

WIPA

(Work Incentives Planning and Assistance)

Phone: 1-855-641-8382 (toll free)

E-mail: Indianaworks@aspireindiana.org

Relay Indiana TTY: 1-800-743-3333

We help people with disabilities prepare for work.

What is Work Incentives Planning and Assistance?

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance, or WIPA, services are commonly known as “benefits counseling” for individuals who are receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplement Security Income (SSI) who are currently employed, re-entering the workforce or are interested in work.

The Indiana Works staff, or Community Work Incentives Coordinators (CWICs), have been trained to assist people with disabilities who receive Social Security benefits to determine the effect that employment earnings will have on their benefits and help to identify possible resources in their pursuit of employment goals.

We can help you understand how work affects a variety of benefits:

- Medicaid
- Medicare Part A, B & D
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Food Assistance
- Housing Subsidies
- Other State & Federal Benefits

Why is Work Incentive Planning Important?

The fear of change in benefits often scares people. Work Incentive information can open windows of opportunity, which may allow you to earn more.

Who is Eligible for Assistance?

WIPA services are available at no cost to current SSDI and SSI beneficiaries between the ages of 14 and an individual’s full retirement age who are interested in learning about the work incentives, are seeking employment, or are currently employed.

Who do I contact to get services through the WIPA Program?

Simply call the toll free phone number for your area. You will then be contacted by a Community Work Incentives Coordinator. Toll Free: 1-855-641-8382 and Email: IndianaWorks@aspireindiana.org

Did you know you can receive no cost services to assist you in your return to work efforts?

The WIPA is designed to complete a beneficiary’s efforts that are participating in the Ticket to Work Program.

The Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work Program allows you to choose from a list of providers (called Employment Networks) to help you prepare for and obtain a job. The Ticket to Work Program is completely voluntary and at no cost to you.

Ticket to Work Helpline: 1-866-968-7842 (1-866-YOURTICKET) or 1-855-833-2967 (1-866-TDD2WORK)

Website: www.choosetoworkttw.net

Work Incentives Assistance and Outreach

Your CWIC can help answer questions about your benefits as you look for work, even after you return to work. We will follow up with you to help you understand how your work incentives and available resources can be used. When you begin working or your income from work increases, we are available to assist you in assessing your options.

Outreach

You might meet a CWIC at a seminar or a meeting in your community. In these groups, CWICs answer questions about general work-related Social Security rules and incentives and can refer people to related services for which they may be eligible.

Related Web Resources:

Social Security Administration: www.ssa.gov/ or 1-800-772-1213

Indiana Medicaid/Health Plans: www.in.gov/fssa/2408.htm

Indiana Protection & Advocacy Services: www.in.gov/ipas/ or 1-800-622-4845

Northern & Central Indiana

Toll Free Number: 1-855-641-8382

Email: IndianaWorks@aspireindiana.org

Relay Indiana TTY: 1-800-743-3333

South & Southeastern Indiana

Toll Free Number: 1-800-206-6610

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The information presented herein does not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Social Security Administration.