



ODLSS

Office of DIVERSE LEARNER
SUPPORTS + SERVICES



Social Security Disability Benefits Debunking the Myths!

Written by: Mariel Hamer

Agenda Items



- **Meet the Transition Specialist**
- **What is Transition**
- **Learn the acronyms**
- **Myth vs. Fact Activity**
- **Social Security Administration Overview**
- **Benefits Programs**
- **School Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Parent Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Resources**
- **Action Planning**



Objectives



- **Understand the importance of Transition planning**
- **Understand the laws surrounding transition**
- **Understand the importance of linking your child to state/federal benefits**
- **Understand the different Social Security disability benefit programs**
- **Understand application and eligibility surrounding Social Security disability benefits**

Objectives Continued



- **Know the myths regarding Social Security disability benefits**
- **Understand the application and eligibility process for Social Security disability benefits**
- **Understand how working may impact Social Security disability benefits**
- **Understand the many resources available in the community that can assist families with Social Security disability benefits**

Meet the Transition Specialist



- Background
- Why is Transition important to me?
- My role in supporting your child
- My expectations of you
- Is it ok to reach out for help?



Answer: **Yes!**

“Closed mouths don’t get fed!”

mrhamer@cps.edu

What is Transition?



A results-oriented process directed toward adult outcomes that:

- Includes academic, career, and extracurricular instruction and activities delivered through a variety of formats
- Responds to the local context and the students' learning and support needs
- Maintains the expectation for all students to achieve a quality of life valued within the context of their family, school, and community

- National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC), 2010

What is Transition?



Per IDEA 2004:

- Transition services are a coordinated set of activities that include: (a) instruction, (b) community experiences, (c) related services, ***(d) and, development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives***

Why is it important to link students to community agencies?

- Linkages to community services facilitates the movement from school to post-school activities. Special Education teams are required to create linkages for students and families

Benefits and Transition



How do benefits assist students in their transition?

- Social Security disability eligibility is a gateway to a variety of services for transition students
- The Social Security Administration shares the U.S. Department of Education's commitment to supporting transition-age students as they prepare for entry into the workforce
- These cash benefit programs provide additional resources to eligible transition students and their families

Learn the Acronyms



Pay Statement

HMCSTAFFWORKS CORP, INC.
 1558 HUNTERS ROAD
 SUITE 3000
 ATLANTA, GA 30338

Teacher # 3629
 Check Date 01/13/2006
 Printed Ending Date 01/28/2006

System/Department	Employee #	Local Security #	Area Code	Rate	Start Date	End Date	Termination Date	Local School	Job #	Rate
00	3629	288-10-1700	3001-NEW/ST	100	08/23/2005			FEDERAL	1	8
BERRY, COASTON 1505 HUNTER ROAD ATLANTA, GA 30304							WORK STATE: GEORGIA RES STATE: GEORGIA RES STATE: GEORGIA RES STATE: GEORGIA			

Pay Type	Pay Date	Hours (Hrs)	Gross Pay	YTD Hours (Hrs)	YTD Gross Pay	Desc	Wages	Avail
REGULAR	01-11-06	88.00	2930.00	88.00	2930.00	FEDWA	2930.00	
BONUS			1820.00		3020.00	FICA	293.00	
						MEDICARE	201.00	
						GA SIT	206.00	

Desc	Wages
67 FEDERAL	
08 FICA	
MEDICARE	
GA SIT	

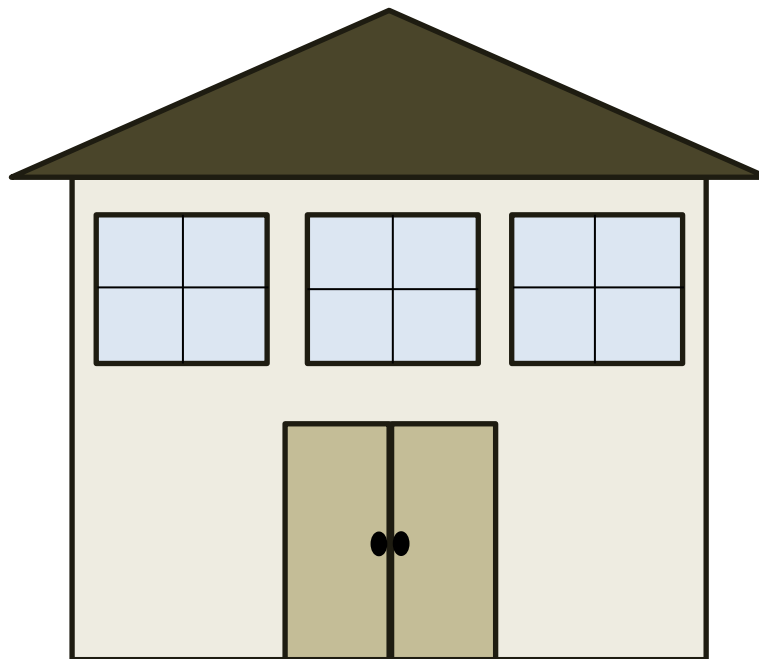
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The SSA Big House



