**Ticket To Work**

**SSI and SSDI**

**SSI—they receive Medicaid.**

How is your consumer’s SSI check affected when your consumer obtains employment?

* If your consumer has SSI, this means they normally do not have a work history and going to work **IS GOING** to affect their benefits. This is an example of the calculations Social Security Administration (SSA) will use

Wages form job--$400

Wages from SSI-$794.00

The first 65 dollars that a beneficiary earns will not be counted.

$400-65.00=335.00/2=$167.50 which is the current countable income

794.00-167.50=$626.50 is the new SSI payment.

$626.50 (new SSI payment plus $400.00 (wages form job) $**1026.50** is their currently monthly income

**SSDI—they receive Medicare**

* If they have SSDI, and they go to work, then what is known as Trial Work Period (TWP) begins. A trial period means that if a beneficiary earns $940.00 in one month, then they have used one service month—once they use 9 service months within a 60-month time frame, beneficiaries will be subject to Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) determinations. If the work is considered SGA, then the cash payments will likely be suspended or terminated but they will still get to keep their Medicare for approximately another 7 years. Substantial Gainful activity is $**1310.00** for non-blind beneficiaries, and $2190.00 for blind beneficiaries
* Your consumer can make as much money as they want for 9 months with no repercussions, and your consumer will continue to receive full SSDI benefits as long as the work activity is reported and your consumer still has a disabling impairment.
* The Trial Work Period does not have to happen in a row. For example, if they earn more than $940 in one month but less than $940 the next month, then only one trail work period service month is used in those two months.
* Your SSDI beneficiary has 60 months to use up their Trail work period. That means, if they have earned over $940.00 in 9 service months over a 60-month period, then SSA will probably be assessing their claim.
* If the SSDI beneficiary continues to work but never meets SGA, then they get to keep the SSDI cash benefit as long as there is not as significant medical improvement.

**If they want to continue to receive their cash benefits—remember they cannot make more than $1310 a month. $2190 if they are blind (unless they are in TWP).**

**Make sure they report any employment change to SSA**

You can report changes in your work activity by phone, fax, mail, in person or by using ***my* Social Security** Call our toll-free number **1-800-772-1213** between 7 a m and 7 p m , Monday through Friday, or you may call, visit, or write your local Social Security office You can find your local office by going to our website at ***www.socialsecurity.gov/locator***

**WIPA Referrals**

If your SSDI consumer does not want to lose their cash benefits, make sure they are referred to WIPA (their counselor may have already referred them) as WIPA will better explain how their employment earnings will affect their cash benefits.

**1-855-886-5123 if you live in North Louisiana**

**1-855-877-8599 if you live in South Louisiana.**