

# Recent Social Security and SSI Changes

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## Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) Rule

- \$1,690 per month, gross earnings in calendar year 2026
- \$1,620 per month, gross earnings in calendar year 2025
- \$1,550 per month, gross earnings ... calendar year 2024
- \$1,470 per month, gross earnings ... calendar year 2023
- Earlier years: \$1,350 per month (2022), \$1,310 per month (2021), \$1,260 (2020), \$1,220 per month (2019), \$1,180 per month (2018), \$1,170 per month (2017), \$1,130 per month (2016).

**SGA for Statutorily Blind:** The 2026 SGA amount for persons who are statutorily blind is \$2,830. Earlier years: \$2700 (2025), \$2,590 (2024), \$2,460 (2023), \$2,260 (2022), \$2,190 per month (2021), \$2,110 per month (2020), \$2,040 per month (2019), \$1,970 per month (2018), \$1,950 per month (2017), \$1,820 per month (2015, 2016).

## 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."

- \$1,210 per month, gross earnings meet services month criteria in calendar year 2026
- \$1,160 per month, gross earnings ... 2025
- \$1,110 per month, gross earnings ... 2024
- \$1,050 per month, gross earnings ... 2023
- Earlier years: \$970 per month (2022), \$940 per month (2021), \$910 per month (2020), \$880 per month (2019), \$850 per month (2018), \$840 per month (2017), \$810 per month (2016), \$780 per month (2015).

## SSI's Student Earned Income Exclusion

Students under age 22 in high school, college, or vocational training.

- \$2,410 per month, up to a maximum of \$9,730 per year in 2026
- \$2,350 per month, up to a maximum of \$9,460 per year in 2025
- \$2,290 per month, up to a maximum of \$9,230 per year in 2024
- Earlier years: \$2,220 per month, \$8,950 per year (2023), \$2,040 per month, \$8,230 per year (2022), \$1,930 per month, \$7,770 per year (2021), \$1,900 per month, \$7,670 per year (2020), \$1,870 per month, \$7,550 per year (2019), \$1,820 per month, \$7,350 per year (2018), \$1,790 per month, \$7,200 per year (2017).

## Section 1619(b) Medicaid

- This allows automatic Medicaid to continue if a person loses SSI because of wages.
- For calendar year 2026, New York's earned income threshold is \$68,654 per year. If annual wages are below \$68,654 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. (See our 1619(b) Medicaid at-a-glance.)

Note: This document is produced, printed, and disseminated at U.S taxpayer expense. One hundred percent of the funding for this document is through a Social Security cooperative agreement that funds our Western NY Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Project. Although Social Security reviewed this document for accuracy, it does not constitute an official Social Security communication.