SSA – Retirement

The monetary **benefits** received by **retired** workers who have paid in to the **Social Security** system during their working years. **Social Security benefits** are paid out on a monthly basis to **retired** workers and their surviving spouses.



SSA – Disability

The law defines **disability** as the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity (SGA) by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment(s) which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

SSA Disability Benefits Snapshot



Social Security Administration Disability Benefit Programs

Supplemental Security Income & Social Security Disability Insurance

The Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs are the largest of several Federal programs that provide assistance to people with disabilities.

SSA Disability Benefits Snapshot



Social Security Administration Disability Benefit Programs

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

This is the benefit received on the 1st of the month

SSI is a United States government program that provides stipends to low-**income** people who are either aged (65 or older), blind, or disabled.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

This is the benefit received on the 3rd of the month or every other Wednesday

SSDI Pays benefits to you and certain members of your family if you are "insured," meaning that you worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes.



Activity

- **Grab a partner (if possible)**
- **You will need the myth/fact cards!!!**

Myth vs. Fact Activity



- SSI is automatic once an application is submitted
- If a student works they will lose their SSI/SSDI cash benefit
- The school is responsible for the students SSI eligibility
- There are benefits specialists in every office that can assist families and students in understanding how their benefits are impacted by working
- Families and students cannot apply for SSA disability benefits until after age 18
- Once eligible for SSI/SSDI benefits the student is not allowed to work
- SSDI is only for adults



Myth vs. Fact Activity



- There are work incentives that allow students to work while receiving benefits
- Once eligible for SSI/SSDI students will have more money by working
- The student must have at least three diagnosis in order to be eligible for SSI/SSDI
- Once a student is eligible for SSI they are automatically eligible for Medicaid
- Social Security rules are different in each state
- Families and students have a 95% chance of being denied benefits the first time they apply



Myth vs. Fact Activity



- There is a \$2000 asset limit for SSI and Medicaid
- There is as \$2000 asset limit for SSDI
- SSDI is an entitlement program
- If a student works and pays enough credits into FICA they can become eligible for SSDI and Medicare
- There is a 24 month waiting period for Medicare
- Families should appeal if their child is denied eligibility



Let's Debunk the Myths!



MYTHS

- SSI is automatic once an application is submitted
- If a student works they will lose their SSI/SSDI cash benefit
- The school is responsible for the students SSI eligibility
- There are benefits specialists in every office that can assist families and students in understanding how their benefits are impacted by working
- Families and students cannot apply for SSA disability benefits until after age 18
- Once eligible for SSI/SSDI benefits the student is not allowed to work
- SSDI is only for adults

BUSTED

Let's Debunk the Myths!



MYTHS

- The student must have at least three diagnosis in order to be eligible for SSI/SSDI
- Once a student is eligible for SSI they are automatically eligible for Medicaid
- Social Security rules are different in each state
- SSI is automatic once an application is submitted
- SSI is the only Social Security disability benefit a student can be eligible to receive

BUSTED

Let's Debunk the Myths!



FACTS

- Families and students have a 95% chance of being denied benefits the first time they apply
- There are work incentives that allow students to work while receiving benefits
- Once eligible for SSI/SSDI students will have more money by working
- There is a \$2000 asset limit for SSI and Medicaid

APPROVED

Let's Debunk the Myths!



FACTS

- SSDI is an entitlement program
- If a student works and pays enough credits into FICA they can become eligible for SSDI and Medicare
- There is a 24 month waiting period for Medicare
- Families and students should appeal if they are denied

APPROVED

SSA Disability Benefits Defined



There are five possible Social Security cash benefits that a student can receive once determined eligible:

Please note: The Social Security Administration will determine which benefit(s), the student is eligible for.

1) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- Student is eligible for this cash benefit based upon their disability (*for students under age 18*)
- Federal Benefit Rate **\$733** for 2015 (Couples that are both receiving SSI, \$1,100)

2) Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

- Received if a student draws benefits based off of what they have paid into FICA. So, if student has worked and earned enough work credits they may receive SSDI (*for students over age 18*)



SSA Disability Benefits Defined

Social Security cash benefits continued ...

3) Disabled Adult Child (DAC)

- Students that had a disability prior to age 22, can draw this cash benefit if they have a parent/guardian that has a disability, is retired, or deceased (*for students over the age of 18*)

4) Dependent Student

- Students with or without a disability can qualify for this benefit if their parent/guardian has a disability and is receiving benefits. If the student does not have a disability, this cash benefit being drawn from the parent/guardian will end at age 18 or upon graduation from high school (*for students under the age of 18*)

5) Survivor Benefit

- Students with a parent/guardian that is deceased (*for students under the age of 18*)

Identify the SSA Disability Benefits: Activity



1.



Child Benefit:

**Supplemental
Security
Income**

3.



Entitlement Benefit:

**Disabled Adult
Child**

2.



Entitlement Benefit:

**Social Security
Disability
Benefit**



Identify the SSA Disability Benefits: Activity



4.



Entitlement Benefit:

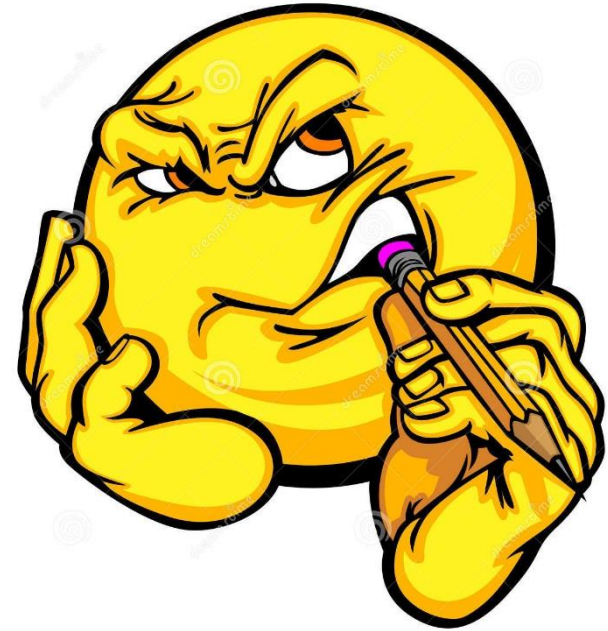
**Dependent
Benefit**

5.



Entitlement Benefit:

**Survivor
Benefit**



Who Determines Eligibility?



Disability Determination Services

- SSA uses the same disability determination process in administering the two disability programs, SSDI and SSI
- Financial and other nonmedical screens are implemented by SSA field offices. For applicants found eligible under those screens, the initial medical determinations are made by Disability Determination Service (DDS) agencies in each state
- However, if an applicant is denied at the initial DDS level, he or she has the option of pursuing a sequence of appeals, including appealing to:

(1) the DDS itself, known as reconsideration

(2) an administrative law judge (ALJ)

(3) the Appeals Council

(4) a federal court

Disability Determination Appeal Process



Per the Social Security Administration ...

If you applied for Social Security disability benefits and your claim was denied, the fastest and easiest way to file an appeal of your decision is by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal.

You can upload documents online to support your appeal, which will help decrease the time it takes to receive a decision from Social Security. If you live outside of the United States, you can also appeal your Social Security disability decision online.

If your SSI application was denied or if you wish to send a written appeal form, you must make your request within 60 days from the date you receive our letter. We assume you receive the letter five days after the date on the letter, unless you can show us you received it later. Call your local Social Security office if you need help with your appeal.

Disability Determination Appeal Process



The Appeals Process

Social Security wants to be sure that every decision made about your disability or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) application is correct. We carefully consider all the information in your case before we make any decisions that affect your eligibility or your benefit amount.

When we make a decision on your claim, we will send you a letter explaining our decision. If you do not agree with our decision, you can appeal—that is, ask us to look at your case again.

When you ask for an appeal, we will look at the entire decision, even those parts that were in your favor. If our decision was wrong, we will change it.

