

GLOSSARY OF SSI TERMS

Cessation or Termination of Benefits: When Social Security determines that an individual is no longer eligible for SSI benefits, Social Security will send a notice that the benefits will be stopped. An individual may appeal the cessation of benefits.

Continuing Disability Review (CDR): A review of documents and information to determine if an individual is still disabled according to Social Security's criteria and if they are eligible for SSI or SSDI benefits. These reviews are often conducted every three, five, or seven years.

Countable Income: The income amount left over after Social Security has eliminated income that is not eligible and applied all appropriate exclusions.

Deeming: The process used to determine how much of another person's income and resources are available to the person with a disability and which will count against their SSI benefits. Social Security often deems a parent's income and resources against their child (under age 18) with a disability to determine eligibility for and the amount of SSI benefit.

Earned Income: Income an individual earns through work including, wages, net earnings from self-employment, certain royalties, honoraria, and sheltered workshop payments.

Expedited Reinstatement of Benefits (EXR): The process by which an individual can get their SSI benefits back without completing a new application if the individual's benefits ended because of work and earnings. While Social Security determines whether an individual can get benefits again, Social Security can give provisional (temporary) benefits for up to 6 months.

Federal Benefit Rate (FBR): The maximum dollar amount that a SSI beneficiary can receive in a month. The amount may increase annually if there is a Social Security cost-of-living adjustment. The 2019 FBR is \$771 for individuals.

General Earned Income Exclusion (GEIE): Social Security excludes the first \$65 of earned income from the countable income amount plus one-half of remaining earnings.

General Income Exclusion (GIE): Social Security excludes the first \$20 of unearned or earned income from the countable income amount.

Impairment Related Work Expense (IRWE): Certain items and services that an individual pays for and that are needed in order to work can be excluded from determining the benefit amount.

Medicaid Buy-In Program: The Medicaid Buy-In program offers Medicaid coverage to people with disabilities who are working and earning more than the allowable limits for regular Medicaid.

Re-determination Review: Re-determinations are non-medical reviews which happen each year. At this time, Social Security updates information on the individual's income, resources, and living arrangement.

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Overpayment: When an individual receives more benefits than Social Security calculated that they were entitled to, the individual may incur an overpayment. The individual can appeal the overpayment decision or request a waiver for repayment.

Representative Payee: When an individual cannot manage or direct their own benefits, Social Security can appoint a third party, an individual or organization, to receive and manage an individual's Social Security benefits. A representative payee's main duties are to use the benefits to pay for the current and future needs of the beneficiary, properly save any benefits not needed to meet current needs, and keep records of expenses. When Social Security requests a report, a representative payee must provide a report of how they used the benefits.

Social Security Administration (SSA): The Social Security Administration (SSA) assigns Social Security numbers, and administers the Social Security retirement, survivors, and disability insurance programs. They also administer the SSI program. The SSA is sometimes referred to generally as "Social Security."

Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE): Individuals who are under 22 years of age and are attending school, college, university, or a vocational training program full-time are allowed to have limited earnings that will not be counted against them in determining the SSI benefit amount. The amount of earned income that can be excluded for 2019 is \$1,870 a month, \$7,550 for the year.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a Federal income supplement program that provides cash benefits to help the aged or people with disabilities, who have little or no income, meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter.

Suspension of Benefits: Social Security may stop monthly benefits and will inform the individual of this suspension of benefits. An individual can appeal the suspension of benefits, and SSI recipients generally have 12 consecutive months after the effective date of a suspension to have benefits reinstated without filing a new application.

Unearned Income: All income that is not earned, such as Social Security benefits, pensions, State disability payments, unemployment benefits, interest income, dividends and cash from friends and relatives.

Work Incentive: Special rules for people with disabilities who are receiving SSI and working to still receive monthly SSI payments and Medicare or Medicaid. Social Security calls these rules "work incentives."

The Social Security Administration (SSA) keeps an online general reference guide called the Red Book. The Red book includes information on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and has a glossary of terms.

www.ssa.gov/redbook