

# Work Incentives Information & Benefits Counseling

Do you know you can work while receiving SSI/SSDI disability benefits?

**Yes, it is true!** If you receive disability benefits and want to work, program rules known as “work incentives” make it possible. You can learn about work incentives from various publications published by the Social Security Administration (SSA), by attending a public information session, and/or by connecting with a certified Work Incentives Benefits Specialist. You can also join the Sherlock Center mailing list to receive timely information.

## How can a Work Incentives Benefits Specialist help you?

### Find out how to use work incentives

A Work Incentives Benefits Specialist can show you how to establish and use work incentives such as:

- Plan to Achieve Self-Support
- Impairment-Related Work Expenses
- Student Earned Income Exclusion
- Continued Medicaid Coverage for Individuals Who Work 1619(b)
- Expedited Reinstatement

**These are just a few of the incentives!**

### Get support at all stages of employment

Services may be just in time, ongoing, and for the short-term or long-term. Some of the services you can receive from a Work Incentives Benefits Specialist include:

- Support with communicating with various agencies such as Social Security or Human Services.
- Benefits Summary & Analysis (BS&A)– a written report summarizing the impact of employment on your current benefits.
- Ongoing support when there are changes with your income, health insurance, or household.
- Developing a plan for coordinating and managing work incentives and changes in benefits.

*Building a relationship with a benefits specialist can result in a long lasting resource throughout your career.*

### Learn to manage your benefits

If you have multiple benefits, it can be challenging to navigate all of the different systems. Benefits like SNAP, Housing, Medicaid, and others may change when you are working. A Work Incentive Benefits Specialist can support you with understanding these changes while you work.

### When you connect with a Work Incentives Benefits Specialist, you will find out:

- What work incentives are available to you
- How to report your earned income
- How to minimize overpayments
- How to access and maintain health insurance
- What happens when your income increases

### Contact Us

#### RI Work Incentive Planning & Assistance Project:

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#### Sherlock Center on Disabilities / RI College

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Voice: 401-456-8072

TTY via RI Relay: 711 or (800) 745-5555

Spanish via RI Relay: 711 or (866) 355-9241

**[www.sherlockcenter.org](http://www.sherlockcenter.org)**

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Learn More & Stay Informed!

<p><b>SSA Publications and Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Working While Disabled: How We Can Help</b> <a href="https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10095.pdf">https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10095.pdf</a></li> <li>• <b>RED BOOK a Guide to Work Incentives</b> <a href="https://www.ssa.gov/redbook/">https://www.ssa.gov/redbook/</a></li> <li>• <b>Social Security Work Website</b> <a href="https://www.ssa.gov/work/">https://www.ssa.gov/work/</a></li> <li>• <b>Ticket To Work Website</b> <a href="https://choosework.ssa.gov/">https://choosework.ssa.gov/</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Attend a Public Information Session</b></p> <p>The Sherlock Center offers Information Sessions for youth and adults at locations throughout Rhode Island. For a list of current dates and locations, visit our website.</p> <p><a href="http://www.sherlockcenter.org">http://www.sherlockcenter.org</a></p>	<p><b>Join our mailing list</b></p> <p>Join the Sherlock Center mailing list to receive up-to-date event announcements and information related to work incentives and benefits counseling. You can join the mailing list from our website or by using the link below.</p> <p><a href="http://bit.ly/2xvYGtL">http://bit.ly/2xvYGtL</a></p>
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## How to Access Work Incentives Benefits Counseling

### There are several ways to access Work Incentives Benefits Counseling:

- If you receive services from **ORS-Office of Rehabilitation Services** or **SBVI**, contact your VR counselor.
- If you receive funding from **BHDDH-DDD**, ask your BHDDH Social Worker for an ICE RF form, or ask your Agency Services Coordinator to request work incentives benefits planning on your behalf.

**If you do not receive services from any of the above organizations**, contact the **Ticket to Work Help Line**. The help line will answer your questions and, if needed, will refer you to the Rhode Island Work Incentive Planning & Assistance (RIWIPA) Project.

**Help Line:** 866-968-7842 / 866-833-2967 (TTY)

## Wage Reporting Requirements

If you receive benefits from the following organizations, you are required to report your wages. How to report wages is different for each organization. Learn more at the organization's website or contact a representative.

Organization	Example of Benefits	Website
Social Security Administration	SSI, SSDI	<a href="https://choosework.ssa.gov/about/wage-reporting/index.html">https://choosework.ssa.gov/about/wage-reporting/index.html</a>
RI Department of Human Services	SNAP, Medicaid, RI Works	<a href="http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Programs/index.php">http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Programs/index.php</a>
RI Housing Authority	Public or Subsidized Housing	<a href="https://www.rihousing.com/">https://www.rihousing.com/</a>

### Rhode Island Work Incentives and Planning Assistance Project

Sherlock Center/RI College- 401-456-8072 (V): 800-745-5555 (TTY RI Relay): 866-355-9241(Spanish RI Relay)  
[www.sherlockcenter.org](http://www.sherlockcenter.org)