When and how can I appeal?

If you applied for Social Security disability benefits and your claim was denied, the fastest and easiest way to file an appeal of your decision is by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal. You can upload documents online to support your appeal, which will help decrease the time it takes to receive a decision from Social Security.

If you live outside of the United States, you can also appeal your Social Security disability decision online.

If your SSI application was denied or if you wish to send a written appeal form, you must make your request within 60 days from the date you receive our letter. We assume you receive the letter five days after the date on the letter, unless you can show us you received it later. Call your local Social Security office if you need help with your appeal.

How many appeal levels are there?

Generally, there are four levels of appeal. They are:

- Reconsideration,
- Hearing by an administrative law judge,
- Review by the Appeals Council, and
- Federal Court review.

When we send you a letter about a decision on your application, we will tell you how to appeal the decision.

Reconsideration

A reconsideration is a complete review of your claim by someone who did not take part in the first decision. We will look at all the evidence submitted when the original decision was made, plus any new evidence.

Most reconsiderations involve a review of your files without the need for you to be present. But when you appeal a decision that you are no longer eligible for disability benefits because your medical condition has improved, you can meet with a Social Security representative and explain why you believe you still have a disability.

Hearing

If you disagree with the reconsideration decision, you may ask for a hearing. The hearing will be conducted by an administrative law judge who had no part in the original decision or the reconsideration of your case. The hearing is usually held within 75 miles of your home. The administrative law judge will notify you of the time and place of the hearing.

Before the hearing, we may ask you to give us more evidence and to clarify information about your claim. You may look at the information in your file and give new information.

At the hearing, the administrative law judge will question you and any witnesses you bring. Other witnesses, such as medical or vocational experts, also may give us information at the hearing. You or your representative may question the witnesses.

In certain situations, we may hold your hearing by a video conference rather than in person. We will let you know ahead of time if this is the case. With video hearings, we can make the hearing more convenient for you. Often an appearance by video hearing can be scheduled faster than an in-person appearance. Also, a video hearing location may be closer to your home. That might make it easier for you to have witnesses or other people accompany you.

It is usually to your advantage to attend the hearing (in person or video conference). You and your representative, if you have one, should come to the hearing and explain your case.

If you are unable to attend a hearing or do not wish to do so, you must tell us why in writing as soon as you can. Unless the administrative law judge believes your presence is necessary to decide your case and requires you to attend, you will not have to go. Or we may be able to make other arrangements for you, such as changing the time or place of your hearing. You have to have a good reason for us to make other arrangements.

After the hearing, the judge will make a decision based on all the information in your case, including any new information you give. We will send you a letter and a copy of the judge's decision.

Appeals Council

If you disagree with the hearing decision, you may ask for a review by Social Security's Appeals Council. We will be glad to help you ask for this review.

The Appeals Council looks at all requests for review, but it may deny a request if it believes the hearing decision was correct. If the Appeals Council decides to review your case, it will either decide your case itself or return it to an administrative law judge for further review.

If the Appeals Council denies your request for review, we will send you a letter explaining the denial. If the Appeals Council reviews your case and makes a decision itself, we will send you a copy of the decision. If the Appeals Council returns your case to an administrative law judge, we will send you a letter and a copy of the order.

Federal Court

If you disagree with the Appeals Council's decision or if the Appeals Council decides not to review your case, you may file a lawsuit in a federal district court. The letter we send you about the Appeals Council's action also will tell you how to ask a court to look at your case.

Will my benefits continue?

In some cases, you may ask us to continue paying your benefits while we make a decision on your appeal. You can ask for your benefits to continue when:

- You are appealing our decision that you can no longer get Social Security disability

benefits because your medical condition is not disabling, or

- You are appealing our decision that you are no longer eligible for SSI payments or that your SSI payment should be reduced or suspended.

If you want your benefits to continue, you must tell us within 10 days of the date you receive our letter. If your appeal is turned down, you may have to pay back any money you were not eligible to receive.

Can someone help me?

Yes. Many people handle their own Social Security appeals with free help from Social Security. But you can choose a lawyer, a friend or someone else to help you. Someone you appoint to help you is called your "representative." We will work with your representative just as we would work with you. Your representative can act for you in most Social Security matters and will receive a copy of any decisions we make about your application.

