

## Recent Social Security and SSI Changes

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### Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) Rule:

- \$1,180 per month, gross earnings...calendar year 2018
- \$1,170 per month, gross earnings ... calendar year 2017
- \$1,130 per month, gross earnings...calendar year 2016
- Earlier years: \$1,090 per month (2015) \$1,070 per month (2014), \$1,040 per month (2013), \$1,010 per month (2012), \$1,000 per month (2010, 2011), \$980 per month (2009).

**SGA for Statutorily Blind:** The 2018 SGA amount for persons who are statutorily blind is \$1,970 per month. The 2017 SGA amount was \$1,950 per month. The 2015 and 2016 SGA amount was \$1,820 per month. The 2014 SGA amount was \$1,800. Earlier years: \$1,740 per month (2013), \$1,690 per month (2012), \$1,640 per month (2009, 2010, 2011).

### Trial Work Period (TWP)

Applies only to Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI): first 9 months, within 60 consecutive months, that earnings are sufficient for a TWP “services month.”

- \$850 per month, gross earnings meets services month criteria in 2018
- \$840 per month, gross earnings .... calendar year 2017
- \$810 per month, gross earnings .... calendar year 2016
- Earlier years: \$780 per month (2015); \$770 per month (2014), \$750 per month (2013), \$720 per month (2010, 2011, 2012), \$700 per month (2009).

**SSI’s Student Earned Income Exclusion –** Students under age 22 in high school, college or vocational training.

- \$1,820 per month, up to a maximum of \$7,350 per year in 2018
- \$1,790 per month, up to a maximum of \$7,200 per year in 2017
- \$1,780 per month, up to a maximum of \$7,180 per year in 2015 and 2016
- Earlier years: \$1,750 per month, \$7,060 per year (2014); \$1,730 per month, \$6,960 per year (2013), \$1,700 per month, \$6,840 per year (2012), \$1,640 per month, \$6,600 per year (2009 – 2011).

### Section 1619(b) Medicaid

- This allows automatic Medicaid to continue if person loses SSI because of wages.
- For calendar year 2017, New York’s earned income threshold was \$45,452 per year. (2018 update not available as this was prepared)
- If annual wages are below \$45,452 and the other criteria are met, Medicaid will continue.
- A higher, individualized threshold can be established if Medicaid-covered expenses and/or impairment related work expenses are high enough.

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