



2023 STUDENT INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Allegany-Steuben Counties Chapter NYSARC, Inc.
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BENEFITS STATEMENT

Intern Name: _____

At the present time, you may be receiving benefits such as SSI, SSDI, Food Stamps, Medicaid or other benefits. **As an Intern, you will be earning at least minimum wage per hour, and this may or may not reduce the amount of money you receive**, under the Student Earned Income Exclusion. Please contact the New York State Toll-Free Work Incentives Hotline at **1-888-224-3272** (see more information on back of this form) to assist in calculating benefits.

Please complete the following if you receive any of the listed benefits:

1. Current Monthly Benefit Amounts received are as follows:

SSI _____
SSDI _____
Section 8 _____
Food Stamps _____
Other: _____

Current Total: _____

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY and CHECK ONE BOX:

I DO NOT receive SSI or any other benefits that could be affected by my wages (proceed to signature).

OR

I understand that wages earned from the Student Internship Experience Program could reduce my benefits. I understand that I have been referred to a Benefits Counselor to discuss this more fully. I agree to work with my Care Coordinator and/or family to report any earnings to the Social Security Administration on a regular basis. I understand that this is not a substitute for professional benefits advisement and expertise.

Trainee Signature

Date

(Print) Family/Guardian/Service Coordinator

Signature

What is the student earned income exclusion?

This provision allows a person who is **under age 22** and **regularly attending school** to exclude earnings from income.

In January 2022 the amounts increased to \$2,040 monthly, up to a yearly maximum of \$8,230.

We usually adjust the monthly amount and the yearly limit annually, based on any increases in the cost-of-living index. We apply this exclusion before any other exclusion.

The remaining wages, after deducting monthly and yearly limits, will still be subject to the earned income exclusion of \$65 per month and one-half of the remaining earned income.

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/spotlights/spot-student-earned-income.htm>

**New York State Toll-Free Work Incentives Hotline:
1.888.224.3272 Voice
1.877.671.6844 TDD**

The New York Makes Work Pay Initiative believes that to close the employment gap for New Yorkers with disabilities, information is key. New Yorkers with disabilities and their supporters need access to timely, relevant and accurate information pertaining to how benefits are impacted by work. Further, we know that information is not enough and that subsequently those same New Yorkers need to be connected with individuals and organizations that can assist them in creating and maneuvering a path to employment and increased economic well-being.

Through a contract with Cornell and Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) of Buffalo, the New York Makes Work Pay Initiative offers a statewide, toll-free *Work Incentives Hotline* to answer calls on a wide range of issues related to benefits and work. The hotline is available during business hours on Monday through Friday, except on holidays, and every effort will be made to return calls the same day or within one business day.

Two of NLS's experienced benefits and work incentives practitioners, Krista McDonald and Marta Santiago, provide services to callers in both English and Spanish. Generally, any call related to SSI, SSDI, Medicaid and Medicare is appropriate for the hotline. Hotline staff also have more general expertise on a range of other issues, including: public and subsidized housing issues; eligibility for state vocational rehabilitation services through the Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities and the Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped; and public assistance issues. In some cases we may refer callers to others who can answer specific questions or offer advocacy services.

The *Work Incentives Hotline* is designed as a short-term service to provide information and technical assistance to individuals with disabilities and provider agency personnel, including individuals who provide some form of benefits and work incentives planning services. In most cases, the service request will be handled in 30 minutes or less. Where appropriate, our staff will research the issue and get back to the caller. The hotline should not be viewed as a substitute for the comprehensive services available through benefits and work incentives practitioners and Community Work Incentives Coordinators available from agencies funded through the Social Security Administration or other sources. Our hotline staff will be able to provide referral information to an agency in your region of the state that can provide that service.