Your representative cannot charge or collect a fee from you without first getting written approval from Social Security. If you want more information about having a representative, ask for *Your Right To Representation* (Publication No. 05-10075) or you can find it on our website.

Contacting Social Security

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov anytime to apply for benefits, open a *my* Social Security account, find publications, and get answers to frequently asked questions. Or, call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778). We can answer case-specific questions from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Generally, you'll have a shorter wait time if you call after Tuesday. We treat all calls confidentially. We also want to make sure you receive accurate and courteous service, so a second Social Security representative monitors some telephone calls. We can provide general information by automated phone service 24 hours a day. And, remember, our website, www.socialsecurity.gov, is available to you anytime and anywhere!



Social Security Administration
SSA Publication No. 05-30041
ICN 459260
Unit of Issue - HD (one hundred)
March 2015 (Destroy prior editions)

Appeal Process - Additional Support



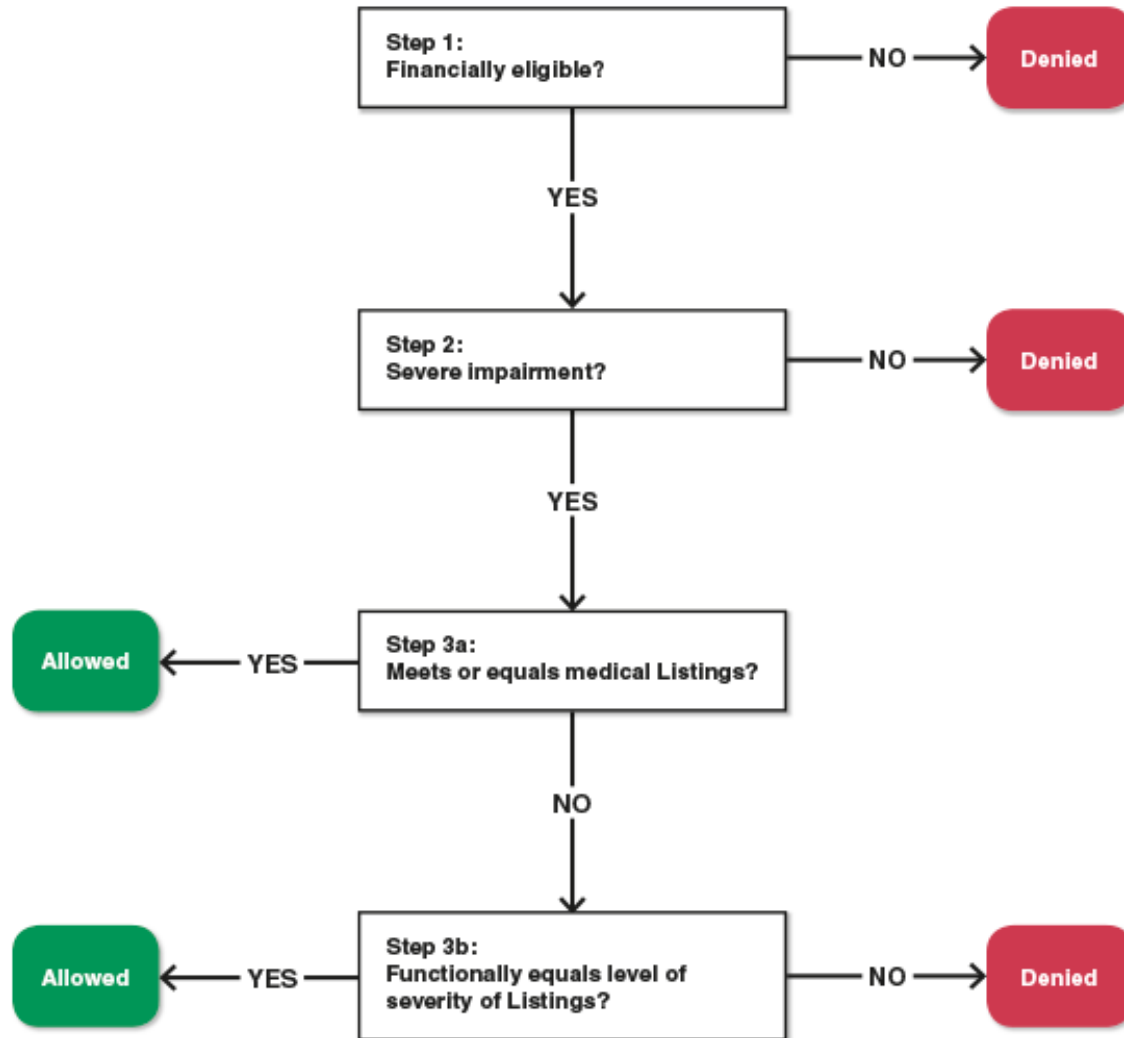
- **Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)**
 - Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Program
Community Work Incentive Coordinator
 - Jocelyne Romasanta & Eric Lopez
 - MOPD Field Office 2102 W.
Ogden Avenue Chicago, IL 60612
312.744.MOPD (6673) (voice)
- **Access Living**
 - Center for Independent Living
 - 115 W Chicago Ave, Chicago,
IL 60654
(312)640-2100
- **Equip for Equality**
 - 20 N Michigan Ave #300, Chicago, IL 60602
 - (312)341-0022
- **Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF)**
 - 120 S. Lasalle St #900, Chicago, IL 60603
 - (312)341-1070



