



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

WORKING WHILE RECEIVING SUPPLEMENTAL SOCIAL SECURITY (SSI)

To obtain or keep SSI benefits, you may need to attend a hearing. The case will be heard and decided on by an Administrative Law Judge.

CAN I WORK AND CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS?

YES, you can! However, please read the regulations below very carefully.

- The SSI program has no trial work period or extended period of eligibility. Work can affect your benefits by increasing the amount your income that is countable against SSI. *Your SSI can end right away if you have too much countable income.*
- Each month that you work, you must report your earnings. Your total earnings are reviewed, and some deductions are applied to get your countable earnings. For every \$1.00 of countable earnings, your SSI benefit will be reduced by \$0.50.
- If the total of countable earnings exceeds the amount of your SSI benefit, you will no longer be eligible for SSI unless your earnings decrease.
- There is no fixed amount of time that it will take Social Security to make a decision to stop benefits. If Social Security decides that you lost your eligibility in a past month due to your work, it will require you to pay back the benefits you received after that, even if you reported the income. You can request that an overpayment caused by employment be waived, (not collected) by Social Security.
- If you lose SSI due to excess earnings, but then become unable to work again within five years, due to the same disability, you can request Expedited Reinstatement to SSI.



SSI RESOURCE

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

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