



Resources for Work Equals Success for Me!

We have resources and programs to help you prepare to work. The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program includes a number of work incentives to support you in increasing your income. Work incentives may allow you to continue receiving your SSI payments and Medicaid coverage while you work.

There are several work incentives available to you while you receive SSI and have a paid job. For information on all work incentives for SSI and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), visit www.ssa.gov/redbook and read *The Red Book — A Guide to Employment Supports* (Publication No. 64-030).

Rob's Story

At 17, Rob, who has cerebral palsy, wanted to enroll in a vocational training program in his community. When Rob's teacher explained the program to his parents, she stressed the program's opportunities for him to gain paid employment experience. His father expressed concerns about the family losing Rob's SSI payments and Medicaid eligibility. Rob's teacher showed his family how work incentives could help Rob participate in the vocational program without losing his SSI or Medicaid benefits. With his father's concerns addressed, Rob enrolled in the vocational training program.



Below are examples of the resources and programs that are available to help you, like Rob, prepare for work.

Grants and Scholarships

You may be planning to continue your education in college, and you may get grants, scholarships, fellowships, and gifts. We do not count these items as income or resources for up to 9 months when we figure your SSI payments. You must use these resources to pay for tuition, fees, and other necessary educational expenses at any educational institution (including vocational and technical schools).

Other types of assistance have no time limits or limits on how you can use them. When we figure SSI payments, we do not count all student financial

assistance received under the Bureau of Indian Affairs study assistance programs and Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, including the following:

- Pell grants.
- Federal PLUS loans.
- Perkins loans.
- Stafford loans.
- Ford loans.
- Work study programs.

If you receive SSI and are awarded any grants, scholarships, or educational loans, make sure **to share** your good news with us so we can appropriately assist you.

Ticket to Work Program

Ticket to Work is a free and voluntary program. Most people receiving SSDI and/or SSI who are age 18-64 have a Ticket available to them. They may assign their Ticket to a state vocational rehabilitation agency or another approved provider of their choice for employment services and supports.

You can visit <https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp> or contact the Ticket to Work Help Line at **1-866-968-7842** (TTY **1-866-833-2967**), between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday for additional information about the Ticket to Work program.

Contacting Social Security

We are always happy to help you with our work incentives and supports. You may reach us online, by phone, and in person.

- Visit our website: www.ssa.gov.
- Call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213** or at our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778** between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Find an office near you: <https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>.

Youth Toolkit 2021

You can find additional information and resources to make a successful transition to adulthood at www.ssa.gov/youth/



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