Sequential Steps to Eligibility



Disability determination process for children



Sequential Steps to Eligibility



Step 1: Financial screens. Children may not qualify for DI benefits on their own earnings record. However, they may qualify for SSI payments on their own in some cases or as part of a unit including their parent(s). For SSI, field offices evaluate income and resource eligibility under a complex set of rules. Field offices also verify whether the child is working at SGA because those up to age 18, some of whom may be working, are evaluated under the determination process for children. If a child is engaging in SGA, the claim is denied and not referred to the DDS.

Sequential Steps to Eligibility



Step 2: A medical screen to deny applicants without a severe impairment. The DDS denies a child applicant at step 2 if he or she does not have a medically determinable impairment or if his or her impairment(s) is considered *not severe*. Child applicants are also denied if their impairments fail the *duration test*; that is, if the impairment (1) is not expected to result in death, and (2) has neither lasted 12 months nor is expected to last for a continuous period of 12 months. If the impairment(s) is considered severe and if any impairment meets the duration test, the claim will proceed to the next step.

Sequential Steps to Eligibility



Step 3a: A medical screen to allow the most severely impaired applicants. If the child has one or more severe impairments, the DDS will decide if any severe impairment meets one of the Listings for children. The Listings cover the major body systems and include descriptions of common physical and mental impairments (such as cerebral palsy, mental disorders, and asthma), along with specific medical severity criteria. As with adults, if the impairment does not meet the Listings, the DDS decides if it medically equals the Listings. If the child has one or more impairments that meet or medically equal the requirement of a Listing and meet the duration requirement, the DDS will find the child disabled and the determination is complete.

Sequential Steps to Eligibility Continued



Step 3b: Can a severely impaired child function at home, at school, and in the community? If the child has one or more impairments that are severe but do not meet or medically equal a Listing, the DDS will decide whether the impairment or impairments “functionally equal” the Listings. That means that the DDS assesses the effects of any impairment on the child's ability to function at home, at school, and in the community. In particular, the DDS considers questions such as—

Once the DDS has evaluated the extent to which the child can perform activities, it evaluates how much the child is limited in each of six domains. The domains are broad areas of functioning intended to capture all that a child can or cannot do. The six domains are as follows:

- 1.Acquiring and using information,
- 2.Attending to and completing tasks,
- 3.Interacting and relating with others,
- 4.Moving about and manipulating objects,
- 5.Caring for himself or herself, and
- 6.Maintaining health and physical well-being.

SSA Disability Application Snapshot



Application can be started immediately online. There is no need to wait for an appointment:

Families and students can visit www.ssa.gov and follow these four easy steps to get started:

Step 1: Review the Adult Disability Checklist (for students over age 18), Child Disability Checklist (for students under the age of 19)

Step 2: Complete the online Disability Benefit Application

Step 3: Complete the online Adult Disability Report or Child Disability Report;

Step 4: Complete the Authorization to Disclose Information to the Social Security Administration (SSA Form-827)

SSA Disability Application Snapshot



Applications can be done in person:

- Call the Social Security 800 number at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Friday to make an appointment at your local office or,
- Families and students can contact their local Social Security office and ask to meet with a representative that can assist you with the application process

SSA Disability Application Snapshot



Social Security may be able to process the application faster if the claimant supplies certain information during the initial interview or shortly thereafter.

