

GOING TO WORK <<<<

A Guide to Social Security Benefits and Employment for Young People with Disabilities
Annual Supplement—2016 Figures



WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016?

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA):

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits **will not automatically increase in 2016** as there was no increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015.

Other important updates:

- The **Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)** amount for individuals with disabilities other than blindness has increased from \$1090/month to **\$1130**.
- The **SGA amount for individuals who are blind** remains unchanged at **\$1820**.
- The monthly earnings amount used to determine if a month counts for a **Trial Work Period (TWP)** has increased from \$780 to **\$810**.
- The income amount that will have no effect on benefits for SSI beneficiaries who are **students (Student Earned Income Exclusion)** remains unchanged at **\$1780**. The **yearly maximum** amount also remains at **\$7180**.
- The **1619b Massachusetts State Threshold Amount** for individuals receiving SSI is **\$39,662 (\$40,511)** for people who are blind). This means that even if SSI cash benefits are eliminated, MassHealth coverage will remain in effect until annual earnings reach this threshold amount.

For a listing of each state's threshold amount, go to www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/1619b.htm

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