



Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Two Sources

- ◆ Social Security Administration – SSA (Primary Source)
- ◆ Department of Health Services – DHS (Secondary Source)

To Qualify

- ◆ Must have a financial need
- ◆ Be 65 or older OR of any age and be blind OR have a disability
- ◆ Be a resident of Wisconsin
- ◆ No more than \$2,000 in assets for an individual
- ◆ No more than \$3,000 in assets for a couple
- ◆ To find out what is and is not an asset, go to <http://ssa.gov/ssi/text-resources-ussi.htm>

Working and SSI

- ◆ SSI gradually decreases as you work; to understand how this is done, there are some terms to learn.
 1. **General Income Exclusion (GIE):** First \$20 of an individual's general income is not counted. Usually this comes from unearned income.
 2. **Countable Unearned Income:** This the amount of unearned income left after the \$20 is taken out.
 3. **Earned Income Exclusion (EIE):** The first \$65 dollars is taken out and not counted, and the rest of the earned income is divided by two. (This rule is, at times, called 65 and half)
 4. **Countable Earned Income:** What is remaining amount after taking out the \$65 and dividing the rest of the earned income by 2 is called the Countable Earned Income.
 5. **Total Countable Income:** This is the sum of Countable Unearned Income and Countable Earned Income.
- ◆ Because of the Earned Income Exclusion, it is very possible for consumers to make more than SGA and still maintain their SSI, which means they can maintain their medical.
- ◆ When working, income is counted in the month it is received. Meaning if you worked the last week of July but did not get paid until August, the wages get counted in August.
- ◆ As long as a Consumer is getting an SSI check, they will get Medicaid (however, note, if SSI stops due to working they may qualify to continue Medicaid through 1619(b) please see this incentive on SSI work incentive sheet).

http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/social_security