This information includes:

- 1.Social Security number
- 2.Birth or baptismal certificate
- 3.Names, addresses and phone numbers of the doctors, caseworkers, hospitals and clinics that would have information about the disability
- 4.Names and dosage of all the medicines;
- 5.Medical records from doctors, therapists, hospitals, clinics, and caseworkers
- 6.Laboratory and test results
- 7.A summary of work history
- 8.A copy of the most recent W-2 Form (Wage and Tax Statement) or, for self-employed individuals, a copy of the federal tax return for the past year

(If the student does not have work history, numbers 7 and 8 are not required)





Supplemental Security Income Benefit Overview & Work Incentives

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



- Needs Based – Little or no income
- Federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues.
- Monthly Benefit Amount for 2015 is **\$733.00** for an individual, **\$1,100** for couple.
- Asset limit for individuals **\$2,000** a month, and for couples **\$3,000**.
- Medicaid Eligible



Please note: In Illinois, Medicaid is not automatic so you do need to apply

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



- Under age 18 receiving SSI for their own disability.

Deeming – Some children are ineligible for SSI or their SSI amount is reduced due to Deeming. This is when one or both of their parent's income is counted toward the eligibility for SSI or the amount of SSI the child will receive.

In-kind support- If you are an SSI recipient living with other people, SSA determines whether or not you are receiving In-Kind Support from them. If you are, SSA reduces the SSI cash benefit. SSA uses one of two methods to reduce your check, either the "1/3rd Reduction Rule" or the "Presumed Maximum Value" (PMV) Rule.

- If your check is currently being reduced because of In-Kind Support, the only way to find out which rule is being applied is to ask the SSA Claims Representative

If a student is not eligible due to parent deeming, they should reapply as an adult (1 month after the child's 18th birthday)

Why? -- Because at 18 years old parent deeming ends!

SSI #1 Work Incentive – Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)



SEIE is the #1 Work Incentive for Students eligible for SSI that want to work

Requirements:

- Under age 22.
- Are recipients of SSI Benefits and
- Are under age 22, unmarried
- Are in grades 7-12 or a vocational course at least 12 hrs/week (15 hrs/week if course involves shop practice) or
- Are attending college or university at least 8 hrs/week

SSA will exclude up to **\$1,780 (2015) of earned income per month, up to an annual exclusion of **\$7,180** (2015)**

Note: This is your SSI students (drawing from their own disability) not the dependent SSDI students

SSI #1 Work Incentive – Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)



What happens over summers and breaks?

- The student remains a student for SEIE purposes if he/she notifies Social Security that they intend to resume regular attendance when school re-opens
- For most students, this allows SEIE to be applied to Summer Employment, up to the \$7,180 annual maximum exclusion



SSI #1 Work Incentive – Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)



Steps to claiming SEIE for your child

- Inform local Social Security Office that:
 - A. Student meets enrollment criteria (proof of enrollment)
 - B. Student is working (proof of income)
 - C. Student desires SEIE to be applied



IMPORTANT: Do not assume SSA will apply SEIE automatically

SSI #1 Work Incentive – Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE)



Age 18 Redetermination

- At age 18 the student's disability is re-determined to meet the adult eligibility qualifications. The Social Security Administration determines whether an individual's disability meets the adult qualifications

SSI and Working



What happens when a student is over the age of 18, is no longer a student, and starts working?

Will he/she lose their SSI cash benefit? **NO**

Basic SSI Calculation

- General Income Exclusion (\$20.00)
- Earned Income Exclusion (\$65.00)
- Impairment Related Work Expense (IRWE)
- Every \$2.00 of earnings, reduces your SSI check by \$1.00



SSI and Working Continued

What happens when a student is over the age of 18, is no longer a student, and starts working?

Will he/she lose their SSI cash benefit? **NO**

\$1000 Gross Earned Income
- \$20 General Income Exclusion
 \$980
- \$65 Earned Income Exclusion
 \$915
/.2 Divide by 2
\$457.50

\$733.00 2015 SSI Federal Benefit Rate
- \$457.50
\$275.50 New SSI monthly Amount

\$275.50 (SSI) + \$1000 (wages) = **\$1,275.50** Total Monthly Income



Medicaid & Working



What will happen to Medicaid when a beneficiary goes to work?

