorable or medical cessation decision by DDS)
- Meet all other eligibility rules, including the resources test
- Need Medicaid in order to work
- Have gross earned income that is insufficient to replace SSI, Medicaid, and any public funded attendant care

**Note:** Under 1619(b) (209(b)), a beneficiary will receive income from gross wages and Medicaid but not SSI
# Overview of SSDI Work Incentives

## SSDI Work Incentives and Employment Supports

<table>
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<th>SSDI Work Incentives and Employment Supports</th>
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<td><strong>Trial Work Period (TWP)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ticket to Work (TTW)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Averaging</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unsuccessful Work Attempt (UWA)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subsidies &amp; Special Conditions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impairment-related Work Expenses (IRWES)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medicare for Person with Disability who Work</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Continuation of Medicare Coverage (93 months)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expediated Reinstatement (EXR)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Continued Payment under Vocational Rehabilitation or Similar Programs (Section 301)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plan to Achieve Self</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ABLE Account</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SSDI Only Employment Supports**
What is Trial Work Period?

- Allows SSDI beneficiaries time to test their ability to work
- **9 Months**, not necessarily consecutive
- “Rolling” 60-month period
- Full SSDI benefit continues regardless of earnings
- Months with $1,050 in gross earnings (2023) or more than 80 hours of **self-employment** are considered TWP months (SE)
- No work incentives such as subsidy/IRWES/UWA/Averaging, etc. are use or counted during the 9 months trial work period.
- Cannot begin before the month of entitlement or the month of filing, whichever is later
The EPE begins:

- the month after the Trial Work Period (TWP) ends, even if you are not working that month.
- The first 36 months of the EPE is the re-entitlement period.
- During the re-entitlement period:
  - if work or monthly earnings are below SGA, benefits are payable;
  - if work or monthly earnings are above SGA, benefits are suspended.

Cessation Month and Grace Period:

- Cessation Month - the first month of work or monthly earnings exceed SGA after the end of the TWP
- Grace Period - the two months immediately following the cessation month

NOTE: Benefits are paid for the cessation month and the grace period, whether or not the beneficiary is earning over SGA.
Trial Work Period and Extended Period of Eligibility

- **Month TWP ends (T9)**
- **Month EPE Begins (E1)**
- **Re-entitlement Period Ends (E36)**
- **EPE Continues (E37 - On)**

- **9-Month Trial Work Period**
- **36-Month Re-Entitlement Period**
- **EPE continues until SGA is performed after the 36th month**
What is an Unsuccessful Work Attempt?

An Unsuccessful Work Attempt (UWA) is an effort to do work, in employment or self-employment, which you stopped or reduced to below the SGA level after a short time (within 6 months) because of:

• your impairment, or
• removal of special conditions related to your impairment that you needed to help you work.

Note: When asked to complete the SSA-821/SSA-820 Work History Report, please ensure to annotate Section 5, 6 and 7 with remarks indicating any type of work-related expenses, subsidy, special conditions, etc.
What is a subsidy?

A “subsidy” is support provided by your employer that may result in you receiving more pay than the actual value of the services you perform.

What are special conditions?

“Special conditions” refer to support and on-the-job assistance provided by your employer, or by someone other than your employer, for example, a vocational rehabilitation agency. Because of this support, you may receive more pay than the actual value of the services you perform.
Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE) – SSDI

We **deduct** the cost of certain **impairment-related items and services**, that are needed to work, from gross earnings when we decide if your work is SGA.

**Example with IRWES:**
- Beneficiary is earning **$1,470.00** per month in gross wages. His/her monthly co-pay for his medications is **$75.00**.
- $1,470 - $75 = **$1,395**. This is the countable income when determining SGA.

**Example with subsidy and IRWES:**
- Beneficiary is earning **$1,470.00** per month in gross wages. His/her receives 20% of subsidy and his/her monthly co-pay for his medications is **$75.00**.
- $1,470 * 20% = **$294**
- $1,470 - $294 = **$1,176**
- $1,176 - $75 = **$1,101.00**. This is the countable income when determining SGA.
# Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Expense</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transportation Costs</strong></td>
<td>The cost of <em>structural or operational modifications to vehicle</em> that is needed to travel to work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The <em>cost of driver assistance or taxicabs</em> if public transportation is not available or not accessible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendant Care Services</strong></td>
<td>Services performed in the work setting. Services performed to help prepare for work, the <em>trip to and from work</em> and <em>after work</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service Animals</strong></td>
<td>Expenses paid in <em>owning a guide dog</em> or other <em>service animal</em> who enables beneficiary to overcome functional limitations in order to work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical Devices</strong></td>
<td>Deductible devices include <em>wheelchairs</em>, dialysis equipment, <em>pacemakers</em>, <em>respirators</em>, traction equipment, and <em>braces</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prosthesis</strong></td>
<td>Artificial hip, artificial replacement of an arm, leg, or other parts of the body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Residential Modifications</strong></td>
<td>Employed <em>outside of home</em> modifications to exterior to permit access to the street or transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self-employed at <em>home</em> modifications inside to create workspace to accommodate impairment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prescription Drugs</strong></td>
<td>Regularly prescribed <em>medical treatment or therapy</em> that is necessary to control disabling condition. This includes co-payments and insurance deductibles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Items and Services</strong></td>
<td>Assistive technology that people with disabilities use for employment-related purposes;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>such as <em>software applications</em>, <em>computer support services</em>, and <em>special tools</em> which have been specifically designed to accommodate the person’s impairment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuation of Medicare Coverage - SSDI

Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work

- Although cash benefits may cease due to work, continued health insurance is possible.

- Most beneficiaries who work will continue to receive at least 93 consecutive months of Part A; Part B (if enrolled); and Part D (if enrolled). There is no premium for Part A.

- The 93 months start the month after the last month of the TWP.

- To qualify, beneficiary must already have Medicare and be working at SGA level but not medically improved.

- There is also Medicare after the 93 months for the Working Disabled—as long as he/she remains medically disabled.

- Part A is available for a cost of $506 per month, and for Part B at a cost of $164.90 per month.
What is EXR?

EXR is your safety net if your cash benefits end because you stop working above the SGA level, and

- your disability is the same as or related to your current disability, and
- you make your request within 5 years of when your benefits end.

How does EXR help you?

The EXR provision allows you to receive up to 6 months of temporary cash benefits while we conduct a medical review to decide if we can reinstate your benefits. You may also be eligible for Medicare and/or Medicaid during this provisional benefit period.
SSA-821 is used to document work activity and work incentives when SSA is making SGA decisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Special Condition</th>
<th>Employer Name</th>
<th>Date (MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY)</th>
<th>Please Describe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Had extra help, extra supervision or a job coach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Worked irregular or fewer hours than other workers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Given special equipment because of my condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Took more rest periods than other workers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Given special transportation to and from work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Beneficiaries complete this form to **document special conditions, subsidies, and IRWEs** so decisions are based on the real value of the work.

### Work History Report SSA-821 Section 7

**7. Do** or did you spend any of your own money for items or services related to your physical and/or mental condition(s) that you needed in order to work and for which you did not get reimbursed? (For example; medicines or co-pays, medical devices or procedures, Braille equipment, special telephone or equipment, service animal, attendant care, modifications to a car used for work, or other special transportation.) We may ask you for proof of payment.

- **NO.** I did not spend any of my own money for items or services related to my physical and/or mental condition.
- **YES.** Please tell us what you paid below. Do not show any expenses that have been or will be paid by an insurance company, other organization, or other person.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Describe Item or Service</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Date Paid (MM/YYYY-MM/YYYY)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example: Service animal</td>
<td>$100 per day, week, month, or year</td>
<td>01/2000 - 02/2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Employment Support Contact Information

- You should contact SSA Employment Support case managers by calling or visiting the Ticket to Work.

- For more information on the TTW Program, including a list of approved Employment Networks (ENs), call **1-866-YOURTICKET (1-866-968-7842)**, or TTY 1-866-833-2967 between 8 am to 8 pm Eastern time Monday through Friday

[SSA Your Ticket to Work](#)
Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services
State VR agencies provide a range of services:
• Vocational counseling and guidance
• Job placement assistance
• College/vocational training
• Supported employment services
• Job coaching/tutoring
• Services to transition-age youth
• Referrals, advocacy, and follow-up services

Employment Networks (ENs)
An Employment Network (EN) is an entity that enters into an agreement with SSA to either provide or coordinate the delivery of services to SSA disability beneficiaries. The EN can be an individual, a partnership, a partnership/alliance (public or private) or a consortium of organizations collaborating to combine resources to serve eligibility individuals.

ssa.gov/work
For SSI/SSDI beneficiaries:

- Your personal my Social Security account;
- Visiting/calling your field office;
- Mailing/faxing the information; or
- Calling our toll-free number (Teleservice Center) 1-800-772-1213

SSI recipients can also report wages via the mobile reporting application and telephone wage reporting service.

A Summary Guide To Employment Supports For Persons With Disabilities Under The Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Programs

Red Book
Additional Resources

- Trusts
- Understanding SSI
- SSI Work Incentives
- What You Must Report to SSA
- Ways to Report Your Income for SSI
- Report monthly wages and other income while on SSI | SSA
Questions?
Don’t forget to register for our 2023 Adult Summit!
Thank you for attending!

Questions? Send an email to employment@ndss.org