Section 1619- Continued Medicaid



This incentive continues Medicaid coverage for most working SSI beneficiaries even after earnings become too high to allow a cash benefit

You will remain eligible for 1619 until your income surpasses \$27,829/yearly, or \$2,319 a month (amount for 2014).

+ This is GROSS, not NET

Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)



- A Plan for Achieve Self Support (PASS) allows you to set aside income and/or resources for a specified time for a work goal
 - For example, an individual can set aside money to pay expenses for education, vocational training, or starting a business as long as the expenses are related to achieving your work goal
 - The money in the PAS plan will not count as an asset for SSI eligibility
- **Pass-designated funds are not counted by SSA when calculating SSI eligibility and benefit amount**

Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS)



Susie is 18 years old and is eligible for SSI. She works part time and would like to save for a car so that she can increase her hours to full time and get to and from work at the required time. She would like to save for a car so she submitted a PASS plan.

Social Security Administration Form SSA-888-BK (02-2012) et al. (02-2012)

PLAN TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUPPORT	Date Received
<p>In order to minimize recontacts or processing delays, please complete all questions and provide thorough explanations where requested. If you need additional space to answer any questions, use the Remarks section or a separate sheet of paper.</p>	

Name _____ SSN _____

PART I - YOUR WORK GOAL

A. What is your work goal? (Show the job you expect to have at the end of the plan. Be as specific as possible. If you cannot be specific, provide as much information as possible on the type of work you plan to do. If you do not yet have a specific goal and will be working with a vocational professional to find a suitable job match, show "VPI Evaluation" and be sure to complete Part II, question F on page 4.)

If your plan involves paying for job coaching, show the number of hours of job coaching you will receive when you begin working. _____ per week month (check one).

Show the number of hours of job coaching you expect to receive after the plan is completed. _____ per week month (check one).

B. Describe the duties and tasks you expect to perform in this job. Be as specific as possible.

C. How did you decide on this work goal and what makes this type of work attractive to you?

D. Is a license required to perform this work goal? YES NO
(If yes, describe the steps you will follow to get a license in Part II.)

E. How much do you expect to earn each week/month (gross) after your plan is completed?
\$ _____ per week month (check one)

Form SSA-888-BK (02-2012) et al. (02-2012) Page 1

Impairment Related Work Incentives



- Expenses that can be deducted from *gross earned income* to determine *countable income* for SSI or SSDI purposes.
- Un-reimbursed cost of an IRWE is deducted from Earned Income
- Submit receipts of IRWE to Social Security office by 10th of month

They include out-of-pocket expenses for:

- Attendance Care Services,
- Routine Drugs & Medical Services,
- Medical Devices,
- Transportation Costs



Please note: IRWE can be applied to both SSI/SSDI beneficiaries

EARNING FICA CREDITS FOR SSDI

- The credits are based on the amount of your earnings. Your work history determines your eligibility for disability benefits.
- In 2014, you receive one credit for each \$1,200 of earnings, up to the maximum of four credits per year.
- The number of credits you need to be eligible for benefits depends on your age and the type of benefit.
- How many credits you need for disability benefits depends on how old you are when you become disabled:
 - If you become disabled before age 24, you generally need 1½ years of work (six credits) in the three years before you became disabled.
 - If you are 24 through 30, you generally need credits for half of the time between age 21 and the time you became disabled.
 - If you are disabled at age 31 or older, you generally need at least 20 credits in the 10 years immediately before you became disabled



SSDI FAQs:

1. How many credits does my child have to earn in order to obtain SSDI eligibility?

2. Is SSDI better than SSI?

3. Will my child obtain Medicare if they become eligible for SSDI?

Additional Support



- **Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)**
 - Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Program
 - **Community Work Incentive Coordinator**
 - Jocelyne Romasanta & Eric Lopez
 - MOPD Field Office 2102 W. Ogden Avenue Chicago, IL 60612
312.744.MOPD (6673) (voice)
- **Access Living**
 - Center for Independent Living
 - 115 W Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60654
(312)640-2100
- **Family Community Resource Centers**
 - Public Aid Office
- **Social Security Administration (SSA) Local Offices**
 - Representative
 - Work Incentive Liaison



ODLSS Transition Additional Support



ODLSS

Office of DIVERSE LEARNER
SUPPORTS + SERVICES



Marisel Hamer

Special Education Transition Specialist

Office of Diverse Learner Supports & Services

Chicago Public Schools

Cell: (630)470-4695

Email: mrhamer@cps.edu